



St Canice's Lindenow

# THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW,

OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK AND BENAMBRA

## OUR VISION

We are a welcoming community where the word of God, through the message of Jesus Christ, is made known and lived.

## OUR MISSION

Live the message of Jesus Christ taking inspiration from Mary, the Mother of God.  
Empower our community to activate their gifts to build a better world. To strengthen and grow our faith.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Willemsen

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Mark Hughes

**Presbytery:** 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale

Phone: 5152 3106

**Parish Pastoral Centre:** 135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale

Phone: 5152 2942

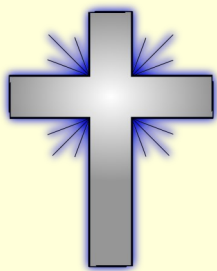
Website: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)

Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

Email: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)

### 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, November 12th 2023

We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



## NEWS FROM FATHER MICHAEL

Dear Parishioners:

On October 31, Bishop Greg released a new set of Parish appointments for 2024 (effective January 17). Since the retirement of Fr Peter Slater, the Warragul and Drouin Parishes have waited 12 months for the announcement of their next Parish Priest. Fr Brendan Hogan has now been appointed there and I've been asked to replace him at

Narre Warren. After almost 8 years here in East Gippsland, I will go, content in the knowledge that as a labourer in the vineyard of the Lord, he can send me to any of the fields and I will happily serve the people there in his name. Fr Joseph Abutu (currently PP of St Agatha's Cranbourne) will replace me at St Mary's Bairnsdale/Omeo and Fr Hiep Nguyen (currently assistant priest for Lakes Entrance and Orbost) has been promoted to Parish Priest of St Brendan's and St Colman's in a fitting vote of confidence. Fr Mark Hughes will remain at St Mary's. To complete the set of new appointments as Parish Priest, Fr Antony Rebelo will go to St Agatha's Cranbourne and Fr Confidence Masvosva to Yarram. I look forward to visiting each community in East Gippsland in my remaining weeks here.

### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am  
Tuesday: 9.10am  
Remembrance Mass 6:00pm  
Wednesday: 9.10am  
Thursday: 9.10am  
Friday: 9.10am  
St Mary's PS (Year 4's) 9.10am

#### St Patrick's, Paynesville

Wednesday: Rosary: 10.00am

### RECONCILIATION

#### Friday:

After 9.10am Mass

#### Saturday:

9.30am to 10.00am

5.30pm to 5.50pm

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Mary's, Bairnsdale: Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 9.30am

St Patrick's, Paynesville: Sunday: 8.00am

St Canice's, Lindenow: Sunday: 11.00am

#### Swifts Creek, Omeo and Benambra

**Masses held 4th weekend of each month.**

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek: 4th Saturday: 6.30pm

Immaculate Conception, Omeo: 4th Sunday: 9.00am

St Francis', Benambra: 4th Sunday: 11.00am

### 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year November 19, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	M Schumann	B O'Kelly	M Saunders	C Shanahan	
9.30am Sunday	T Kosmer	G Neeson	L Urban	G Neeson	M Owen, P Brown-Graham, H Sampson

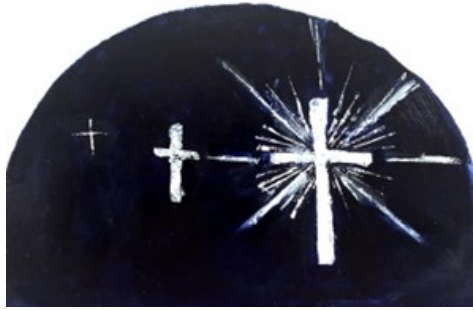
Cleaning: Fortnight ending: November 11 - B Mahony Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.

***Our Parish of The Immaculate Conception (also known as St Mary's) is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people, with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk.***

***Our Safeguarding Officer is Kath Cassidy who can be contacted through the Parish Centre: 5152 2942.***

***Alternatively contact Bairnsdale Police: 5150 2600 or Towards Healing: 1800 816 030.***

## SHINING A LIGHT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



We can all be prepared to work towards ending domestic violence by listening to people who have been abused without judging or blaming them for the harm caused by another person.

From November 16 to 19, the Parishes across the Sale Diocese unite in Shining a Light on Domestic Violence and praying for its end.

Everyone is encouraged to wear white to Mass that weekend and all are invited to attend a special liturgy in one of these Parishes.

**On November 16 at 7.00 pm (St. Michael's Traralgon); November 17 at 4.00 pm (Sion House Warragul); 5.00pm (St Mary's Yarram); 6.00pm (St Mary's Bairnsdale); 7.30 pm (St. Michael's Berwick).**



## **CULTURAL HERITAGE DAY**

An invitation to all Parishioners on the Feast of Christ the King.

9:30 Mass Sunday November 26 at St Mary's Church.

Come in your national dress.

Bring your national flag and join the procession into the Church.

Bring food from your culture to share with others.

Gather in the Parish Hall afterwards to celebrate our cultural diversity.

## **COMMUNITY CONNECT – SEASONAL WORKERS BBQ**

A BBQ for all seasonal workers will be held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 455 Princes Highway, Lucknow this Sunday November 12 at 12 noon. All workers are welcome. Ring Paul Heaton-Harris for more information 0418 377 076.

## **Worksheets Available for Collection**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please collect a worksheet for your child to help them deepen their understanding of the Word during celebration of the Mass. A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:



- ♦ **Who has ever had to wait for someone in the dark?**
- ♦ **What was it like?**
- ♦ **How could you make waiting in the dark easier? (e.g. by being prepared with a torch, coat, umbrella, phone, another person etc)**
- ♦ **Jesus tells us that the kingdom of heaven is like what happened to ten girls with lamps waiting in the dark for the guest of honour.**
- ♦ **How were some foolish?**
- ♦ **How were the others wise?**
- ♦ **Jesus says that we are to be ready and alert and watch for him.**
- ♦ **How can we be alert and ready to meet Jesus among us?**

### **READINGS:**

**November 18-19, 2023**

**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:15

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

### **COLLECTIONS:**

**November 4-5, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 1048.00

DD & Cards \$ 4252.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 743.70

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 724.95

Pay Wave \$ 140.00

## **MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**

**Tuesday November 14 at 6.00pm in St Mary's**

Purple crosses are available in the Church foyer. You can write the name/s of your departed loved ones on them and pin them to the Cross on the Sanctuary.



**St Mary's Parish is preparing the Sacramental Program for 2024. If any parents/caregivers wish their child/ren to be involved in the programs for Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation, please contact Michelle Grimsted at the Parish Centre on 5152 2942 or email: [stm.michelleg@gmail.com](mailto:stm.michelleg@gmail.com)**

## **POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS**

**NOVEMBER — For the Pope**

*We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.*



Thank  
You

Robert McMahon would like to thank all the Parishioners for their prayers and would like to inform everyone that he is starting to recover from his illness.

GLOW

NEXT GLOW  
NOVEMBER 18

St Mary's Youth Group  
5.00pm Youth Group in the Parish Hall  
and 6.00pm Mass for Children's Choir and  
Liturgy of the Word.

## Submissions Now Closed



Thank you to those who made submissions regarding the distribution of accumulated funds in the Parish Welfare Account.

The Social Justice Group will meet  
2.00pm on Thursday November 16 St Mary's Parish Centre  
The main item for discussion will to draw up a list of recipients who will receive financial assistance, pending Fr Michael's approval. **All are most Welcome**



### National Recycling Week November 13-19

Reduce waste - think about whether you really want or need something before you buy it.

Learn about the Australian recycling label - you can improve the impact and sustainability of recycling by making sure your recyclable waste goes into the right bin every time. Think about up cycling - the 'Reuse' part of the message is just as important as the rest. Before you throw anything away, think about whether it could be repurposed. For example, could you use old glass bottles and jars for storage? Could you give a piece of old furniture a new life with a lick of paint?

National Recycling Week 2023 is a great opportunity for us all to get creative in thinking about ways we can reduce our impact on the environment.



### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Jacinta Da Costa,  
Geoff Neeson, Leonie Urban  
Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Fr Mark  
School Principals and Michael Flynn

Parish Directory: available at the Pastoral Centre.

St Mary's Primary School: 5152 3706

Nagle College: 5152 6122

Sacraments: To request information and registration forms email [stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com)

Baptisms: Call the Sacramental Coordinator to set a date.

Baptisms are celebrated during or after Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Weddings: 6 months notice required, schedule dates with Priest.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the Parish Centre.

Funerals: Please contact your preferred Funeral Director for arrangements.

Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:

Call Pattie Pruscino: 0427 232 682

Special Wedding Anniversaries: 6 months notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for Parishioners.

St Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre: 5152 6687

St Mary's Op Shop: 5152 2088

## ECUMENICAL ADVENT CONVERSATION

Bishop Richard Treloar, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland, and Bishop Greg Bennet, Catholic Bishop of Sale, Invite clergy and lay people from both Dioceses to join them for an Advent Conversation – a seasonal study of the Psalms and Canticles of the Lectionary Cycle alongside some of the great Advent themes.

The Conversation will be led by biblical and theological scholars from the Yarra Theological Union, a college of the University of Divinity, Melbourne: Dr Mary Reaburn, Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Dr Ross Fishburn, Academic Dean.

Thursday November 23, 2023 10.00am – 3.30pm.

Morning tea and a light lunch will be served.

\$25.00 per person. Bookings essential. RSVP November 17.

The Abbey, Raymond Island: [info@theabbey.org.au](mailto:info@theabbey.org.au)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED**: Anthony Quick, John Prior, Aileen Callinan, Bob Boland, victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, Asylum Seekers and those with Family Violence or Mental Health issues.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME**: Susan Stewart, Flo McMahon, Norm Mann, Bob Bills, Huynh Van Tuan, Ellen Delany, Michael Dudley, John Clark, Pietro Carioli, Kayla Hayles, Matt Verde, Bridget Ross, Silvana La Porta, Kathleen Marshall, Peter O'Donohue and Priests who have worked in the Diocese.

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."*

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK**: Kieran Hayles, Elizabeth Steere (USA-niece of Pat Walsh), Sandra Brooks, Bev Broome, Michael Crane, Robert McMahon, Dennis Collins, Alepaka Tyrell, Bob Marshall, Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles, Maree Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, baby Ethan, Robyn Finlay, Rick Harney, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne.

Please remember all Parishioners who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery.

Those on the "sick list" will remain on it for one month. Please contact the Parish Centre to extend this time.

## **32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 11-12, 2023**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **A reading from the book of Wisdom 6: 12-16**

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R.** So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R.**

### **A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 4: 13-14**

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

*Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane*

### **Scripture notes**

Our five senses can be said to be a window to our souls. With our senses we perceive the world around us, take it into our minds and heart, and engage it according to the decisions we make. Several of the Church Fathers say that the five wise virgins in today's parable represent those who use their five senses in accord with God's will, whereas the five foolish virgins are those who indulge their five senses in a life of sin. Reflect, today, upon the natural powers of your own soul, especially the gift of your five senses. As you do, examine the ways you use them, what you look at, listen to, and indulge in. Your senses are but a window to your soul and the first way through which God speaks to you and enters your heart. Keep guard of your senses, and only allow the good things of Heaven to enter in. Doing so will produce the oil of charity within and will enable you to be perpetually ready for the coming of our Lord.

*Catholic Life*