



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 28th July 2025
Term 3 Week 2

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

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 3 (9 weeks)

Mon 21st Jul – Fri 19th Sep

Mon 28th July – Fri 8th Aug
Silver Coin Challenge

Friday 1st August
GWR AFL football
tournament at Wendouree
(selected Yr 5/6 students)

2.40pm Assembly led by FLP

Wednesday 6th August
100 Days of School for
Foundation students -
wear your brightest colours

Friday 8th August
2.40pm Assembly led by 1GT
Last Book Club Order Day

Monday 11th August
Years 3 & 4 Auslan incursion

Friday 15th August
2.40pm Assembly led by 2MH
Catholic Primary Schools
Athletics at Llanberris
(selected students from
Yr 3/4/5/6)

Monday 18th August
9am Book Week Assembly
and Dress Up Parade

Friday 22nd August
2.40pm Assembly led by 3LL
Division Basketball at Selkirk
Stadium (selected Yr 5/6
students)

Friday 29th August
Casual Dress Day
*Gold coin donation to
support the SoupBus*
2.40pm Assembly led by 4JS
Interscholar Sport (Yr 5/6)

First week in September
Father's Day Stall

Thursday 4th September
School Disco

Friday 5th September
Fathers' Day/Special
Friends' Liturgy

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Recent media reports have highlighted serious concerns regarding child safety within the childcare sector. Distressing stories have emerged of individuals exploiting gaps in the system to harm vulnerable children. These incidents are deeply concerning and serve as a timely reminder of the importance of rigorous child safety standards in all educational settings.

At our school, child safety is not only a top priority—it is a non-negotiable foundation of everything we do. Teachers must be qualified and registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching before they can be employed in our schools. This is reviewed annually. We do not employ staff who do not meet these essential standards.

All auxiliary staff members including learning support officers, administrative and maintenance staff, are required to hold a current and valid Working with Children Check. Moves to make this a national registry are certainly to be applauded and will add strength to this registry.

Our school is governed by the Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education, Limited (DOBCEL) which oversees the governance of more than fifty schools in this region. DOBCEL is supported by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA), which oversees and audits our compliance with child safety requirements annually. We also ensure that all visiting tradespeople and parent volunteers provide the appropriate documentation before they are permitted to engage with students on site.

Additionally, every staff member undergoes annual training in child safety, helping us stay up to date with the latest best practices and legislative requirements. This training is recorded and monitored through an external provider to ensure consistency and accountability.

When planning camps, excursions, or any event involving student supervision, we take a cautious and considered approach to staffing. Our goal is to ensure that both students and staff are fully supported and safe at all times.

We are proud of the measures we have in place and of the strong culture of care, responsibility, and vigilance that underpins our approach to child safety. The wellbeing of every student in our care is at the heart of everything we do. We are blessed to be able to work with your children each day and we take that responsibility very seriously.



God bless,

Mark Hogbin



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.

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
Trivia Night in school gym

Tuesday 16th September
6pm Confirmation at
Damascus College, Mt Clear

Friday 19th September
Footy Colours Casual Dress
Day - *Gold coin donation to
support Fight Cancer
Foundation*

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 October
Junior Sports Day for all
Foundation-Year 2 students

Casual Dress Day - *Gold coin
donation for MercyWorks*

Monday 3rd November
Pupil free day

Tuesday 4th November
Melbourne Cup Public
Holiday - Pupil free day

Friday 7th November
No Assembly

Friday 14th November
No Assembly

Friday 21st November
No Assembly

Mon 24th – Wed 26th Nov
Year 5 Camp

Friday 28th November
Casual Dress Day - *Gold coin
donation for St Vinnies*

Friday 5th December
9.30am End of Year Mass

Tuesday 16th December
5.30pm Yr 6 Graduation
Liturgy

Thursday 18th December
Final 2025 day for students

Start of Term Mass

We enjoyed a very special start to the term with Fr. Justin on Friday when we came together for Mass in the gym. It was great to see some families who were able to join us for this very special event which also acknowledged NAIDOC Week in a very special way.

Thankyou!

Thank you to all parents and friends of our school community for negotiating our fallen tree last week. Heavy rains and extreme wind caused a significant pine tree to collapse and fall on to Fortune Street at a very busy time of the morning. With help from the SES we were able to reopen the road by 10.30am.



*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.*

Winter Uniform

Please note that it is an expectation that correct winter uniform be worn at school each day. Sports uniform is permitted on sports days. Puffer jackets are not part of the uniform. Teachers will be monitoring uniform standards over the coming weeks so it might be timely to have a look at what the children are wearing to school each day.

Parking Near Staff Car Park

Please note that we have experienced damage to the water pipes near the entrance to the staff car park. For this reason we ask that parents do not park on the grass around this area.

Cover-Up Clothes

We are asking children to bring along cover-up clothes if they would like to play up at the paddock during break times. What is cover-up clothing?

Cover-up clothing is anything that can be put on over the uniform quickly at play times. It might be some old tracksuit pants and a windcheater or anything else that protects the school uniform on days when the ground may be wet, muddy or slippery. Cover-up clothing may include gumboots. The students who remember to bring along their cover-up clothing are really enjoying the paddock play areas and we encourage all students to join in the fun.

SFX Green Team!



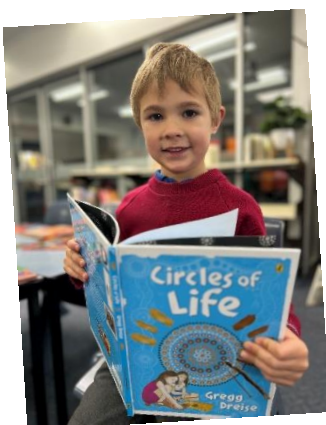
Would you like to become involved in the outdoor life of our school? We are hoping to gather a small team of people who would like to assist with the management of our veggie garden areas in the school. The children love to be involved, and growing produce is an important part of our science (EE) program. With a dedicated group of volunteers who are prepared to meet weekly at a common time (perhaps 1.45-3.15 each Thursday) we are hoping that we can do some of the jobs that our little ones find a bit challenging. No skills required, just a willingness to lend a hand and help to build the community of Saint Francis Xavier School. Please let Brooke or Anita know at the office or Mrs. Hayward in EE if you would like to lend a hand. Let's get ready for spring!

NAIDOC Week celebrations

NAIDOC Week was celebrated throughout Australia during our school holidays so we celebrated at school last week!

NAIDOC Week is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and to celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

During our break times this week, children have been invited to take part in various NAIDOC Week activities. We read First Nations books in the Library, we planted native plants in our Indigenous Garden and we created art inspired by this year's official NAIDOC week poster.



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 July 27, 2025 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say this: 'Father: May your holy name be honoured; may your Kingdom come. Give us this day the food we need. Forgive us our sins, for we forgive everyone who does us wrong. And do not bring us to hard testing.'" *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation)*

Gospel reflection

The disciples ask Jesus to teach them how to pray and Jesus gives the disciples a prayer that they can use. This prayer is often called the "Lord's Prayer", because it is the prayer that Jesus taught us. With slightly different words, we still pray this prayer today. It is a prayer that we say every time we come to Mass. In our NAIDOC Mass on Friday, we sang the Aboriginal Our Father. The lyrics are as follows:

You are our Father, you live in heaven,
We talk to you. Father you are good.
We believe your word, Father,
We are your children, give us bread today.
We have done wrong, we are sorry,
Teach us, Father, all about your Word.
Others have done wrong to us,
And we are sorry for them, Father, today.
Stop us from doing wrong, Father,
Save us all from the evil one.
You are our Father, you live in heaven,
We talk to you, Father, you are good.

Our Challenge: How will you do what is right this week? How will you help make sure that all people have their fair share of the daily bread that God gives to us?



What a special celebration of NAIDOC Week we had last Friday! We were honored to welcome our Wadawarrung First Nations representatives Aunty Joy and Jenna Oldaker, who began our Mass by leading us in a traditional Aboriginal smoking ceremony. Aunty Joy offered our welcome and her words were heartfelt and full of hope.

A special thank you to our Parish Priest Fr Justin Driscoll, who celebrated with us and spoke to us

about the importance of listening, with children offering their thoughts about respect, hospitality and reconciliation. Congratulations to all the students who participated in our rituals, prayer and songs- their respectful and reverent behaviour was noted by staff and parents alike.

Many thanks also to family members, friends and community members who joined us for our Eucharist- we love it when you join our school family to celebrate together.

Please know you do not have to be Catholic or a regular churchgoer to attend these celebrations - everyone is always welcome here at St Francis Xavier!

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.



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.

Later this term we will begin the ***Seasons for Growth*** program for children who are dealing with significant life changes by:

- exploring the impact of change and loss on everyday life
- learning new ways to respond to these changes

These changes may be situations such as parental separation/divorce/ estrangement, the death or illness of a family member/friend/pet, family changes such as loss of employment or change of schools/cities.

Please don't hesitate to talk to me if life circumstances have changed for your family and you would like your child to be considered for inclusion in Seasons. Please email me at cmeneely@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

(Due to numbers, priority will be given to children who have not yet been involved in this program in previous years)

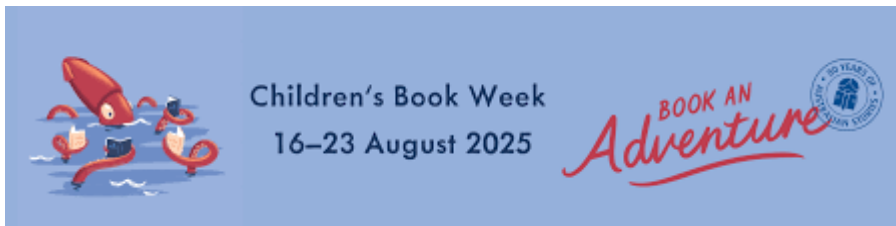


Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**
MHiPS Leader (Mental Health in Primary School Leader)



Curriculum News

Upcoming Event Book Week 2025



Book Week is held annually at St Francis Xavier to celebrate reading and engage children in literature and to bring stories to life through play and costume. It's a great time to encourage the joy of reading through dress ups. Please save the date and more information will follow soon. Book week begins Monday 18th August - Week 5. This year we'll be kicking off Book Week with our dress up day on Monday 18th August. Each year Book Week carries a new theme. The theme for this year is "Book an Adventure!" It's a special year, marking the 80th anniversary of Children's Book Week.

NAPLAN 2025

Individual student reports from ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority) will be sent home via mail on Wednesday, 30 July. If you haven't received your report by Tuesday 5th August, please contact the office.

These reports provide the results from the national assessments (NAPLAN) that students in Years 3 and 5 completed in Term 1.



As part of our ongoing assessment schedule, all children at SFX will participate in reading assessments over the next two weeks. We use DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), a research-based tool that helps monitor the development of essential reading skills.

DIBELS assessments are conducted one-on-one and are quick to administer. They focus on key areas such as phonemic awareness, reading fluency, and comprehension. The data collected supports teachers in identifying students who may need additional support and helps track progress throughout the year. The aim is to ensure every child is developing the skills they need to become confident, capable readers.



Jane Clark, Deputy Principal/Teaching and Learning



PRIME MINISTER'S SPELLING BEE



Join the Buzz!

St Francis Xavier Primary School is excited to be part of the 2025 Premier's Spelling Bee! Open to all students in **Years 3–6**, this fun and engaging competition builds confidence, celebrates literacy, and gives students the chance to shine. With exciting prizes including certificates, medals, books, an iPad, and even the chance to meet the Premier, we encourage all students to have a go!

I am delighted that so many of our student have signed up already! If you haven't signed your child/ren up yet, it's not too late, as I have extended registration until **Wednesday 30th July**. A letter was sent out on PAM with a link to the Digital Consent form, alternatively scan the QR code below to access:



Let's celebrate the power of words together! 🐝 📖



Lindy Harty, Literacy Leader

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

Sibling Relationships



Sibling relationships are often a child's first and longest-lasting social connection. These bonds can offer companionship, support and opportunities to develop important life skills such as empathy, negotiation and conflict resolution. However, like all close relationships, sibling dynamics can be complex. Differences in temperament, age, needs and parental attention can all contribute to tension or rivalry. It's not uncommon for children to compete for attention, especially during times of change or stress.

As a parent or caregiver, your role in shaping the tone of sibling relationships is vital. Creating a home environment that celebrates each child's unique strengths and avoids direct comparisons helps reduce rivalry and fosters mutual respect.

By listening without judgement, teaching emotional regulation, and supporting each child's individuality, you can create a family culture where siblings feel secure and valued. This edition of SchoolTV offers insights to support young people in developing positive, lasting sibling bonds that can remain strong well into adulthood.

Here is the link to our Edition: <https://sfxballarat.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/sibling-relationships-au>

Sending cheers your way,



Gemma Johnson, **Wellbeing Leader**

State Cross Country

Congratulations to Chloe W, Nellie C, Sam N & Lawrence W who all ran superbly well at last Thursday's State Cross Country Championships. All four students gave their absolute all and should be extremely proud of their efforts and achievements.

Regional AFL

Take two! We wish our senior football team all the very best as they participate in this Friday's Greater Western Region football competition at C.E. Brown Res. Hopefully the conditions will allow the players to shine and show off their skills and team work. Good luck to Alex P, Charlie K, Will M, Tom K, Billy C, Sidney P, Hamish L, Nic G, Jed H, Noah I & Paddy D and we know that you will play hard and be the best teammate you can be.

2025 SFX SPORTS DATES

Term 3:

- Week 2 - Friday August 1 - GWR AFL football tournament @ Wendouree (selected students from Yr 5/6)
- 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

- **Silver Coin Challenge** – BRING IN ALL YOUR SPARE CHANGE
Monday 28th July – Friday 8th August
How Silver coin challenge works - each class are provided a container, children can bring in coins throughout the 2 week period, the class (1 from each year level) who collects the most amount of money will then have a pizza lunch as their prize at a date selected by the school – thanks to Carboni's
- **Trivia Night** – here's one for the parents (and your friends) – definitely a night not to miss – **SAVE THE DATE**
Friday 12th September – in the school gym
Book your babysitter now, get your table together
We are also looking for prizes for our Silent Auction – if you would like to donate a prize/voucher that we can use for our Silent Auction, please contact Lisa on 0412 647 737 – or drop your donation into the office – we would really appreciate your support



P&F TRIVIA NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE

Friday
12th September
at SFX Gymnasium
Doors open at 6.30pm

\$17 per person
or \$150 for a
table of 10

Gather your table
Book your babysitter

Drinks at Bar prices - BYO Food
Silent Auction, Great Raffle Prizes & lots of fun to be



Hot Lunches

Please note, Flexischools have updated when you are placing your child's Lunch order, you are now able to select if your child has any allergies and it will print on your child's lunch bag label, we ask that you are selecting if they have any allergies as it makes it smoother process when it comes to packing lunch orders on a Friday. Also please note cut off for lunch orders is strictly 10am Thursday mornings.

Thank you to our Co-ordinators & Volunteers who come and pack all of the children's lunch orders on a Friday!

Hot Chocolates

First break every Monday 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

Did you know our Second Hand Uniform shop is always open? Please see the ladies in the office if you wish to look at any items in our Second Hand Uniform shop, or reach out to a member of the P&F to help you with any of your Uniform needs.

Did you know that all items in the Second Hand Uniform shop are \$5? With the exception of woollen jumpers and tunics, which are \$10.

We will be opening the Second Hand Uniform shop up again on a regular basis.

A big thank you to Kevin Paisley Optometrists Ballarat for their generous donation of sports equipment! Your support helps keep our kids active, healthy and happy.



KICKIN' IT BACK TO
THE BALLARAT COMMUNITY

Thanks for your support, Ballarat
- we're donating sports equipment to
support active, happy local kids.

Kevin Paisley Optometrists Ballarat

kevin paisley
Optometrists

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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 27th July 2025

| MINISTRY DISTRICT MASS TIMES | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Weekday Masses | | | |
| Tuesday July 29 th | 1.30 pm | Funeral mass for Noelene Hager | |
| Wednesday July 30 th | 11.00 am | Mercy Place (All Welcome) | |
| Thursday July 31 st | 10.30 am | St Brigid's Ballan | |
| Friday August 1 st | 9.30 am | St Alipius Ballarat East | |
| Saturday August 2 nd | 9.30 am | St. Alipius' Ballarat East | |
| Weekend Masses | | | |
| Saturday August 2 nd | | Sunday August 3 rd | |
| 5.00 pm | Ballarat East | 9.00 am | Ballarat East Gordon |
| 6.30 pm | Dunnstown | 10.30 am | Buninyong Ballan |

WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS FOR:

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Mary Gilmartin, Noelene Hager, Kielely Magri

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME

Rohan Cosgriff, Margaret Dunn, Mike Brady, Tony Driscoll, Marie McEldrew

THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL

Kathy Towns, 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 Consignado, 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).

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

REST IN PEACE MARY

On Monday afternoon, July 21st following the Funeral Mass of Frances Fitzpatrick, the last surviving member of the 1993 editorial team of *Windows into St Alipius: A History of St Alipius Parish*, our Parish has been greatly saddened by the sudden death of Mary Gilmartin – RIP. Mary had attended the 2.00pm Funeral Mass of Frances and had returned to open the Parish Hall to receive those gathering at 4.00pm for Christian Meditation. On their arrival, Mary had died and was then surrounded with great care and reverence as the Police and Paramedics were called. We thanked these first responders as we prayed for Mary and blessed her with the Holy Oil that she had received from Bishop Paul at the Mass of the Oils on behalf of our Parish. May she rest in peace – *Well done good and faithful servant!*



PREPARING TO CELEBRATE CONFIRMATION

During the past week we welcome approximately one hundred families to the parish hall, where they gathered to learn more about what is involved in preparing their children for the sacrament of Confirmation which they will receive in September. As part of the preparation, parents have been asked to bring their child along to Mass where they will be welcomed and introduced to those present. We hope that we will be able to welcome the majority of these families to Masses in our parish next weekend. Please keep these families in your prayers and if you know any of them it would be great if you could reach out to them along the way and ask how the preparation is going, they would love to know that you are interested.

SUNDAY, JULY 27TH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERS

This year's theme chosen by Pope Francis, 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (cf. Sir 14:2), fits into the context of the Jubilee of Hope and invites us to recognise in our elders not only recipients of pastoral attention, but witnesses of hope and active protagonists of ecclesial life. Their life and faith experience is a valuable heritage, capable of enriching new generations and strengthening the community fabric. Within our Ministry District we have seven Aged Care communities with many Catholic residents. As parish, we are blessed to have parishioners who accompany these residents with pastoral support and communion. We acknowledge and thank the following who minister at our Aged Care communities:

Ballan Mecwacare - Lorraine De Spirit, Lloyd Lamb and Colleen Rylie

Canadian Mecwacare – Paschal Somers

Ballarat East Eureka Village and Geoffrey Cutter – Sr Margaret Kelly RSM

Ballarat East Calvary Kirralee – Margaret Ridsdale
Mercy Place Ballarat East – Lucy O'Beirne

Mt Clear Estia – Monica McKeegan and Maria Jones who will soon begin her ministry here.

We also thank those who offer pastoral support and Holy Communion to those unable to gather with us in our churches but who are grateful to parishioners who visit them in their homes, ensuring that they remain connected to our faith communities.

Prayer for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2)

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord! Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time, animated by the hope that comes from You! Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion.

Help us in this world, wounded by wars, to bring the hope of peace.

Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing, to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.

Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness.

Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You, the Hope of a new life that only You can give!

For in You, Lord, nothing is lost. For in You, Lord, everything begins again! Amen

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.

BAPTISMS

Addison and Zaiden Dolling
Children of Stephen Dolling & Emma Shanahan

Lily Ena Hoy
Daughter of Toby & Justina Hoy

Harvey Francis Coppick
Son of Mitchell Coppick and Jessica Burns

COLLECTIONS

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Supporting our priests: | \$1018 |
| Supporting our parish: | \$ 373.20 |

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

MAINTENANCE AT SS.PETER & PAUL'S

It has been reported that there is water coming in under the door which opens into the chapel from outside. This water is causing the carpet to become damp. If you are someone who may be able to look at this with the aim of solving the problem, we would be grateful and would ask that you contact the parish office during the week.

CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet in the parish hall this coming Friday, August 1st at 2pm. Everyone is most welcome to come along for a cuppa. Please bring a small plate.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL (ACYF) – MELBOURNE 2025

ACYF will take place in Melbourne from Sunday, November 30 - Tuesday, December 2, 2025. This national event brings together young Catholics (Year 9–25 years) for three days of faith, fun, and community. The Festival includes prayer, Mass, talks, concerts, workshops, games, and more. Bishop Paul will be attending. If you're interested in going, contact your school or local parish office. Learn more at: ballarat.catholic.org.au.

PARISH CENSUS

Thank you to all those parishioners who took the time to complete a census card at Masses last weekend. If you were not in the parish last weekend, you will have another opportunity this weekend, where cards will once again be available. Please take time to complete this census and return it. If you are new to the parish, this is an excellent opportunity for you to share your details with us. Please note that all personal information collected through the census is for parish use only. The parish will not release information shared by you to anyone. There will be two options for people allowing them to complete the census using IT or pen and paper. The parish Privacy Policy is available if you have any concerns about the use of your personal information. If you would like to use the QR code below to complete the census, that is another option for you.



UPCOMING DATES

Caring Group Cuppa
Friday August 1st, 2pm
Parish Hall

Baptism Preparation
Thursday August 7th, 10 am or 5.30 pm
Mary Glowrey Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral

Three Little Cameos on Prayer

Reflection on the Gospel-17th Sunday on Ordinary Time C
(Luke 11:1-13)

Veronica M. Lawson RSM

This Sunday's gospel offers three little cameos about praying and about God's generous giving. There are two teachings on prayer forming a frame around an enigmatic parable. In the first cameo, Jesus has finished praying and one of the disciples asks him to teach them to pray. Jesus responds as any devout first century Jew might respond. He evokes the words of the Jewish blessing prayer: "May the great name of God be exalted and sanctified, throughout the world. May God's kingship be established in your lifetime." Jesus calls God "father", a metaphor or image denoting the power of God over against the potentially destructive power of the Roman emperor.

The prayer continues with an acknowledgement that bread, fruit of the earth, is the gift of God: "Keep giving us each day the bread we need." This is not a prayer for more than we need, but for just as much as we need. The final petitions in the prayer that Jesus teaches are for forgiveness of sin "as we forgive each who is in debt to us" and for freedom from testing. We cannot live without "bread" just as we cannot live without the peace of mind that comes from forgiveness and from the knowledge that God is with us in times of trial such as the present global crisis with all its demands for radical change.

The parable that follows has raised questions for interpreters. Is this parable about persistence or about avoidance of shame? These are two very different concepts, but both have been suggested as the motive for the sleeping neighbour's response to the friend in need and as the proper rendering of the Greek word *anaideia*.



The literal meaning of *anaideia* is avoidance of shame. Avoidance of shame makes sense in a culture where one would be shamed by refusal to help a neighbour who is unable to meet the demands of hospitality, especially where one could well find oneself in similar need some time. No one would dream of refusing such a request for help, whether for the sake of friendship or to avoid being shamed, not even those who let it be known that they resent having to get out of bed in the middle of the night.

Persistence in prayer is a desirable quality but it has nothing to do with the parable of the friend in need who asks only once for "three loaves" and can expect to receive them. The translation "persistence" seems to derive from association with the repetition of seeking and searching and knocking, in other words with the sayings that form the third little cameo. Finally, Jesus draws on the experience of his listeners: if flawed disciples know how to give "good gifts" to their children, then they should not be surprised that those who ask for the Holy Spirit will receive this best of all gifts from God as they seek to renew the face of God's depleted and troubled Earth.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis: 18:20-32

Colossians: 2:12-14

Luke: 11: 1-13

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiastes: 1:2, 2:21-23

Colossians: 3:1-5, 9-11

Luke 12:13-21

**KELLY
SPORTS**

**TERM 3
SPORTS!**

SFX PS

WEDNESDAYS



Soccer Basketball Footy Baseball Badminton

\$23 + GST
per session

MULTI-SPORTS PROGRAM

3.20pm
-
4.50pm



Pick up 4.50pm, at
front of school
Sign up anytime during
the term!



QUERIES: TEXT SEAN 0411 602 204

ENROL ONLINE
WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/
GREATER-BALLARAT





AUSSIE HOOPS

JOIN IN ALL THE FUN

Aussie Hoops is our introductory basketball program for children aged 4–11, providing a fun and safe environment to learn the game. Through engaging sessions, kids develop fundamental skills like ball handling, passing, shooting, defence, and footwork, building confidence to transition into domestic competition.

Scan here for more info

