

7 July 2024

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

‘He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.’

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/ballar-at-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue 5:30 PM, Wed – Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 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 3

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:

Anniversaries: Edward
John Duck

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez
Shelley Pawang

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer

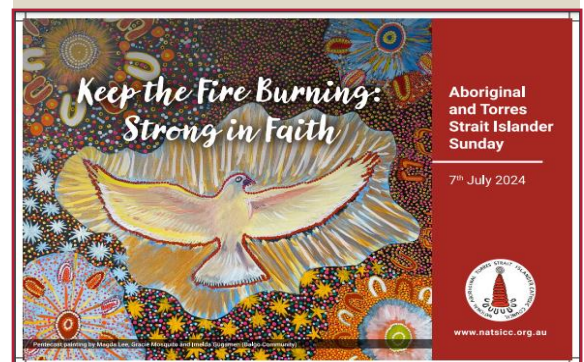
Emily Clarke

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.



ANNIVERSARY PLANNING

The next meeting for anniversary planning will be held on Sunday 14 July at 3 PM in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come along and share your memories and ideas for how we can recognise this anniversary in our parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS	
Anniversary Planning	3 PM, 14 July, Parish Hall
Confirmation Preparation	10.30 AM or 6 PM, 18 July, Parish Hall
Leadership Formation Session	10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong
Trivia Night	6:30PM for 7PM start, 30 August, Parish Hall

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$864
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$368.40

Planned Giving envelopes are now available in the rear of each church. Please collect yours as soon as possible to save on postage.

FAREWELL FR. BARRY

Fr. Barry's life was celebrated with a Funeral Mass last Monday at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Hundreds of people gathered to hear family, friends and fellow priests share stories and remember the wonderful contributions Fr. Barry made in so many different ways. It was a fitting tribute for a man who held so many roles during his life, sharing his faith and giving hope to all. Fr. Barry was buried at the Ballarat New Cemetery following Mass. May he Rest in Peace.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Our thanks to Fr. Peter Murphy who led Christian meditation sessions in the parish during his time in the ministry district. Fr. Peter we are grateful to you for giving us this opportunity. This week is your last chance to attend. Sessions are on Wednesday at 5:15 PM or Saturday morning at 10:30 AM

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.

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE POPE

The annual collection for the Holy Father is taken up throughout the world on a weekend near the Feast of Ss Peter & Paul. Through this collection we have the opportunity to support the Pope's pastoral care for people around the world. The collection in St. Alipius Parish will be taken up this weekend July 6-7.

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

Couple for Christ (Ballarat) invite all married couples to join them for 'talks and fellowship' as part of their Christian Life Program. This will be held at St. James Parish Sebastopol, beginning 13 July. Sessions will be held between 1:30 pm and 4:30 pm. For more information please call Rose on 0401 437 158.

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. Please keep August 30 free so that you can join us and share your wealth of knowledge. If anyone has, or knows of someone who may be in a position to donate an item for a raffle to be held on the night, please contact the parish office. Tables of 8 can be booked through the parish office. Tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles. Tea and coffee will be supplied.

CATHEDRAL FENCE UPDATE

The following is a message from Bishop Paul Bird and provides an update in regard to the Cathedral fence. In March this year, LOUD fence ribbons were removed from the St Patrick's Cathedral fence following consultations between members of LOUD fence and representatives of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, to allow maintenance work to be undertaken.

In 2015, during the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, the LOUD fence began tying ribbons to fences in Ballarat and beyond, as a sign of solidarity and support for those who suffered child sexual abuse in institutional settings.

While maintenance work was undertaken, Parish Council and LOUD fence representatives began discussions for a long-term memorial on the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral to acknowledge victim survivors, their loved ones and supporters who experienced child sexual abuse in church settings and elsewhere.

We hope that the memorial will provide ongoing recognition of those who experience the ongoing impacts of child sexual abuse, be a reminder for the continuing attention to safeguarding children and vulnerable people in the community and promote healing across the Ballarat community.

With maintenance work on the fence completed, Bishop Paul, together with representatives of the Parish Council and LOUD fence have announced a next step to be taken while discussions about a long-term memorial continue. As an interim arrangement, ribbons will be placed on a dedicated section of the cathedral fence on Sturt Street.

Parish representatives will gather with LOUD fence members at 11 am on Saturday July 6 to tie ribbons to the dedicated section of fence. Parishioners and LOUD fence invite anyone who wishes, to tie a ribbon as a sign of support for victim/survivors, their loved ones, and supporters and as a reminder for continuing to safeguard children and vulnerable people everywhere.

BAPTISMS

Ainsley Grace and Keely Arabelle Hardy
Children of Ashley and Sarah Hardy

Rafferty Nate and Paddy Quinn Farrell
Children of Matthew and Lauren Farrell

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

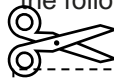
Pope Francis

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY PREPARATION

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together clergy, representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Clergy in parishes, Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience. Ballarat dates are: August 4, 10.30am – 4.00pm, Ss Peter and Paul's Church, Buninyong, August 13, 5.00pm – 8.30pm, Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Wendouree. Fr. Justin will facilitate these sessions.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

The new Parish Planned Giving Program has commenced. Contributions can be made via envelopes or direct debit and are the parish's only source of income. To join the program, please complete and return the following form.



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I/we would like to contribute to the financial costs of St Alipius and Ss Peter and Paul's via (tick one):

Envelope Direct Debit

Please return this form to the parish office or place it in the collection at mass.

Being Open to an Alternative Wisdom

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:



Most of us have known the experience of feeling powerless in the face of rejection, especially when it is rejection from those who are closest to us, from those who might normally be expected to understand and affirm us. Mark presents such rejection as the experience of Jesus. Earlier in the gospel (3:20-21), we find that Jesus is misunderstood by his family who consider him to be out of his mind. Members of his family try to take responsibility for him, to take hold of him and to save him from himself. When they come to take him away, he leaves them outside and continues to teach those gathered around him about a new sort of kinship, kinship that is based on doing God's will. In today's gospel reading (6:1-6), we find that the neighbours and friends of Jesus' family have trouble coping with him. They admit that his teaching demonstrates considerable wisdom. They also acknowledge his extraordinary power as a healer. From their perspective, however, something does not add up. After all, he is basically just one of them, "the craftsman".

Jesus' hometown people do not simply puzzle over his extraordinary powers. They are actually "scandalised" by him. He experiences their response as rejection and tells them how he feels. In so doing, he identifies himself with the rejected prophets of old. The townspeople's lack of faith renders Jesus, the prophet in their midst, powerless: he is simply unable to perform any mighty deeds among them. There is a hint in the text, however, that some do

'It invites us to affirm the intrinsic value of all...'

have faith: "he cured a few sick people."
He cures these people "by laying his hands on them". We have seen, in the request of the man with leprosy (1:41) and the action of the crowds (3:10,) some people's well-founded faith in the healing power of touch, of bodily encounter. Touch is once more the agent of healing.
At times, we may be like Jesus, bringing the wisdom and power of

God to our families or friends or local communities, only to meet with rejection. Sometimes, we may be like the few who come in faith and experience a healing touch. At other times, we may replicate the behaviour of the opponents of Jesus and discount the achievements of those who excel or whose message challenges us or our lifestyle. To refuse to listen to a prophetic message because the messenger fails to meet our preconceived ideas about prophets may have something to do with a lack of faith. It may actually stymie the power of God. Finally, the emphasis on healing in this reading invites us to pause and consider what is happening in our world, presently beset by needless violence and suffering. It invites us to affirm the intrinsic value of all, human and other-than-human, so often denigrated and devalued by attitudes that dichotomise the material and the spiritual with dire consequences for the Earth community.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS FORTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EZEKIAL 2:2-5
2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10
MARK 6:1-6

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AMOS 7:12-15
EPHESIANS 1:3-14
MARK 6:7-13