



▶ **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

17th November 2024

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

‘He shall gather his elect from the four winds.’

St Alipius parish

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 & Fri 9:30 am

Fri 10 am Funeral Prayers (Buninyong)

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:

Robert Page

Anniversaries:

Unwell: Kathy Towns,
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	\$1016
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$428

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. 6

UPCOMING DATES

Anniversary Mass & Picnic Preparations

November 17th @ 3pm – Parish Hall

Anniversary Mass & Picnic

December 14th @ 6pm – Church and Grounds

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

HOLY HOUR: DEACON CAY TRINH

There will be a Holy hour held at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 22nd November at 6PM. All welcomed to attend.

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>

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.

BAPTISMS

Sophie Louise & Lincoln James Hetherington
Children of Nicholas and Brooke Hetherington

Annabelle Lee Webster
Child of Lukas and Erin Webster

Sienna Rose Leach
Child of James and Erin Leach

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

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.

LITURGY ROSTER

Preparation has started to organise the liturgy roster for December and January. Can you please let the office know of any dates you are not available. Christmas Eve masses are 6 and 9PM at St Alipius and 7:30PM at Ss Peter ad Pauls and 9Am Christmas Day at St Alipius. Also if you would like to volunteer for any roles please don't hesitate to contact the office to discuss this further.

THANK YOU

Russell and Natalie would like to acknowledge and thank parishioners for their prayers, cards and well wishes on their special day. It was lovely to have so many of you join us at the church to witness our marriage.



ANNIVERSARIES AT ST ALIPIUS' BALLARAT EAST

The following notice has now been shared across the Ballarat Diocese in preparation for our December anniversaries.

2024 is a significant year for St Alipius' Church in Ballarat East. With the broader community we are remembering the 170th anniversary of the Eureka rebellion on December 3rd including the involvement of Peter Lalor, Fr Patrick Smyth and the Catholics of the Ballarat Goldfields.

2024 is also the 150th anniversary of the opening of the existing St Alipius' Church in Victoria St. Mass was first celebrated on the Ballarat Goldfields at Brown Hill in 1851 before relocating to the existing Victoria St site in 1853 where the tent-church-school (as captured by artist Eugene Von Gerrard) was erected.

These anniversaries are providing parishioners with opportunities to acknowledge the strengths and weaknesses of our history as well the opportunity to look to the future with hope and healing.

All are welcome to gather at St Alipius Church for 6.00pm Mass on Saturday evening December 14th 2024. Following the Mass all are invited to stay in the Church grounds for a byo picnic tea in the Church grounds with a bbq available. Hot and cold drinks will be available. Photographic displays from across the years are being collated as well as stories of 'people of St Alipius' being recorded.

For more information, please contact the Ballarat East Parish office on 5332 6611

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au. For catering purposes, please RSVP no later than December 7th.

MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS



Making a Scene at Christmas will be held in the Bridge Mall from Wednesday December 4th until Friday December 20th, 2024.

Making a Scene at Christmas is a display of over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries.

You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh, see coins minted around the time the census was

called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem, hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America, & Europe (and one that went to Antarctica) and nativities that prize social justice and the environment. Entry is a gold coin donation. Every one welcome.

OLHC WENDOUREE CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers are hosting a free lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, 482A Gillies Street North, Wendouree from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Bookings are essential as seating is limited, ph. 0491 029217.

Thank you to all the very wonderful volunteers for all their work in making the Christmas Day lunch at OLHC so special over all the years it has been held. We welcome all those who would like to be with us as a guest or a volunteer on the day, and we are especially looking for a few fit people who might commit to two hours of their time between 2.00pm – 4.00pm to clean up/pack up. To volunteer, please phone 0467 683504.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

The 8th celebration of World Day of the Poor will be marked this Sunday, November 17th. Pope Francis has chosen a particularly meaningful theme this year dedicated to prayer, as we approach the beginning of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025, "The prayer of the poor rises up to God" (cf. Sir 21:5). The Dicastery for Evangelisation website has resources for this day which includes the Pope's message and the Liturgical and Pastoral Handbook, "The Prayer of the Poor Rises Up" <http://www.evangelizatio.va/content/pcpne/en/attivita/gmdp/2024.html>

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

Every year World's Children Day is celebrated on November 20, marking the date that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted. Child rights are human rights. They are non-negotiable and universal. But in too many places today children's rights are being misunderstood, disregarded or even denied and attacked. Upholding children's rights is the compass to a better world – today, tomorrow and into the future. By listening to children we can fulfil their right to self-expression, understand their ideas for a better world and include their priorities in our actions today. Discover what's happening and take part at <https://www.unicef.org/world-childrens-day>

Prayer for World Children's Day: We pray for the children of the world. May they live without fear of violence and war, without hunger or thirst, without sickness and poverty. May they experience the great love that Jesus has for each one of us. May they grow in faith so that we all walk together as Your children, in peace and love. May the spirit guide us to work together for a different world, a better world for all. Amen.

“Trust in God No Matter What.”

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the opening lines of today’s gospel reading, there are clear echoes of two passages from the prophecy of Isaiah. The first passage reads, “For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light” (Isaiah 13:10). These images from Isaiah 13 present an unravelling of God’s work in creation. The second passage likewise predicts a scenario that seems to reverse the Genesis creation account: “All the host of heaven [the constellations] shall rot away, and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall wither like a leaf withering on a vine, or fruit withering on a fig tree” (Isaiah 34:4). The prophet is using powerful poetic imagery to speak of God’s judgment on the people of Israel who have strayed from their covenant relationship. The parallel images in Mark 13 are referenced to the aftermath of the “time of distress” associated with the destruction of Jerusalem, a time of intense suffering for the community of believers.

Jesus tells his disciples that, after all their suffering, strange cosmic phenomena will signal his return in glory and usher in a new age for God’s people when the faithful will be gathered in. The message is intended to give comfort and hope to Mark’s persecuted community of the late sixties or early seventies of the first century. Just as the new leaves on the fig tree signal the approach of summer, so too will the strange signs in the heavens signal Christ’s coming and the onset of a new era, an end to the “time of distress”. The message is thus one of encouragement for the community as they face an uncertain future rather than one of judgment. The strange apocalyptic imagery and the ancient cosmology that has Jesus returning on the clouds need not distract the scientifically sophisticated modern reader from hearing the call to trust in God no matter what. This reading reminds us that the unravelling of God’s work is more than a poetic image in our times.



The experience of seemingly endless war, the freak storms, the cyclones and other signs of climate crisis we have seen might well serve as reminders to attend more carefully to the preservation of planet Earth. We may also hear a call to pay closer attention to what the “other-than-human” Earth elements can tell us about God and God’s ways. Images of war-ravaged countries offer us constant reminders of what we are doing to our planet and of how attentiveness to both human and other-than-human habitat is integral to being who we are called to be. We live in a time of deep distress. Many of Earth’s inhabitants face an unknown future. Let us trust in God and pray for the grace to respond with urgency to the cries of the earth and of those rendered homeless or desperately poor.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE

Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 1:5-8
John 18:33-37