

9 June 2024

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
With the Lord there is mercy

St Alipius parish



▶ **SS PETER & PAULS**
701 FISKEN ST
BUNINYONG 3357



▶ **ST ALIPIUS**
82 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350



▶ **PARISH OFFICE**
84 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350
PH 5332 6611
OPEN TUE – FRI
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tuesday 5:30 PM,

Wednesday - Saturday 9:30 AM,

Saturday Vigil 6:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

10:30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 6

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

John Richards Snr., Rita Shannon, Daniel Simmons

Anniversaries: Shelia McCartin, Peter McDonald

Unwell: Fr Barry Ryan, Socorro De Chavez, Max Green, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Carole Simmons

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

PARISH VISION

The combined communities of St Alipius Parish reach out in the spirit of faith, hope, love, and acceptance, as God calls us to in the gospels.

PARISH MISSION

Our mission in the Parish of St Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Strengthened in the spirit of faith, hope, love acceptance and Mercy, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment. Guided by God's call to service, we aim to build strong connections, provide spiritual nourishment, promote social justice, and offer support to individuals and families in their journey of faith. Through our dedicated interactions, we seek to deepen our relationships with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

**St Vincent de Paul
Winter Appeal**



FINANCES AND PROPERTY

The Parish Finance Council updated parishioners on the parish's financial position, including options for the future use of our parish land and buildings and the insurance of our churches and other buildings at community meetings. These are important issues affecting the future of our parish, so if you have not had a chance to attend one of the earlier meetings, there is another one at 10:00 AM on Friday 14 June in the St Alipius Parish Hall, after the 9:30 AM mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Finance and Property Update Meetings
10:00 AM, Friday 14 June, St Alipius Hall

WEEKDAY MASSES

With Fr Matt attending the Evangelise: A Synodal Way conference in Sydney and Fr Justin facilitating the first of the regional formation gatherings in Mildura and Robinvale in preparation for the November Ballarat Diocesan Assembly on Leadership and Governance in a Synodal Church, weekday masses have changed this week. See the panel on the front page for details.

PLANNING GIVING PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your generosity is appreciated.

Supporting our parish priests	\$1,332
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$611.20

EOFY AND PLANNED GIVING

Thank you to everyone who contributed financially to our parish this financial year. Everyone is invited to join our planning giving program for the new financial year. Contributions can be made via envelopes or direct debit, EFTPOS machine located at the back of the church or you can visit the parish office to donate cash. Our parish office liaises with the Finance Officer who manages planned giving programs across Ballarat. If you don't receive a response to queries in a reasonable time, please don't hesitate to prompt us with a reminder.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Preparation for confirmation begins early in Term 3. If you know anyone who wishes to have their child confirmed, refer them to the parish office or website.

SOCIAL EVENING AND DINNER

Thank you to everyone who attended the parish social evening and dinner at the Robin Hood Hotel on Thursday evening with Fr Justin and Fr Matt.



CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

Fr Gary Jones has retired as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Mercy Parish Hampden (Mortlake and Terang) and from 1 July, he will join the ranks of the senior clergy, residing in Ballarat. Fr Neville Stanislaus has been appointed Parish Administrator of Hampden Parish, in addition to his responsibilities as Parish Priest of Camperdown and Timboon. Fr Jim McKay has been appointed Visiting Priest for the Hampden Parish, while Fr Abraham Thomas MST will move from being Assistant Priest in the Southwest Coast Parish (Warrnambool etc) to Assistant Priest in the Cathedral Parish. Deacon Xuan Cay Trinh, who will conclude his studies at Corpus Christi Seminary at the end of June, has been appointed to the Sunraysia Parish until 3 November. He will then make final preparations for his ordination to the priesthood, scheduled for Saturday, 23 November at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

FORMATION SESSIONS

In November 15th – 16th this year, a Diocesan Assembly will bring together at Federation University Mt Helen, clergy, two parish delegates from each parish, school leaders, Diocesan entities and Catholic organisations to consider synodal leadership and governance in our Diocesan community.

To prepare for the Assembly, formation sessions with a focus on leadership and governance will be held around the diocese, facilitated by Fr Justin Driscoll.

These formation opportunities are for clergy, parish leadership teams/councils, school leaders, and Catholic organisations in the Diocese (St V de P etc.).

Parishioners interested in leadership and governance for a synodal Church are also welcome to attend

Two formation sessions will be held in our region, one at Ss Peter and Paul's Buninyong on Sunday August 4th commencing with 10:30 AM Mass and concluding by 4:00 PM and another at OLHC Wendouree, Tuesday August 13th 5.00m – 8.30pm. To register please contact jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au

ST VINCENT VOLUNTEERS

Between May 2023 – May 2024, SVdP provided \$730,000 worth of aid across greater Ballarat, which was an increase of 33% on the previous year. The gratefully received support from our parish enables SVdP to continue to assist those in need. If anyone is interested in joining the Society, please contact the parish office. SVdP needs volunteers for their Wednesday and Friday sessions held between 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, at the Ballarat Assistance Centre, 4 Dawson Street, Ballarat.

SVDP WINTER APPEAL

The theme of this year's St Vincent de Paul winter appeal is the 'Working Homeless', which focuses on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Donation envelopes are available at the piety stand, at the end of each pew at St Alipius, and near Ss Peter and Paul's entrance. Envelopes can be placed in the offertory collections during mass. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please write your name and address on the envelope if you need a receipt.

BAPTISMS

Murphy Kate Tunbridge
Child Zachary and Hannah Tunbridge

Jamie Louise and Arthur Leo Nightingall
Children Joshua and Natalie Nightingall

The church gives faith to your children through Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.

Pope Francis

ONLINE STUDY PROGRAM

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This US\$50 online study and formation program for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through the Diocese of Ballarat's partner, Dayton University. Cycle five begins on 15 July. There are 41 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you. Registrations are open now. Scan or click the QR code for more information, ph. 5337 7121, or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au).



CTC STUDY OPTIONS

The Catholic Theological College provides introductory and further studies in theology, ministry, and spirituality. See <https://ctc.edu.au/study/timetable/> for the list of units that are offered online, onsite, or via blended mode in semester two. An online information session will be held at 7:30 PM, on Monday, 17 June. Register here: <https://divinity.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctc-utrTooE9Jlw8qcYx2wpwAdz1hMJF4P%20#/registration>

In October, CTC will offer a series of short, online presentations titled Engaging Your Faith Online Series. Topics will cover scripture, church and theology, pastoral ministry, and spiritual life.

Whoever Does the Will of God

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mark 3:20–35

Name-calling is an age-old device used to discredit enemies. Politicians are adept at finding labels with which to discredit their opponents. Sometimes the labels stick and often have the effect of destroying good people.

In today's gospel, Jesus is subjected to the worst of all imaginable taunts or labels: he is said to be possessed by Beelzebub, the prince of demons. The story belongs within a trajectory of growing hostility towards him from the authorities.

Mark has presented Jesus as the Christ or Messiah, as God's Son who is authorised to usher in God's empire of reconciliation and peace. Jesus is the "stronger one" (1:7) who will destroy the powers of evil. He invites others to join him in his mission of healing, of proclaiming God's reign and of driving out demons.

Those on the edge of Palestinian society flock to him for healing. The religious authorities, on the other hand, find themselves challenged, even threatened, by Jesus' growing popularity and his perceived challenge to their strict interpretation of aspects of the Mosaic Law.

Such practices as dining with those considered to be "sinners" and permitting his hungry disciples to

pluck grain on the Sabbath, for instance, are met with hostile responses from the religious authorities.

For Jesus, always the faithful Jew, the Law was established for humans, not humans for the Law and he is not afraid to say so.

Early in his ministry, opposition has built to a point that traditional enemies, the Pharisees and the Herodians, join forces to find a way of destroying him.

Mark often places a story within a story

The surprise is that members of Jesus' biological family now get involved in the attempts to put a halt to his mission, even if their motives differ from those of the Jerusalem "scribes" who bring the charge of demon possession.

One factor to consider is that the family's honour is at stake. Another factor is the family's concern that Jesus and his disciples were failing to take care of themselves. The demands were such that "they could not even eat".

Even if well-motivated, they want "to seize him" because they consider him



to be "out of his mind." Jesus' biological family thus falls into the trap of taking responsibility for him instead of supporting him to pursue his dream.

Mark often places a story within a story. In this instance, the story within is the challenge from the scribes and of Jesus' powerful counterchallenge.

The outer frame consists of the efforts of Jesus' biological family to save their honour by saving him from a crazy lifestyle and by his redefining of his "family" as those "who do the will of God".

This complex story invites us to refrain from labelling those who threaten our status or authority. They may just happen to be agents of God's transforming grace for us and for our world.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
GENESIS 3:9–15
2 CORINTHIANS 4:13–5:1
MARK 3:20–35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
EZEKIEL 17:22–24
2 CORINTHIANS 5:6–10
MARK 4:26–34