



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 23rd June 2025
Term 2 Week 10

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

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 2 (11 weeks)

Mon 21st Apr – Fri 4th Jul

Tuesday 24th June

Year 6 Travel Expo

Wednesday 25th June

Yr 2 & 5 Swimming Lessons

GWR Football at C.E. Brown Reserve, Wendouree

Friday 27th June

2.40pm Assembly led by FGJ

Free Dress Day
Gold coin donations to support Ballarat Foundation

Tuesday 1st July

School Music Showcase
6pm in school gym
FGJ, 1GT, 2RR, 3GD, 4LK, SCC and 6PB

Wednesday 2nd July

Yr 2 & 5 Swimming Lessons

School Music Showcase
6pm in school gym
FTW, 1EM, 2MH, 3JT, 4KB, 5QM and 6MM

Thursday 3rd July

School Music Showcase
6pm in school gym
FLP, FBO, 1JS, 2TS, 3LL, 4JS, 5ZP and 6ZA

Friday 4th July

No Assembly

Last day of term 2
3.15pm finish
(to be confirmed)

Term 3 (9 weeks)

Mon 21st Jul – Fri 19th Sep

Friday 25th July

Start of Term Mass

Friday 1st August

2.40pm Assembly led by FLP

Friday 8th August

2.40pm Assembly led by 1GT

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Our Year 4 students have been especially busy recently as they celebrated the sacrament of First Eucharist. This is a significant milestone in their faith journey and a deeply meaningful time for their families, as they gather together in prayer and celebration.

At Mass over the weekend, Fr. Justin shared the Gospel story of the feeding of the 5,000. It's a story our students know well. They are familiar with the details—how Jesus and his disciples, weary after a long day of preaching and healing, were still moved with compassion for the crowds. As evening approached, Jesus knew he could not send the people away hungry. And so, with just a few loaves and some small fish, everyone was fed.

In the eyes of our children, that moment is the miracle—how so many could be nourished from so little. But perhaps the deeper miracle lies not only in the food that was shared, but in the spiritual nourishment that came from Jesus' presence and message. Perhaps those gathered left not just full in body, but in spirit—strengthened by God's love, compassion and inclusiveness.

We may never know exactly what happened that day. But through the Gospels and the gift of faith, we are invited to believe. And through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, we are guided in understanding what it means to live as followers of Christ today.

It was a joy to witness our Year 4 students take this special step in their faith journey. We are proud of them and wish them every blessing as they continue to grow in their relationship with God. Well done, children!

God bless,

Mark Hogbin



Emergency Evacuation Drills

Did you know that we undertake emergency evacuation drills each term at school? These follow strict guidelines and are designed to educate all members of our school community about how we can appropriately respond to an emergency situation. As part of this process, we will be conducting our annual lockdown drill sometime this week. At this drill we teach the importance of following directions while sheltering in place. We can't publish when we conduct the drill, but the staff will be working with students to prepare for this to occur.

Monday 11th August

Auslan incursion in Library

Friday 15th August

2.40pm Assembly led by 2MH

Catholic Primary Schools

Athletics at Llanberris

(selected students from Yr 3/4/5/6)

Mon 18th – Fri 22nd Aug

Book Week

Friday 22nd August

2.40pm Assembly led by 3LL

Division Basketball at Selkirk

Stadium (selected students from Yr 5 & 6)

Friday 29th August

2.40pm Assembly led by 4JS

Interschool Sport (Yr 5/6)

- venue to be confirmed

Friday 5th September

Fathers' Day/Special

Friends' Liturgy

Thursday 11th September

Division Athletics at

Llanberris (qualified students from Yr 3/4/5/6 from event in Week 4)

Friday 12th September

2.40pm Assembly led by 5ZP

Tuesday 16th September

Sacrament of Confirmation

Friday 19th September

12.40pm Assembly led by FBOK

Term 4 (11 weeks)Mon 6th Oct – Fri 19th Dec**Friday 10th October**

Start of Term/Mercy Day Mass

Friday 17th October

2.40pm Assembly led by FTW

Friday 24th October

2.40pm Assembly led by 6MM

Friday 31st OctoberJunior Sports Day
All Foundation-Year 2 students**Monday 3rd November**

Pupil free day

Tuesday 4th NovemberMelbourne Cup Public Holiday
Pupil free day**Wet Weather Play**

of the school known as the paddock from next Wednesday. The ground here is marginally higher than the top oval and therefore a little drier. Children who wish to play here will be required to wear cover-up clothing if they wish to participate.

**Past Pupil in the News**

We congratulate Bishop Shane Mackinlay who has been appointed as Archbishop of the Brisbane Diocese. Archbishop Shane is a past pupil of Saint Francis Xavier who attended our school in the 1970's. Congratulations Archbishop Shane, we are proud of you!

SFX MUSIC SHOWCASE

SCHOOL GYM JULY 1, 2 & 3 6PM

TUES JULY 1	WED JULY 2	THUR JULY 3
FGJ	FTW	FLP & FBOK
1GT	1EM	1JS
2RR	2MH	2TS
3DG	3JT	3LL
4LK	4KB	4JS
5CC	5QMc	5ZP
6PB	6MM	6ZA

SFX MUSIC SHOWCASE

Throughout this term we have been very busy in our music sessions! We have been learning songs and reading music, composing, playing instruments, writing lyrics, beat boxing and learning body percussion sequences! During this time our children have rehearsed and refined their showcase items with enthusiasm and pride, and are very excited to share their learning with our entire community next week!

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Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

Friday 7th November

No Assembly

Friday 14th November

No Assembly

Friday 21st November

No Assembly

Mon 24th – Wed 26th Nov

Year 5 Camp

Thursday 18th December

Final 2025 day for students

DANCING — WITH — OUR STARS

GEMMA SNIBSON
ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

BALLARAT
FOUNDATION

Scan here
to show your
support.

★Support Gemma in 'Dancing With Our Stars'!★

We are incredibly proud to share again that our very own Miss Johnson has bravely stepped up to take part in this year's '**Dancing With Our Stars**' - a wonderful fundraising event run by the **Ballarat Foundation**.

This community initiative raises vital funds to support those experiencing hardship across our region. Every dollar raised goes toward creating brighter futures through local food programs, education support, mental health services and more.

To help Gemma reach her fundraising goal, she's running an exciting **Raffle** - and she'd love your help!

Tickets are just \$5 each or 3 for \$10

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First Prize: 6 premium tickets in a Superbox to a spectacular live ice performance at Rod Laver Arena on **Sunday, 20th July at 2:00 PM** (please note: food and drinks are not included)

Second Prize: 4 premium tickets in a Superbox to a spectacular live ice performance at Rod Laver Arena on **Sunday, 20th July at 2:00 PM** (please note: food and drinks are not included)

Third Prize: A \$200 voucher for Jericho Road Clothing

This is a fantastic opportunity to support a great cause and go in the running to win some incredible prizes.

Scan the QR code on our posters around the school or visit the link below to purchase your tickets today!

<https://rafflelink.com.au/dwos-gemma>

Let's rally behind Miss Johnson as she takes to the stage and helps make a lasting difference in our community.

Thank you for your generous support!

**DANCING
— WITH —
OUR STARS**

**1ST PRIZE -
6
SUPERBOX
TICKETS
TO DISNEY
ON ICE**

**2ND PRIZE -
4
SUPERBOX
TICKETS
TO DISNEY
ON ICE**

**3RD PRIZE - \$200
JERICHO ROAD
CLOTHING
VOUCHER**

**GEMMA'S
RAFFLE**

**SUPPORT THE
BALLARAT
FOUNDATION**

**TICKETS: \$5 EACH
OR 3 FOR \$10**

SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE





**BALLARAT
FOUNDATION**

**GEMMA SNIBSON
ST FRANCIS XAVIER
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday April 27, 2025 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Year C)

Gospel: Luke 9:11-17 Jesus welcomed the crowds, spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed those who needed it. When the sun was beginning to set, the twelve disciples came to him and said, "Send the people away so that they can go to the villages and farms around here and find food and lodging, because this is a lonely place." But Jesus said to them, "You yourselves give them something to eat." They answered, "All we have are five loaves and two fish. Do you want us to go and buy food for this whole crowd?" (There were about 5,000 men there.) Jesus said to his disciples, "Make the people sit down in groups of about fifty each."

After the disciples had done so, Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, thanked God for them, broke them and gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. They all ate and had enough, and the disciples took up twelve baskets of what was left over. *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation)*

Gospel Reflection

In the gospel, through God's grace, everyone, all 5,000 people, eat the bread and the fish, and there is plenty left over. Just like Jesus asks the disciples to feed the crowd in today's reading, we are also asked to do whatever we can to make sure that everyone has enough to eat. Even though there is enough food produced in the world to feed everyone there are many people who go without food every day – both here in Australia and in other countries. How does it make you feel to hear that? Do you think it is fair?

One of the things we can do is to ask the government to support the people around the world who grow food, not the big companies. Another thing we can do is to share whatever we can with one another.

This week let's give thanks for the food that we have. Let us remember to thank God for all that we have been given, as well as thanking and praying for all the people who are involved in getting the food we eat from the farm to our table.

Our Challenge: Let try to do one thing this week to help make the world a fairer place, so that everyone has enough to eat. *(Adapted from CAFOD Website)*



Free Dress Day Reminder:

This Friday, June 27th is a Free Dress Day.

Rug up and bring along your gold coin donations to support Ms Johnson's work for the Ballarat Foundation- the fashion stakes are high and we might even see a sneak preview of her dancing skills!

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New Wellbeing Initiative

This week our amazing Wellbeing Leaders launched a new initiative in the school called *Feel Good Friday*. Student voice is so important at St Francis Xavier!

Edward, Aria and Lois emailed and met with Teachers and Leadership to discuss their ideas and how they could implement their vision to include more students with wellbeing support.

They have decided that each Friday, a small group of students from one year level will be invited to participate in *Feel Good Friday* sessions. These students will be identified by their teachers as requiring additional support with emotional regulation or as benefiting from structured "chill-out" time. The aim of *Feel Good Friday* is to provide a calm, welcoming space for students to reset, build positive social connections, and practice emotional regulation strategies in a safe and supported environment.

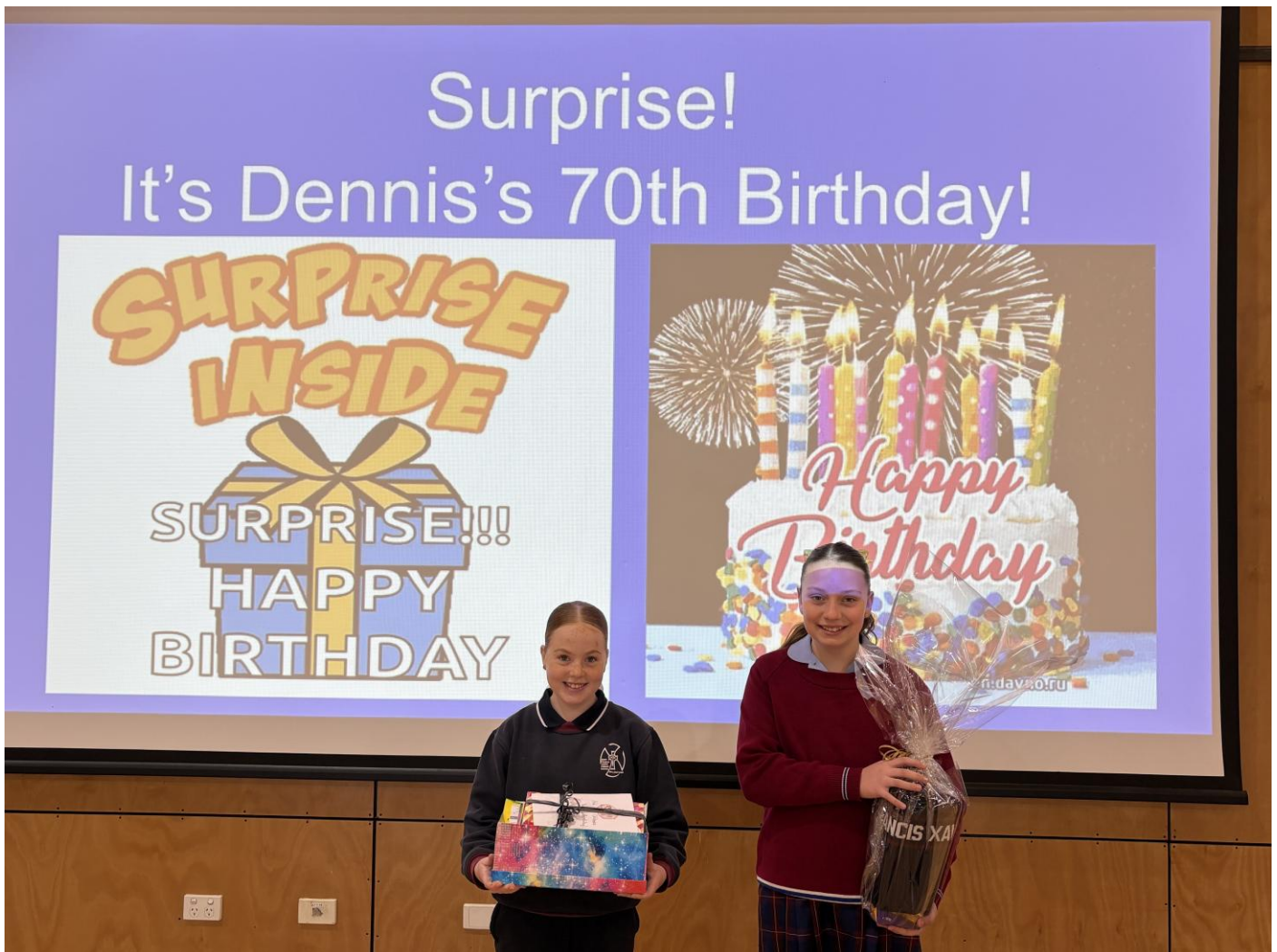
Well done Edward, Aria and Lois and we look forward to hearing about the successes, challenges and future directions of *Feel Good Fridays*!



🦋 Happy 70th Birthday to Our Wonderful Crossing Supervisor DENNIS! 🦋

Community is very important to us at SFX and this week, we're thrilled to celebrate a very special milestone — the 70th birthday of our beloved crossing supervisor, Dennis! He has been unwell for the last few days, but we have a small gift and lots of beautiful cards made by our students to present him on his return.

For years, Dennis has greeted students, parents, and staff with a friendly smile, a wave, and a watchful eye to ensure everyone's safety. Rain or shine, he has been a constant, reliable presence in our school community. On behalf of everyone at St Francis Xavier, we wish Dennis the happiest of birthdays and thank him for his dedication, kindness, and care.



Year 3 'Spirit Squad' Unity Projects!

The Year 3 students want to let you know about some projects we are working on in unity with others!
On Pentecost Sunday Jesus's disciples felt empowered to go out into the world, on a mission of love for others...and we have been inspired to do the same!
We have all chosen a different project to work on that really burned within us to make a difference in the world.
Please, please, please help us to help others!

Ballarat Soup Bus

Did you know... each night about 65 people visit the Ballarat Soup Bus to get a warm meal!

When they are there they can also pick up a 'take home' bag, filled with easy to heat up non-perishable foods, as well as dog and cat food.

Please help the Soup Bus by donating these non-perishable items:

Canned soup/ stews
Canned fruit
Canned spaghetti
Baked beans
Two minute noodles
Cans of tuna etc
Dog & cat food
Long life milk



Shoes for Planet Earth

Did you know... that some children and young adults can't play sport because they can't afford sports shoes?

Team sports teach you to compromise, work with others, build social skills, improve self-esteem, provide healthy alternatives to risky behaviours, creates a sense of belonging...all of these also act as protective factors against involvement in crime.

Can you encourage young people to play sport by donating sports shoes that you have outgrown?

Sports or footy shoes must have:
-only sports shoes
-no holes- top, heel cup, soles
-clean and in good condition
-tied together in pairs

Added bonus: this helps keep shoes out of landfill!



Vinnie's Winter Woolies Appeal



Did you know... at the moment there are 707 people experiencing homelessness in Ballarat! Some are sleeping on the streets, some sleeping in cars, or staying at friends on their couches, or having to pay for share accommodation like guesthouses, or hotels or motels. Some families who have homes can't afford electricity to keep warm.

It's sooooo cold in Ballarat not to be warmly dressed!

You can help by donating clothing items to Vinnie's. Please make sure we show respect by only donating clothing that is in good condition (that you'd be prepared to wear yourself)

Coats
Scarves
Hats
Gloves
Blankets

Please deliver all donations to 'The Spirit Squad' in the Year 3 building!



Christine Meneely, Religious Education Leader
MHIPS Leader (Mental Health in Primary School Leader)

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Overnight Camps

Over recent weeks, our Year 4 and 6 students have enjoyed the opportunity to attend overnight camps. These valuable experiences support our educational program at St Francis Xavier, helping students build friendships, strengthen their sense of belonging, and connect with the wider world. Camps foster skills in teamwork, leadership, resilience, and independence—all vital for lifelong learning.

Another important area in our curriculum which our children are involved in is sessions in

Inquisitive.

inquisitive



The "**Inquisitive Quality Curriculum F–6**" (Australia) refers to a structured, inquiry-based teaching and learning resource designed to support the delivery of the **Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)** curriculum, aligned with the **Australian Curriculum** for Foundation (F) to Year 6. It provides **structured units of work** that support the **HASS learning area**, including **History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business** (where applicable by year level). The program aims to foster student curiosity, critical thinking, research skills, and active citizenship through **inquiry learning**.

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Here at St Francis Xavier our Literacy block is aligned to our Inquisitive units so children are learning about a specific topic through reading and writing and then on some afternoons have an opportunity to explore more.

It is called a “quality curriculum” because it is:

- **Aligned** to the Australian Curriculum
- **Scaffolded** with lesson sequences and differentiated tasks
- **Designed** to promote deep thinking and understanding
- **Resourced** with high-quality visuals, source materials, and assessment tools

Over the next two weeks our Specialist teachers will be uploading children's work onto Seesaw for your viewing. Once again, please take the time to make a comment. Last week our interaction was:

Week of June 15 - June 22 at St Francis Xavier Primary School - Ballarat East



227

New Student Posts



39

Comments



Jane Clark, **Deputy Principal/Learning Enhancement**

Wellbeing News

Introducing the 11 Child Safe Standards from the Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP)

As an organisation St Francis Xavier Primary School must implement the following 11 standards.

Standard 1: Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.

Standard 2: Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.

Standard 3: Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.

Standard 4: Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

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Standard 5: Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.

Standard 6: People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.

Standard 7: Processes for complaints and concerns are child-focused.

Standard 8: Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

Standard 9: Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

Standard 10: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

Standard 11: Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

The CCYP are running an initiative called 'What Matters Most' where you can 'Share your story, make a difference and win great prizes'!

What Matters Most is a chance for children and young people to tell the CCYP about what is important to them and what needs to change to make things better.

The stories shared with the CCYP will help inform the issues we focus on and the solutions they put forward when the CCYP talks to the government and other decision makers.

You can share your story however you like; write it down, draw a picture, record a video or create a piece of music. The CCYP wants you to submit something that's unique to you.

Share your story now by clicking on this link: [Submit your story!](#)

Share your story

You can focus on any topic you like, for example, school, family or home, hobbies, culture, or religious beliefs.

You can also use of of the CCYP prompts to get your creativity flowing:

- What would you like to see changed to make things better for children and young people?
- What do you care about?
- Celebrating your difference - what makes you, you?

If you give the CCYP permission, your story could be shared in places like their social media channels or website.

Each submission will go into the draw to win amazing prizes including gift cards, tickets to sporting events and activities, or a day working with the Commissioner.

Sending cheers your way,



Gemma Johnson, **Wellbeing Leader**

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Regional Netball

Well done to our Girls A netball team who represented our school in the Greater Western Region Netball finals at Selkirk Stadium last Friday. The girls played superbly well and managed to make it through to the semi-final where they played a great game but fell just short. A big thank you to the families that went along to support and to Kate and Mrs Barclay for their support and coaching.

Regional AFL

Good luck to our Boys AFL 9's football team that will be playing in the Greater Western Region AFL finals at C.E. Brown Reserve this Wednesday. The team is very excited and very much looking forward to playing against some other talented teams. The team is made up of Nic G, Jed H, Tom K, Charlie K, Will M, Sidney P, Hamish L, Billy C, Alex P, Paddy D & Noah I. We know that they will give their best and we look forward to seeing how they go.

2025 SFX SPORTS DATES

Term 2:

- Week 10 - Wednesday June 25th - GWR Football @ C.E. Brown Reserve, Wendouree

Term 3:

- Week 4 - Friday August 15 - Catholic Primary Schools Athletics @ Llanberris (selected students from Yr 3/4/5/6)
- Week 5 - Friday August 22 - Division Basketball @ Selkirk Stadium (selected students from Yr 5 & 6)
- Week 6 - Friday August 29 - Interschool Sport (Yr 5/6) - TBC
- Week 8 - Thursday September 11 - Division Athletics @ Llanberris (Qualified students from Yr 3/4/5/6 - from event in Wk 4)

SFX Football Jumpers, Singlets & Netball dresses/bibs

If you have any SFX Football jumpers, singlets or netball dresses/bibs at home could you please return them to Mr Down or Mr Carroll or drop them into the office.

Have a great week.



Shaun Carroll, SFX Sport Coordinator

P&F News

Hot Lunches Please note, Flexischools have made an update when you order Hot Lunches, you can now select if your child has any allergies and it will print on your child's label, please ensure that you use this function when placing your child's lunch order.

Hot Chocolates First break every Monday Term 2 & Term 3 \$1.50 for a Hot Chocolate & Marshmallow
Thank you to our Volunteers this week – Please sign up to volunteer if you are able – we rely on Volunteers to be able to run this for the children

Uniform Shop Our Second Hand Uniform shop is always open, please see the office staff if you wish to have a look at any items in our Second Hand Uniform shop, or reach out to a member of our P&F to help you with any of your Uniform needs. Did you know that all items are \$5 with the exception of woollen jumpers, tunics, coats and bags which are \$10. We will be opening the second hand uniform shop up again on a regular basis coming soon!

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Faith communities of Ballan, Ballarat East, Bungaree, Buninyong, Clarkes Hill, Dunnstown, Gordon and Springbank

Ministry District Newsletter

Priests Frs Justin Driscoll & Shaiju Mathew

Ballarat East Parish
Cathy Prunty and Natalie Gleeson
0437 505 517
ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Tuesday – Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Bungaree and Gordon Parishes
Aileen Toohey
0492 903 409
bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au
gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Tuesday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Our parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults
Child Safety Officers: Ballarat East Parish – Emily Clarke; Bungaree & Gordon Parishes – Aileen Toohey

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

22 June 2025 Year C



MINISTRY DISTRICT MASS TIMES

Weekday Masses			
Monday June 23rd	9.15 am	Funeral Mass – Leo Shanahan	
Tuesday June 24 th	9.30 am Note time change	St. Alipius Ballarat East	
Wednesday June 25 th	11.00 am	Mercy Place (All Welcome)	
Thursday June 26 th	10.30 am	St. Brigid's Ballan	
Friday June 27 th	9.30 am	St Alipius Ballarat East St Brendan's Bungaree	
Saturday June 28 th	9.30 am	St. Alipius Ballarat East	
Weekend Masses			
Saturday June 28 th		Sunday June 29 th	
6.00 pm	Ballarat East	9.00 am	Ballarat East Bungaree
6.30 pm	Springbank	10.30 am	Buninyong Ballan

WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS FOR:

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Leo Shanahan, John Lawson

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME

Fr Barry Ryan, Paul Ballinger, Tom Ballinger, June Ballinger, Val Russell, Winifred Taylor

THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL

Troy Watson (Steenhuis family), Elaine Conlan, Joan Egan, Evelyn Farrugia, Patricia (Patty) Gannon, Michelle Hall, (baby) Mia Hanrahan, John Healy, Sarah McLachlan, Thelma Keating, Carole Simmons, Owen Widdison, Simon Murillo.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAMS

Ballarat East Parish:

Rose Consignano, Judith Glaubitz, Martin McGettigan, Dianne McKeegan, Claire Stewart.

Bungaree Parish:

Damian Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree), Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown), Dom Prendergast, Maurice Mahar & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill).

Gordon Parish:

Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke & Shane Carey (Gordon), Mark Conlan & Jim Leahy (Ballan).

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BISHOP SHANE APPOINTED ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

Pope Leo has appointed Bishop Shane Mackinlay as Archbishop of Brisbane. Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, welcomed the appointment. "The Archbishop-elect's pastoral experience in his home diocese of Ballarat, and his leadership of the diocese of Sandhurst, together with his strong academic background, will stand him in good stead as he takes up the new challenge of pastoral leadership in the Archdiocese of Brisbane," "We pray that Bishop Mackinlay will help empower the people of Brisbane to discover and use their gifts, inspire them with a vision of what the Church can be, and provide new opportunities and resources for all to encounter Christ," Archbishop Costelloe said.

Bishop Shane is well known in our Ministry District having been raised by his parents Helen and Malcom as parishioners of St Alipius and primary schooling at St Francis Xavier Ballarat East. +Shane was ordained priest in St Alipius Church in 1991. Prior to his appointment as Bishop of Sandhurst he was parish priest of the Bungaree parish and visiting priest to the parish of Gordon. A Mass of Thanksgiving (Farewell Mass) will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo on Sunday 7 September 2025. Bishop Mackinlay will be installed as Archbishop of Brisbane at St Stephen's Cathedral, on Thursday 11 September 2025.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Thank you to those who participate in one of the many liturgical ministries at Masses in Ballarat East or Buninyong. We invite everyone to consider how they could participate in one of these ministries, aware that there are variety of gifts and all sorts of service to be done! During the last weekend in June, all parishioners are invited to consider offering themselves for one of the liturgical ministries at one of our Masses times at Ballarat East or Buninyong. Look for the posters which will appear in church foyers for more information. We invite you to consider how you might be able to participate in the 'full, conscious and active participation' of all in our Sunday Masses.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PPC Meeting
Thursday 26th June 6:30 pm

FIRST EUCHARIST

At Masses at St Alipius this weekend, children and their families will gather with the parish community to celebrate children receiving the Eucharist for their first time following weeks of preparation and the sacraments of baptism and confirmation.

At the 6pm Vigil Mass we will welcome the following children to sharing fully in the Eucharist: Ayla, Jameson, Winter, Leo, Sadie, Willow, Thomas, Daisy, Milla, Paddy, Archie, Flynn, Hamish, Harrison, Sophie, Austin, Hudson, Savee, Byron, Piper, Abbey
At the 10.30am Mass on Sunday we will welcome: Mackenzie, Levi, Archie, Mirajane, Scarlett, Hamish, Harper, Willow, Tiffany, Annaliese, Paige, Maya, Connor, Claire, Aiden, Zoe.

BAPTISMS

Romie Peters
Child of Emilo and Shannen Peters

'I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

OUR NEW PARISH HUB

We have a new home at 86 Victoria St. Ballarat East on the corner of King and Victoria streets. Our new Hub for the three parishes of Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon (and 8 church communities) has opened. With this beginning has come the closure of the former presbytery/parish office at 84 Victoria St. that will now become available for a commercial lease. Please note that along with the move we have a new phone number. From this weekend our new number will be 0437 505 517. Office hours will remain the same. You are welcome to call into the hub and say hello. We're planning a blessing and official opening of the Hub soon - it's where Cathy and Nat, Frs Justin and Shaiju as well as Jackie (finance) and soon Aileen (Bungaree and Gordon) will be working from for our Ministry District.

COLLECTIONS

Supporting our priests:	\$1,195
Supporting our parish:	\$ 728.40

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

HOW DOES GOD WANT US TO LEAD AND GOVERN FOR A MISSIONARY SYNODAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF BALLARAT – TRUST

Trust in the Diocese is viewed as very low and rebuilding trust within the Diocese of Ballarat requires a multi-faceted approach, addressing various forms of trust. A new relationship of trust and confidence needs to be created within the diocese, church and the wider community.

Trust can be restored through a renewed emphasis on transparency, humility and a deep commitment to God's mission.

Institutional trust calls for significant reforms in governance, accountability and the ongoing commitment to safeguarding.

Relational trust, which connects clergy, laity and the wider community, can be rebuilt by fostering a synodal Church. This requires a culture and practice of walking together and exercising co-responsibility for the sake of the common mission.

The importance of fostering trust in local communities was emphasised, highlighting that these communities are essential in nurturing faith and building strong relationships within their own situations. Delegates recognised that local parishes were often the primary touchpoints for individuals and families, where they experience the support and guidance of the Church. Trust in these communities is crucial for ensuring that the Church remains grounded in the needs of the parish/organisations and allowing for more effective pastoral care, outreach and spiritual growth.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 2025

The theme of this year's appeal is "Homelessness is Never a Choice".

Over the past six months, SVdP Ballarat has given over \$253,000 in material assistance, including food, clothing and furniture, to families and households in need in Greater Ballarat. With the current homelessness crisis, the assistance we provide for people experiencing hardship this Winter will be needed more than ever. We are most grateful for the support we receive from our parish as it enables us to continue to assist those in need.

How To Donate

Envelopes are available at the end of each pew and at the piety stall. Envelopes can be placed on the collection plate. Please write your name and address if you require a receipt.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

VIGIL MASS TIME

Thank you to those who took the time to vote on Mass times last weekend. The preference for the Vigil Mass was 5pm. Therefore the Mass time will change to 5pm on July 5th. This change will apply for the months of July, August & September.

A DAY OF REFLECTION "EXAMEN-ING LIFE"

Come and look back at your life with God, to savour and heal it, and look forward with hope to what God has in store for you, using the Examen. The Examen is a reflective prayer popularised by St Ignatius of Loyola. It invites us to find God in all the people and events of our lives. Beneficial effects of reminiscence with God include a heightened sense of well-being, feelings of love, joy, peace, and ease in finding meaning and purpose in our lives. To be led by Dr Susie Hii, a geriatrician and spiritual director, a member of Christian Life Community and the World Community for Christian Meditation. Saturday, July 19th, 9:30 am – 4 pm Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Buninyong. Morning tea, and soup with rolls for lunch will be provided. Cost: \$25 or what you are able to afford. Please RSVP as soon as possible to: mary_wade@bigpond.com | 0408 468 583 (RSVP latest 12/7/25)

MAKING SYNODALITY WORK IN OUR LIVES AND PARISHES

Event Details

When: Thursday 26 June 2025, Time: 7:00 pm (AEST)* Where: Via Zoom Cost: FREE Registration: [To register, please click here, or on the button below.](#)

The webinar will be recorded and made available the week following the event. You must be registered to receive the link to the video.

[For more information, click here.](#)

The webinar will: explore what is happening in the dioceses where action has already begun, discuss the local synod in Brisbane in 2024, the outcomes and the implementation process, learn about synodal ways of being in any parish or community and share ideas around ministries and vocations that are pertinent for those both in and outside parishes. We hope this webinar will contribute to re-energising people of faith.

VINNIES ONLINE

The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria has launched an online retail platform Vinnies online <https://vinniesonline.com.au/>. Shop when it suits you!

Making a Place at the Table

Reflection on the Gospel-The Body and Blood of Christ Year C

(Luke 9:11-17)

Veronica M. Lawson RSM



The gospel for today brings together elements that have traditionally formed part of Christian worship. In the first part of the story, Jesus welcomes those who follow him. He then speaks to them of God's kin-dom and heals those in need of healing. In the second part, he takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them and puts them before the disciples who distribute the bread to the assembled people. All eat and are satisfied.

The second part of the story is full of eucharistic symbolism. The setting is a "desert" place, recalling the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert of Sinai. The hunger of the people recalls God's care of Israel in the wilderness. God feeds God's people in the deserts of life, but only if those called to be disciples recognise their responsibility to be the hands of God. "Send them away" is one solution, clearly not the one preferred by Jesus. Rather, he says, "You give them something to eat". They are said to number "five thousand men (*andres*)". The women and children are simply not counted. When the people sit down in circles and share their food, they find there is more than enough for everyone. They gather up the broken pieces, just as we must remember to gather up the pieces that so often go to waste.

Jesus' actions and words over the bread [and the fish] are echoed in the account of his final meal with the disciples: the bread broken and shared becomes his body broken and "given" for them. In the celebration of Eucharist, bread broken and wine poured out change their meaning.

While all analogies fall short, we might begin to understand this mystery by thinking of the Eureka flag. The flag is constructed of fabric and thread, but it is no longer simply the sum of its material parts, precious as they are. The restored flag is housed in a special place and protected with the utmost care. Because of its associations with the Eureka rebellion and what that stands for in Australian history, it has taken on a meaning beyond the goodness of the materiality of fabric and thread. In the celebration of Eucharist, the God-given gifts of bread and wine likewise become more than their material parts. They are life for us, the shared life of the Risen Christ. Eucharistic life is covenanted life. Recognition of another level of meaning does not discount the integrity and goodness of the underlying material reality, but rather affirms it.

Sharing in Eucharist means giving life for the sake of the many, sometimes to the point of heroism, sometimes simply by sharing our resources or our left-over pieces with others in need. Finally, it is important to remember that the healing is the prelude to the sharing of the bread. We are called to ensure there is a place at the table for those so often excluded from community by disability, ill-health or any kind of prejudice.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Genesis 14:18-20

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Luke 9:11-17

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Saint's Peter and Paul

Acts 12:1-11

Timothy 4:6-8

Gospel: 16:13-19

ASSEMBLY AWARDS 20th June Hosted by 1EM Theme: Justice

Justice means being the best person we can be.

We always try our hardest, even when it's difficult, just like Jesus did.

FLP	Stevie Smith and Elliott Evans	4JS	Milla Kingston and Byron Toohey
FGJ	Vann Brooks and Amelia Whykes	4LK	Edie Brennan and James Bodnar
FBO'K	Ivy Mitchell and Riley Smith	4KB	Levi Dreher & Alora Warren
FTW	Joe White and Eva Ludbrook	5CC	Alexis Toohey and Nathaniel Abraham
1JS	Jimmy Robinson & Audrey Giles	5ZP	Kayden Finley & Evie Answer
1EM	Elle Needham and Harvey Banwell	5QM	Xavier Morris & Xavier Foster
1GT	Hugo Bromley and Blake Pitman	6PB	Liam Fulcher and Will McGregor
2RR	Lachy Hatt and Yael Vasserman	6ZA	Harriet Locke & Ava Nicholson
2MH	Oscar Johnson and Daisy Whittlam <i>Polly Meade (week 8)</i>	6MM	Audrey Lynch and Alfie Sosinski
2TS	Cruz Raine Lance Humphries	EE	6MM
3LL	Arlo Troon River Fedke	PA	Noah Osciak and Connor White
3JT		VA	Harry Toohey, Meredith Bodnar, Cruz Raine and Daulat Gill (2TS)
3DG	Lilly Bye and Max Elliot	PE	Sienna Morton, Joe Trigg
		Tch	Angus Morley and Jimmy Faull
Principal's Award:			

**KELLY
SPORTS**



Queries: Coach Sean
0411 602 204

July

HOLIDAY PROGRAM!

7th-18th
July

8am - 5pm
MON - FRI

Kinder - Grade 6
All different sports
and games, join
the fun!

\$65
per day
**BOOK
NOW!**



NERF WARS!
Friday 11th July



The Kelly Sports Games
Friday 18th July



Kids need to bring along a big packed lunch & large refillable drink
bottle. Dress in comfortable sports clothing!



Eastwood Leisure Centre - Ballarat
8am - 5pm Weekdays
Kinder - Grade 6 - Enroll online



www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat



Basketball Ballarat – Power FM Junior Miners Winter Holiday Camps

Held every school holiday, Power FM Holiday Camps are the perfect opportunity for kids aged **4 to 14** of all genders and skill levels to develop their game in a fun and supportive environment. Whether you're picking up a basketball for the first time or wanting to refine your skills, our camps cater to everyone – from beginners to future stars!

Camp Details

Week One:

Wednesday 9 July and Thursday 10 July

Week Two:

Wednesday 16 July and Thursday 17 July

Time: 9:00am to 3:00pm

Venue: Selkirk Stadium – 989 Norman St, Wendouree VIC 3355

Registrations

Close: Thursday 3 July at 11:59pm

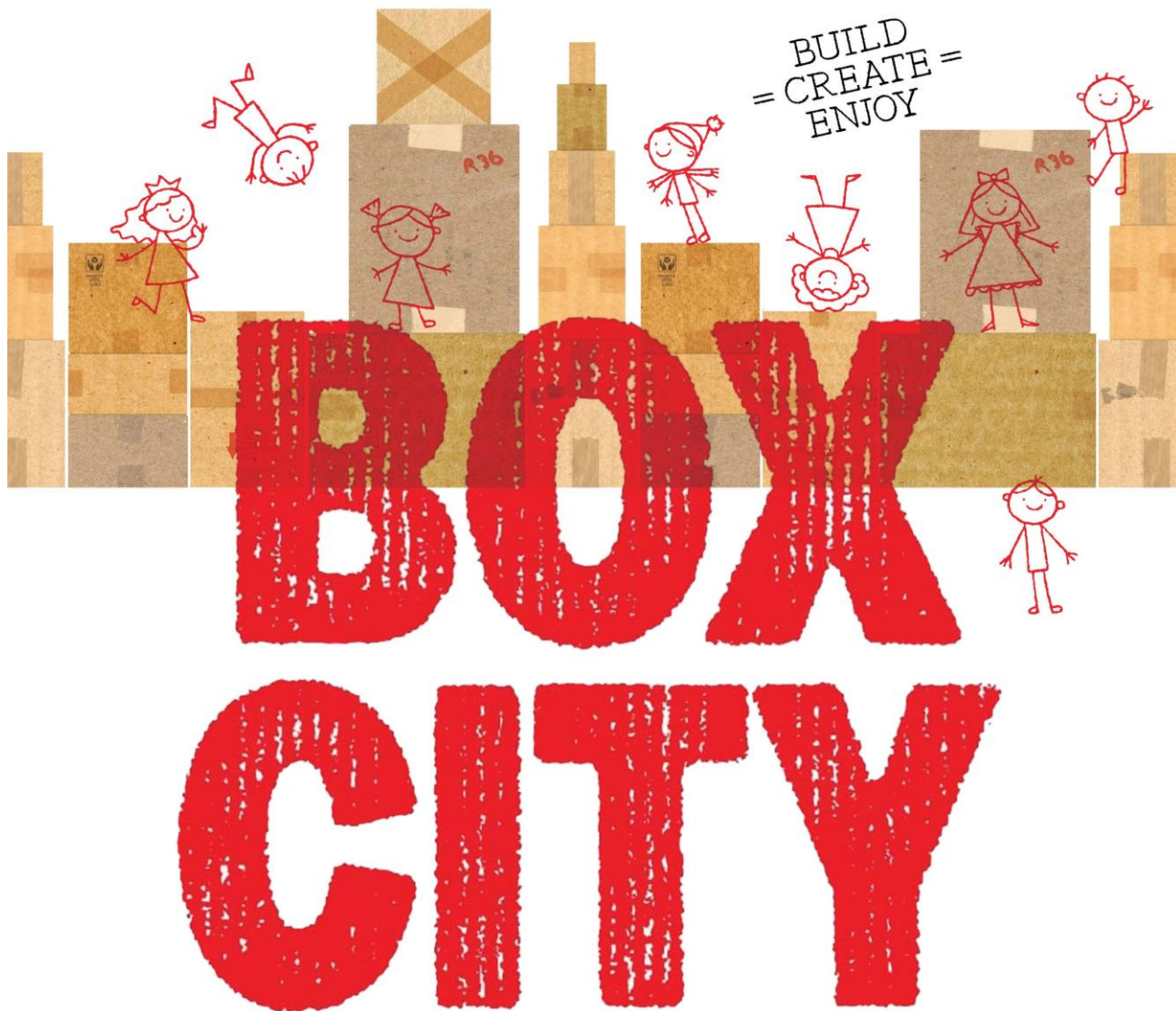
What to Expect

- Train with your favourite Miners players
- Learn from expert coaches including Miners players and staff
- Develop new skills, techniques, and training methods
- Enjoy a fun, inclusive atmosphere with games and prizes every camp
- Learn teamwork, leadership, and how to support others on and off the court
- Make new friends and have an unforgettable basketball experience!



Register here: www.ballaratbasketball.com/holiday-camp

For any further details, please contact **Zack Cummins** at programs@ballaratbasketball.com or call **(03) 5338 1220**.



A SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENT

at York Street Church of Christ
410 York Street, Ballarat

LIMITED
PLACES

\$20
for both sessions
per CHILD

or
\$40
for both sessions
per FAMILY

PREP to
GRADE 6
ONLY

SESSION 01

15th JULY 9am-12pm

SESSION 02

16th JULY 1pm-4pm

EQUIRIES:

fulcher.jenny@yorkst.com.au

"Everyone who hears these words of mine and
puts them into practice is like a wise man who
built his house on the rock." Mat 7:24 (NIV)

SCAN QR to BOOK:

