

10th November 2024

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed."

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

Tues 5:30pm

Wed 11:00 am Mercy Place
(All welcome)

Thurs 9:30am

Sat 6:00 PM Vigil

Sun 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

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: Connor Prunty, Phillip Crosbie

Unwell: 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 Gleeson

Finance Officer

Jackie Wrigglesworth

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

Principal – St. Alipius School

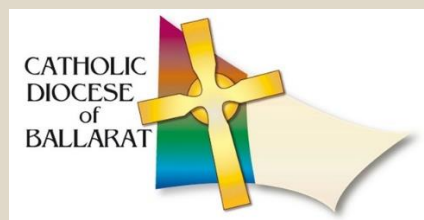
Phone: 5331 1816

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.



PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1145
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$478

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.

Counting Team this week: No. 5

UPCOMING DATES

Anniversary Mass & Picnic Preparations

November 17th @ 3pm – Parish Hall

Anniversary Mass & Picnic

December 14th @ 6pm – Church and Grounds

BALLARAT REFORM LEAGUE CHARTER 170TH ANNIVERSARY

Join Unions Ballarat Trades Hall and St Pauls to celebrate the foundation of Australia's democratic tradition at the site of the Monster meeting and the formation of the Ballarat Reform League – St Paul's Church, Monday November 11th 6.00pm – 7.00pm.

Y.C.W. CRICKET CLUB

The Y.C.W. Cricket Club are gathering for lunch at the Robin Hood Hotel on Sunday 1st December, 2024. All former players, families and supporters are welcome to attend. For further details please contact Terry on 0401 730 670 or John on 0409 864 080.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD MASS & THANKSGIVING MASS: DEACON CAY TRINH

Deacon Cay Trinh will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. A light lunch will follow in the Hall. For those not able to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/live/mbXDPuGpoYg?feature=share>

BAPTISMS

Arley Rowland
Child of Marc & Alisha

Emmersyn Mullane
Child of Troy and Kylee Mullane

Lenny Smith
Child of Adrian Smith and Danielle Breust

'You are precious in my sight and I love you'
Isaiah 43:4

CLERGY JUBILARIANS MASS

Mass to celebrate the 2024 Clergy Jubilarians will be held on Thursday, November 14th at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm. The 2024 clergy Jubilarians are: 50 years – Frs Eric Bryant, Paddy Mugavin & Michael O'Toole, 25 years – Fr Ed Moloney. All are welcome to attend.

Members of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to join the choir for this Mass. Choir practice will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass) in the Cathedral.

FAREWELL TO MARK BROMLEY

After 36 years working in the Finance Office of the Diocese of Ballarat, Mark Bromley has retired. Since 2017 Mark has worked part – time after his years as Business Manager for both the Diocese and the CDF. In these recent years he has provided administrative support to the admin officers of the parishes across the diocese. Mark's willingness to travel 'from the Murray to the Sea' to provide in-person support to parish finance committees, clergy and admin officers has been greatly appreciated. We wish him well for his retirement and offer our thanks to Mark.

LIVES OF HONOUR:

BALLARAT EAST AND THE GREAT WAR

St Paul's Anglican Church, Bakery Hill, extends an invitation to the launch of *Lives of Honour: Ballarat East and the Great War*. The book examines the lives of 177 World War One soldiers who were closely associated with the church, Monday November 11th 2024, 2.30pm Eureka Centre 102 Stawell St. S. Ballarat East. Dr Carolyn Holbrook will be the guest speaker. Entrance is free. Light refreshments and discounted copies will be available after the launch. Please indicate your intention to attend to adoggett1204@gmail.com, or calling 0401 007 42.

RCIA FOR CHILDREN OF CATECHETICAL AGE

On Thursday November 28th, we will be holding an information session for families who are looking to know more about the RCIA for children. This program is for children over seven years of age who wish to become Catholics. The program itself, will run in early 2025 over a period of weeks. If you know of anyone who may be interested in attending this session, please ask them to contact the parish office

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN O'BRIEN

Congratulations to parishioner John O'Brien, who was last week presented with a 'Lifetime Achievement' award through the City of Ballarat's Seniors Awards for 2024. John's award recognizes his volunteer work in many areas, including the Brown Hill Cricket Club, Auskick and the Brown Hill Progress Association. Well done John!

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

Thank you to everyone who attended our Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon. It was a very successful and enjoyable day by all who attended. Congratulations to our winners for the day. It was a great day which raised \$392.00 for the parish.



OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY (ODC)

The final edition of the ODC Magazine for 2024 is now available in the church foyers. Take home a copy today to find out what's happening in the diocese.

PREPARING FOR THE 2024 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

How does God want us to Lead and Govern for a Missionary and Synodal Church in the Diocese of Ballarat?

The Diocesan Assembly will take place at Federation University, Mt Helen in the Albert Coates Building commencing Friday evening November 15th and Saturday 16th 2024.

After the formation in preparation for the 2024 Ballarat Diocesan Assembly, the three Parishes of our Ministry District- Ballarat East (& Buninyong), Bungaree (& Clarkes Hill & Dunnstown), Gordon (& Ballan & Springbank) have delegated **Rachel Allen & Cathy Prunty** (Ballarat East Parish), **Dianne Reynolds & Damian Ryan** (Bungaree Parish) and **Mark Conlan & Sue Daly** (Gordon Parish) as the six delegates from our Ministry District. There are 29 Parishes across the Diocese – from the Murray to the Sea that have delegates to the Assembly together with delegates from Catholic agencies, Catholic organisations, entities, Religious Congregations, Diocesan Boards, Commissions, Councils and Panels as well as all Clergy of the Diocese, including Fr's Justin & Matt.

Following the Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia and the recently concluded Synod on Synodality, the methodology of the Assembly will include conversations in the Spirit with all delegates to table groups of up to eight with a facilitator trained and commissioned for this ministry.

The Assembly will be facilitated by Sr Karon Donnellan RSM (Leader of the Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea and previously a parishioner of Ballarat East). Many of the 17 table group facilitators belong to the Parishes of our Ministry District - Jo-Anne Bond, Donna Bryce, Rosemary Canavan, Mark Hogbin, Martin Ryan and Loretta Sheppard. In addition to the Parish delegates and the table facilitators, others from Parishes of our Ministry District who are delegates are Bridget Aitchison (ACU), Matt Byrne (DOBCEL), Anne Eskdale (Diocesan Pastoral Planning Panel & Personnel Advisory Board), Sr's Berenice Kerr & Veronica Lawson (Sisters of Mercy), Sharon Lehtonen (DOBCEL) and Fiona Tonkin (Marriage Tribunal). Jane Collins has been central to the preparation of the Assembly as well as colleagues in the Pastoral Ministry Office Julie Boyd and Fran Peterkin. In all we have many from the Parishes of our Ministry District that are significantly involved, not only the six delegates but also as delegates from other entities, table facilitators and parishioners who work for the Diocese in the Pastoral Ministry Office and those who seek to support them.

“A Woman Who Gives Without Counting the Cost.”

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

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Whether the longer or shorter gospel reading is selected for today's liturgy, the literary context deserves attention. Jesus is teaching the crowds in the Jerusalem Temple. He knows the vulnerability of many of the people around him and issues a warning about the grandiose behaviour of the Jerusalem scribes. The scribes were generally learned men on whom the people relied for rulings in matters of sacred law as well as for drawing up contracts and other important documents. They commanded the respect of many of the people. Jesus is not impressed by the behaviour of some of the scribes. He sees their pomposity as a mask for dishonesty and exploitation: they will receive the “greater condemnation”. They “devour the houses of widows” and hide behind the pretext of long prayers.

Widows included women who had lost their husbands through death or divorce as well as single unmarried women. They were women alone without male protection in a patriarchal society and without the benefit of a social security system.

They were dependent for survival upon the care of family and community. Jesus' words of condemnation are strong words that will understandably provoke a reaction. It is no surprise that the Jerusalem scribes are among those who later conspire to kill Jesus (Mark 14:1).

It is easy enough to be taken in by the posturing of those who present as superior and who look for status recognition. It is also easy to miss the generosity of those on the edge even if it is happening before our very eyes. The gospel context presents Jesus as attuned to the plight of the widows. He now notices and draws the attention of his disciples to the action of one particular “destitute” widow. Her tiny contribution to the treasury of two copper coins for the upkeep of the Temple is far more significant than the big sums contributed by the wealthy, ostentatiously and out of their excess.

Is this woman being presented as the victim of an unjust system that extracts from her what she cannot afford, as some commentators insist?



Is the Markan Jesus presenting her as a model of discipleship who, like Jesus of Nazareth, gives her all, despite the exploitation she has known? Is she refusing to be a victim by making her own choice to contribute all that she has? We may not need to choose just one interpretation from among the many. Every powerful story allows for multiple interpretations. It is clear that this woman's action provides a striking contrast to that of the scribes, like the action of another woman who, a little later in the story, breaks a precious jar and pours an abundance of healing ointment over the head of Jesus as he faces the prospect of death. As the gospel draws to a close, then, we find two stories of extravagantly generous unnamed women, stories told in memory of their gospel foolishness.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kings 17:10-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Daniel 12: 1-3
Hebrews 10:11-14, 18
Mark 13: 24-32