

20<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*'The Son of Man came to give his life as ransom for all'*

# 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](mailto:ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/)

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Wed 11:00 am Mercy Place –  
parishioners welcome

Fri 9:30 AM

Sat 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Vigil

Sun 9:00 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> weeks)

10:30 AM (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)

### Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)

10:30 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

### Mass and prayer resources

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Counting team 4

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:** Mary Millar, John Nihill, Graeme Spittle, Brian William McKenzie and Maureen Alison Campbell

**Anniversaries:** Fr Denis Dennehy

**Unwell:** Kevin Cummins, Socorro De Chavez, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Carole Simmons

## PARISH TEAM

### Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

### Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

### Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

### Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

### Finance Officer

Jackie Wrigglesworth

### Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

Principal – St. Alipius School

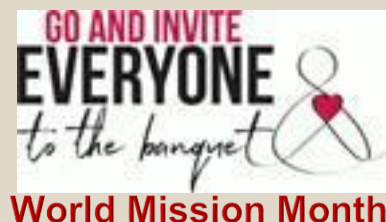
Phone: 5331 1816

## 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.



**World Mission Month**

## MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

After the great success and fun that was had at last year's Melbourne Cup Luncheon, we have decided to hold the event again. You are invited to join us for a luncheon to celebrate the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 5 November from 11 AM in St Alipius Hall. Tickets are \$25 per person. Lunch of chicken, salad and dessert will be supplied. BYO alcohol. Soft drinks will be supplied. Please confirm numbers with the parish office by 31 October. Prizes for the best male and female fascinators. Sweeps will be available. If anyone can bring a salad or a dessert, please contact the parish office.

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1023
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$633.20

If you have any queries about your Planned Giving, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office and we would be very happy to help out where we can.

## MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Our annual Remembrance Mass, **celebrating the lives of those who have passed away in the last 12 months** will be at 6:00 PM on Saturday 2 November at St Alipius. These people will be remembered at all masses that weekend. If you have lost a loved one in the past twelve months, but they weren't buried from our parish, please contact the parish office to have them remembered at this mass. A cuppa will follow the 6:00 PM mass at St. Alipius and a cuppa will follow the 10:30 AM mass at Buninyong. Please spread the word.

## UPCOMING DATES

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
October 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6.30 pm - Presbytery

**Remembrance Mass**  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6pm – St. Alipius Church

**Melbourne Cup Luncheon**  
November 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am – Parish Hall

**Anniversary Mass & Picnic**  
December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm – Church and Grounds

## A DAY OF SORROW AND PROMISE

*Until each victim is acknowledged and until every child is safe, we will never rest in our expression of sorrow and concern.*

These words of Pope Francis provide direction for our parish as we acknowledge in our long history the impact of child sexual abuse on survivors, families, friends and all in or community. Fr Hans Zollner SJ a Safeguarding expert has said that "there is an awareness of the necessity to acknowledge what harm has been done to people around about what types of crimes and sins have been committed by clergy, by religious and by lay people in the church." He said, "people lose trust" in the church not only "because of the abuse itself," but also "because of the inability, the resistance and the negligence," or "even worse," he said — "the cover up that has happened."

In commencing our 6.00pm Vigil Mass at Ballarat East outside the Church in Victoria St we seek to stand solidarity with survivors and all who have been impacted. We join with the Catholic Religious Australia in this **National Day of Sorrow and Promise**, one voice in prayer for victims and survivors of sexual abuse and in a united gesture of recommitment to the safeguarding reforms of the Catholic Church.

We encourage environments that empower children and adults at risk to speak up and to be heard. We recognise the role of families and community in safeguarding children and adults at risk and welcome their input on how to improve the way we relate to them. We seek to building a culture of care, accountability and transparency upheld in our policies and processes. We are actively committed to building prevention and safeguarding practices into everyday practice and implementing governance reforms throughout our Church.

We act appropriately with children and adults at risk with whom we come into contact, including maintaining boundaries and always exercising acceptable standards of behaviour. Clergy, staff, volunteers and contractors are aware of their legislative responsibilities and our own complaints and safeguarding policies. Any concerns that are identified or brought forward in any way are acted on appropriately, sensitively and in a timely manner.

## OFFICE HOURS



Please note that for the coming three weeks, the office will only be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please ensure that anything for the bulletin is submitted by 11am on Thursday.

## TODAY IS MISSION SUNDAY

Catholic Mission invites us to celebrate World Mission Month: "Together, we have the power to create change and build a more just world for people everywhere. By supporting missionaries in their work, we can create life-changing opportunities for countless children, families, and communities worldwide. Join us in making a difference for our sisters and brothers." Pope Francis has recently published his messages for World Mission Month and World Mission Sunday, which is celebrated today. Read both of these messages at

<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/worldmissionmonth>

Focus for this week: You are invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require. The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require.

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to "Invite others to the banquet", and we invite you to share the warmth of God's love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/mongolia>, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.

## VOLUNTEER AT MERCY PLACE

Mercy Place is welcoming new volunteers to our team. Join us for an informative session on Monday 21st, October from 10am -- 11.30am where you can enjoy some morning tea while discovering how you can contribute to your community.

60 Corbett Street, Ballarat East.

For more information, phone Olivia on 5327 1888

## THE SYNOD IS FAR FROM OVER

*As the Synod on Synodality in Rome continues until October 27<sup>th</sup> and as preparations for the November 15 – 16 Ballarat Diocesan assembly on Leadership and Governance for a missionary and synodal Church gather momentum, [Colleen Gibson writes](#).*

As we seek to embrace the synodal way, we must recognize that synodality is anything but static. Freedom and flexibility are par for the synodal course. Listening hearts must be open to change; they must allow themselves to be transformed by the Spirit, to ebb and flow as prayerful dialogue directs the course. Our part as people of faith is to be attentive to the Spirit's stirrings — not only in our own hearts and lives, but in the life of the larger community and in the life of the church.

This may or may not mean that everything I think should happen will. In fact, by the nature of the communal discernment at the heart of synodality, we know that it won't. Instead, we must allow ourselves to let go of what is "ours" individually for the communal need and desire of the larger body.

Does this mean that everything will be sorted out by the time the second session of the synod on synodality concludes Oct. 27? Of course not.

Likely, Oct. 27h will leave us with more questions than answers. Some will be disappointed in what was once seen as a movement of great hope and promise... With a synodal spirit, we must hold all these feelings. We must offer our needs and desires, anxieties and anticipations, heartbreaks and hopes to God. And we must hold one another, resting assured that the synodal way is not one of tectonic shifts but of step-by-step journeying together toward communal change.

With this in mind, we need to resolve ourselves to see that Oct. 27 is not an end, but a step on the synodal way. We have come this far together; dialogues have been opened, and with them, hearts and minds have been, too. Women and men, lay people and clerics, young and old from around the world have stood side by side as delegates. This is monumental.

Our job now is to ensure that the work begun in this synodal moment is not confined to a select group or a specific space. With patience and practice, we must continue these conversations. We must listen attentively and affectionately to one another. We must welcome the Spirit in our midst and reform our structures to allow every voice to be heard. We must continue to practice the skills of synodality and the discipline of synodal listening. Only then will we feel the freedom that the Spirit brings, embracing the transformative power of the Gospel and discovering what it truly means to be the synodal church we're being called to be, both now and forever.

### BAPTISMS

**Leo Fox & Lottie Wren Boyd**  
Children of Joel & Samantha

**Sienna Juliet Birthisel**  
Child of Dylan & Rachel

***"I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"***

# “No Place for Dominating Others”

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the kin-dom of God movement established by Jesus of Nazareth, there is no place for domination or for any exercise of power over others. In today's gospel story, this is a lesson that James and John, the sons of Zebedee, clearly need to learn. They seem to think that the structures of power operating in the Roman world are going to be replicated when Jesus conquers the forces of opposition and comes into his “glory”. The two brothers, James and John, put in a bid for shared deputy leadership positions. They seem to be blind and deaf to what Jesus has been trying to tell them throughout their journey from Caesarea Philippi to Jerusalem. They seek his patronage without reference to the rest of the leadership group who, incidentally, are not well pleased with their presumptuous companions.

James and John do not yet realise that Jesus' way is not the way of status or entitlement and that their call as disciples and as leaders of the emerging movement has nothing to do with privilege.

They need to understand that it has more to do with enduring the suffering associated with commitment to one's mission and with setting others free to be their best selves. To demonstrate this, Jesus offers them an unpalatable alternative: to be “slave of all”. He sustains the slavery metaphor and goes on to summarise his own mission with an image that comes out of the world of his time: “not to be served but to serve and give life as a ransom for many”. A ransom was the payment made to free someone from slavery.

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*“We might turn our attention to those in our world who are literally enslaved.”*

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To substitute oneself for a slave was to give one's life as a ransom for that slave. Reading the gospel from beginning to end helps us to understand the ultimate self-giving of Jesus in death as the climax of a lifetime's outpouring of love, a love that draws forth loving and liberating action in others.



There are multiple ways of enslaving others, of dominating and of trying to control them in order to achieve one's own personal or corporate ends, good or bad. The request of James and John reminds us that we can all lose sight of the liberating vision of the gospel and get caught up in destructive power struggles. As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples, we hear the words of the Markan Jesus, ‘It is not to happen with you’. We might turn our attention to those in our world who are literally enslaved. We might join with ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious against the Trafficking in Humans) and with others working to obtain freedom and justice for those trapped into sexual and other forms of slavery in our own cities, a situation that was exacerbated by the recent pandemic. We might hear today's gospel as a call to serve the cause of freedom and justice by joining the struggle against this tragic phenomenon.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

29<sup>H</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Isaiah 53:10-11

Hebrews 4:14-16

Mark 10:35-45

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Hebrews 5:1-6

Mark 10:46-52