



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Tuesday 16th April 2024
Term 2 Week 1

P.O. Box 2027
Ballarat East VIC 3354
Phone: 5331 6311
Fax: 5331 8337

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 2 (11 weeks)

Mon 15th Apr – Fri 28th Jun

Thursday 18th April

10.30am & 6pm

First Eucharist Compulsory
Parent Information Sessions
at St. Alipius Church

Friday 19th April

1.50pm Andrew Chinn
concert in the gym.

Family & friends welcome.

Tues 23rd-Wed 24th April

Year 4 Camp

Thursday 25th April

Public Holiday ANZAC Day

Friday 26th April

Student Free Day

Mon 29th Apr-Thurs 2nd May

Book Fair Sales before and
after school

Friday 3rd May

Book Club 3 orders close

Friday 10th May

Mothers/Special Friends Day
Liturgy

Friday 17th May

2.40pm Assembly led by 1JS

Wed 22nd-Fri 24th May

Year 6 Camp

Friday 24th May

2.40pm Assembly led by FLH

Friday 31st May

2.40pm Assembly led by
6MM

Friday 7th June

2.40pm Assembly led by
5MM

Monday 10th June

King's Birthday Holiday

Friday 14th June

2.40pm Assembly led by
4ML

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Welcome to Term 2! We hope that all families enjoyed a happy Easter and a restful break. May the term ahead be filled with many opportunities to celebrate faith, families and fun as we continue to grow and learn together at St Francis Xavier Primary School.

Remember to keep a look out for the newsletter each week. This is our main form of communication so it's the best way to keep in touch with all that is happening at our great school.

Let's have a terrific term everyone!

God bless,



Mark Hogbin

Enrolments for 2025 Foundation for current families

Enrolment for 2025 Foundation students is now open
Enrolment closes Thursday 23 May 2024

The application process for 2025 Foundation (Prep) Enrolments for current St Francis Xavier families in one step:

Complete your enrolment by filling out the "City of Ballarat Expression of Interest for Enrolment" form found [here](#).

<https://dobcel.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/enrolments-application-form/>

You will be able to nominate St Francis Xavier as your first preference and nominate the child you are enrolling in a sibling.

New Families to St Francis Xavier are also required to complete the "City of Ballarat Expression of Interest for Enrolment" online and attend an Open Day Tour by booking at <https://www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au/enrol/open-days/>

Please note: You are not required to complete a hard copy Enrolment Form. If you have any questions please contact the school office.

St. Francis Xavier Primary School is a Child Safe School called to action through Gospel values and Mercy tradition. Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday April 14, 2024 Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

The two disciples then explained what had happened on the road, and how they had recognised the Lord when he broke the bread. While the two were telling them this, suddenly the Lord himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were terrified, thinking that they were seeing a ghost. But he said to them, "Why are you alarmed? Why are these doubts coming up in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet, and see that it is I myself. Feel me, and you will know, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you can see I have."

He said this and showed them his hands and his feet. They still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder; so he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of cooked fish, which he took and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are the very things I told you about while I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms had to come true."

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later, and in his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation)

Gospel reflection: The disciples were talking to each other when suddenly Jesus appeared amongst them. Jesus does something very normal- he eats some fish. Many of Jesus' first followers were fishermen and the first Christians used fish as a symbol that they followed Jesus. After eating, Jesus gives the disciples a special job to be his witnesses; to tell other people about his life, death and resurrection and his message of God's love and forgiveness. The Christian faith has been passed on person to person like this for more than 2,000 years.

Our Challenge: How can we share the story of God's love and forgiveness with others?



Andrew Chinn Concert:

On Friday April 19, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow", "An African Blessing" and "Rise Up!" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada.

Each class will have a workshop with Andrew and then we will gather for a whole school concert in the school gymnasium at 1.50pm.

We warmly invite all family and friends to join us and look forward to seeing you there!

- Friday 21st June**
2.40pm Assembly led by 3JW
- Friday 28th June**
Assembly led by FMM
- Term 3 (10 weeks)**
Mon 15th Jul – Fri 20th Sep
- Mon 15th & Tues 16th July**
Student Free Days
- Friday 19th July**
Start of Term Mass
- Friday 26th July**
2.40pm Assembly led by 2CK
- Friday 2nd August**
2.40pm Assembly led by 1EM
- Friday 16th August**
2.40pm Assembly led by FTW
- Friday 23rd August**
Book Week Parade
2.40pm Assembly led by FGJ
- Friday 30th August**
Fathers/Special Friends Day
Liturgy
- Friday 6th September**
2.40pm Assembly led by 4BO
- Friday 13th September**
2.40pm Assembly led by 3DW
- Term 4 (11 weeks)**
Mon 7th Oct – Fri 20th Dec
- Friday 11th October**
Start of Term/Mercy Day
Mass
- Friday 18th October**
2.40pm Assembly led by 2JS
- Friday 25th October**
2.40pm Assembly led by 1MV
- Friday 1st November**
2.40pm Assembly led by 5JW
- Monday 4th November**
Student Free Day
- Tuesday 5th November**
Melbourne Cup Holiday
- Friday 8th November**
2.40pm Assembly led by 6ZA
- Friday 15th November**
2.40pm Assembly led by 2RR
- Wed 20th & Thurs 21st Nov**
Year 5 Camp

Sacrament of Eucharist Reminder



For all children in Year Four or older, there is a compulsory parish meeting on Thursday April 18th for the parents of children making their First Eucharist this year.

There are two meetings for you to choose from, either 10:30am or 6pm at St Alipius Church. Children are not required to attend. If you have any queries or concerns please contact Natalie or Cathy at the Parish Office on 53326611.



Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Welcome back to the Second quarter! This Term is huge in terms of School Sport with many sports events taking place. Please see below the calendar for Term 2

More details about each particular event will be released closer to the event date.

Term 2:

- Week 3 - Mon Apr 29th - Division Cross Country @ Fed Uni (selected students from Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6)
- Week 5 - Friday May 17th - Division AFL @ Sebastopol (selected students from Yr 5/6)
- Week 6 - Friday May 24th - Division Soccer @ Wendouree Rec Reserve (selected students from Yr 5/6)
- Week 7 - Monday May 27th - Regional Cross Country @ Warrnambool (qualifiers from Division XC)
- Week 7 - Friday May 31st - Interschool Sport ALL Yr 5/6 v STM @ SFX
- Week 8 - Mon Jun 3rd/Tue 4th/Wed 5th - Golf Clinics (all students Yr 4/5/6)
- Week 9 - Friday June 14th - Division Netball @ Selkirk Stadium (selected students from Yr 5/6)

Have a great week everyone.



Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**



▶ **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

14 April 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

Lord, let your face shine on us

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tuesday – Friday 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 5

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

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

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Hannah McGuire, Charlie Franc, Robyn Jellett

Anniversaries: Neil Hanrahan

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez, Luka Fletcher-Leskarac, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Carole Simmons, Max Green

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.



WELCOME TO OUR PRIESTS

This week we are pleased to welcome two new priests to our parish – Fr Justin Driscoll and Fr Matt Restall. Fr. Justin will take up the role of parish priest, while Fr. Matt will be our assistant priest. Fr. Barry Ryan will continue being a visiting priest in our parish. While Frs. Justin and Barry are very familiar faces, we thought we would invite Fr. Matt to tell us a little more about himself today.

G'day!

kk

Please keep me in your prayers as we begin this new section of our journey together as I will keep you in mine.

God bless,

Fr Matt

MEMORIES

Thanks to John O'Brien for sharing this photo with us (circa late 1950's). This is a gathering of the Ballarat East YCW group and some of our current parishioners are pictured. Who do you recognise? We will name the people in the photo in next week's bulletin.



BAPTISMS

Allegra Grace and Harriet Ruth Roycroft-Glover
Child of Ashley Glover and Sally Roycroft

*I have called you by your name, you are mine.
Isaiah 43:1*

MESSAGE FROM FR JUSTIN

From April 10th, Bishop Paul has appointed Fr Matt Restall and I to the parishes of Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon, forming a **Ministry District** across our three parishes and the eight local Church and School communities of Ballan, Ballarat East, Bungaree, Buninyong, Clarke's Hill, Dunnstown, Gordon and Springbank. We will work with Cathy Prunty, Natalie Shannon and Bernadette Prestwood in the Ballarat East Office and Aileen Toohey in the Bungaree and Gordon Parish Offices as well as the Principals of our Catholic Schools - Troy Strybosch (St Joseph's Bakery Hill), Jayne Bosworth (St Brigid's Ballan), Emily Clarke (St Alipius' Ballarat East), Mark Hogbin (St Francis Xavier Ballarat East), Clare Scanlon (St Mary's Clarke's Hill), Paul McDowell (St Patrick's Gordon), Ethan Corfee (Emmaus Mt Clear) and Steven Mifsud (Damascus Mt Clear and Dunnstown). In the Diocese of Ballarat, a Ministry district is the term used in our pastoral planning document *Looking Forward*, to describe the sharing of resources between parishes, with the aim of working in collaboration to further the mission of Christ that has been entrusted to the Church. Our emphasis and focus is on mission, looking forward, outward, with the joy of the Gospel.

Pope Francis, in *The Joy of the Gospel*, dreams "of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation" (#27). He recognises that we need to be in a "permanent state of mission" (25), going out, being always engaged in involving others and being constantly focused on reaching out. The vision of Pope Francis is an outward one and "mission" is at the centre of it. In this next chapter, our new Ministry district provides us all with an opportunity to exercise genuine **synodality**, that is, walking together in faith, building a culture of encounter and accompaniment, **discerning** the way forward by genuine dialogue, listening to each other with prayerful openness to the Holy Spirit.

I look forward to walking with you as a pilgrim in faith, together as servants of the Gospel, joyful missionary disciples.

Fr Justin Driscoll

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$981
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$618

FUNDRAISING AFTERNOON TEA

The Cathedral Branch of the Catholic Women's League will be hosting an afternoon tea as a fundraiser to aid our Seminarians at 1:30 PM on Saturday 20 April at 30 Waller Ave, Ballarat. Entry is \$20 (cash only). There will be stalls and competitions. Donations are welcome and can be paid directly via the Bendigo Bank: Cathedral Branch Ballarat CWL, BSB 633 000, ACC 21371 7255. For inquiries please phone Carmel on 0401 175 045.

MERCY ASSOCIATES



An Invitation - Are you interested in becoming a Mercy Associate?

This group seeks to "Preserve, Nurture and Reimagine the Mercy charism", established by Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy".

We offer members a number of social and spiritual activities throughout the year.

If you are interested, both women and men, please contact the Parish Office for further information before 30 April 2024..

FIRST EUCHARIST

The parent information sessions for children enrolling to prepare for First Eucharist will be held on April 18th. For more information, please call the parish office or refer to our website.

DAMASCUS COLLEGE REUNIONS

Damascus College warmly welcomes past students and staff of Sacred Heart College, St Martin's in the Pines and Damascus College to our 2024 Class Reunion's.

This year, we are thrilled to host 'class of' reunions for:

Class of 1974 – 50 Year Reunion Celebration – Saturday, April 20

Class of 1984 – 40 Year Reunion Celebration – Saturday, May 18

Class of 1994 – 30 Year Reunion Celebration – Saturday, May 18

Class of 2004 – 20 Year Reunion Celebration – Saturday, May 25

Class of 2014 – 10 Year Reunion Celebration – Saturday, May 25

Please note: An all-years St Paul's Reunion will be held in 2025.

For further details and booking links for each class reunion, please visit

<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/community/alumni/alumni-reunions-events>. Scroll down to 2024 'CLASS OF' Reunions and click the + to view details and book your ticket. Enquiries: connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au

CATHEDRAL FENCE UPDATE

Bishop Paul has asked that we share the following update on our bulletin regarding the maintenance work on St. Patrick's Cathedral fence.

As reported in *The Courier* on Monday, March 25, ribbons were removed from St Patrick's Cathedral fence to allow maintenance work to be done on the fence. The date for the removal of ribbons was set in consultation with members of the Loud Fence movement.

Over the past two weeks, the fence has been cleaned and a first coat of paint has been applied to most of the fence. The finishing coat of paint will be applied in the coming weeks to complete the maintenance project.

Bishop Paul Bird and some members of the parish council will meet again with members of the Loud Fence movement next week. This will be to discuss arrangements for a meeting with survivors to hear their views on a memorial for those who have suffered abuse. The memorial could provide ongoing recognition of those who have suffered abuse and also be a reminder of the need for continuing attention to safeguarding children and vulnerable people in our community.

Being Witnesses

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Third Sunday of Easter: Luke 24: 35–48

Extraordinary things can happen if we open ourselves to the presence of a stranger on the road of life. That is one of the elements in today's gospel that forms the conclusion to the Emmaus story.

When I was a student in Dublin researching Luke's depiction of women in the Acts of the Apostles, I would often take a detour on my way home to visit the National Gallery of Ireland. Velázquez's remarkable oil painting, *Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus* captured and held my attention.

In this work, the viewer is confronted with a painting within a painting. The kitchen maid pauses from her tasks to listen, through the space between the kitchen and dining area, to the conversation between Jesus and his table companions.

Jesus' hosts have not yet recognised the companion they had encountered on the road from Jerusalem.

Velázquez seems to be suggesting that the young servant woman in the foreground, a woman from another place and another time, has sensed what they have yet to discover.

Like Velázquez's servant woman, we might attend to this graced encounter, its prelude, and its aftermath.

Imagine two dejected disciples (Cleopas and possibly his wife) on the

road from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus. On their journey, they encounter Jesus who has been raised.

At first, they fail to recognise him. Their sadness at his death has blinded them to what is happening before their very eyes. He engages them in conversation and holds up a metaphorical mirror to their experience of loss and grief. Their hearts "burn" within them as he opens to them the meaning of their sacred scriptures.

Their hearts burn within them.

They invite him to share a meal with them and their eyes are opened: they recognise him in the breaking of the bread.

Jesus then disappears from their midst. They cannot contain the joy they have experienced in realising that he is alive.

Cleopas and his partner return immediately to Jerusalem to share the good news with the other disciples.

All the assembled disciples experience powerfully the presence of Jesus in their midst. They share a meal with him. He opens their minds



to understand the scriptures. Everything falls into place.

They not only understand Jesus' death and resurrection in the light of the scriptures. They now know that they will be "clothed with power from on high" to exercise their role as witnesses to this great mystery, and to preach forgiveness to all peoples "beginning from Jerusalem".

Luke will open his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, with the story of the risen One sending the disciples to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth.

If we who re-member these events in every Eucharistic celebration allow our hearts to "burn" within us, we too may recognise the Risen One "on the road" and become his witnesses to the ends of the earth, engaging and even hosting the "strangers" we meet along the way.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
ACTS 3:13–15, 17–19
1 JOHN 2:1–5
LUKE 24:35–48

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
ACTS 4:8–12
1 JOHN 3:1–2
JOHN 10:11–18



Vic Park - BALLARAT

Stop breast and ovarian cancers in their tracks.

Mother's Day Classic Sunday 12 May

Victoria Park Ballarat
Opposite Loreto College from 8.00am!

**Walk or run
Move till we're done**

Register Now!



mothersdayclassic.com.au

Founded by



Major Partner



Proceeds to



Gold Partners



National Media Partner



<https://www.mothersdayclassic.com.au/event/mothers-day-classic-ballarat>

WOMEN IN SUPER
Mother's Day Classic

Volunteers we need you!

Contact Henry on 0457 057 148 or E-mail:
ballarat.communication@fernwoodfitness.com.au

QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621



AWESOME AUTUMN SPORTS!



SFX PS TERM 2

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS

3:20PM-4:50PM

WEDNESDAYS: MULTI-SPORTS
(FOOTY, NETBALL, SOCCER, B-BALL & HOCKEY)
PREPS TO GRADE 6



STARTS
WEEK 1 OF
TERM 2



OUR SESSIONS RUN AT
SFX PRIMARY.
PARENTS PICK-UP AT THE
SCHOOL AT 4.50PM

\$23 +
GST PER
SESSION

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

 **KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**

WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT