



Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek

# 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)

#### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, July 16, 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 elderspast, present and emerging, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

#### PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

##### This weekend

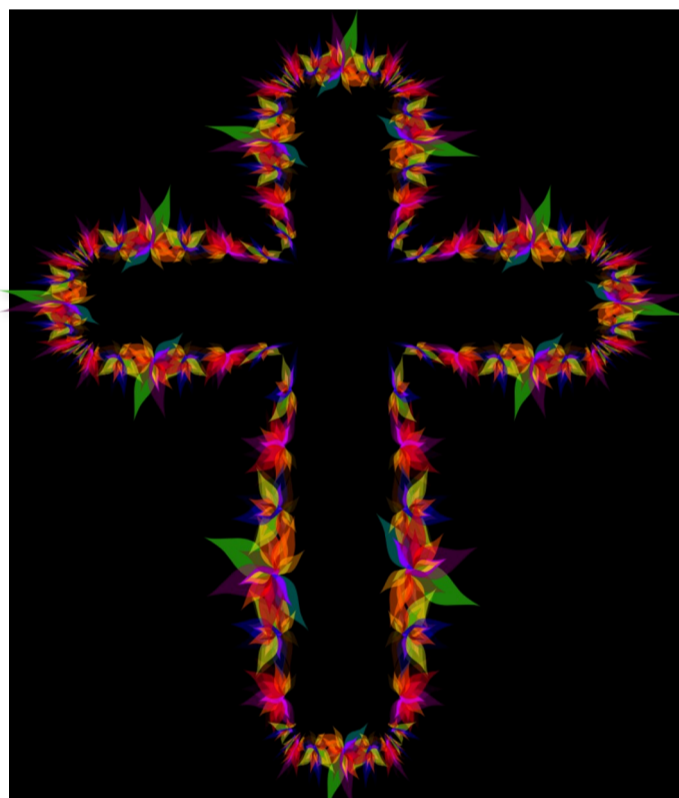
Pope Francis' initiative for his support of social justice.

Money collected is spent on

\*Social Projects (65.4 %),

\*"supporting the evangelising presence" of local Churches in need (20.4%),

\*"expansion and preservation of the evangelising presence" in new local Churches (14.2%).



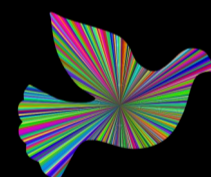
#### Did You Know?

There is a new youth group starting in August.

( 8-13 year olds )

*But all welcome*

See inside for details



#### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

**Monday: NO MASS**

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am or

St Mary's PS (Yr 2's): 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

**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**

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

**Immaculate Conception, Omeo:** 4th Sunday: 9.00am

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

#### 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, July 22-23, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	K Flannery	M Saunders	D Ball	C Shanahan	
9.30am Sunday	R David	P Browne-Graham	M Mendoca	M Grimsted	B & A Capobianco, H van den Eiden

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: July 22 - 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.***

## Alpha Corner



### Alpha - An Exploration of Christian Faith Beginning: August 2

The Alpha Program will run from 6.00-8.00pm on Wednesday evenings.

Dinner is included and there is no cost.

You can simply come along to the first session to see what it is all about.

The 9 week program features: FOOD, FILMS, FUN and FELLOWSHIP.

If you would like to know more, or to register, contact:

Pattie: 0427 232 682 or Madelaine: 0400 576 291

You are invited to our Youth Group



TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART: PROVERBS 35

Join us for Food, Music, Games, Singing

@ St Mary's Parish Centre

(entry via McDonald's car park)

**1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month**

(excluding school holidays)

**Time:** 5pm to 7pm

**5pm Youth Group** - Games, Singing, Dancing, Food

**6pm Church Mass** - Children's Choir &

Children's Liturgy of the Word

**Ages:** 8 - 13 years (however, all are welcome)

Our gatherings will occur on the following dates:



- \* 5th & 19th August 2023
- \* 2nd & 16th September 2023
- \* 7th & 21st October 2023
- \* 4th & 18th November 2023
- \* 2nd & 16th December 2023



Contact Fr Mark Hughes or Michelle Grimsted

St Mary's Parish, Bairnsdale

on 5152 2942 for more information



**'I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them.'**

**... The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.'**

**Pope Francis - Evangelii Gaudium #3**

### CAN YOU HELP ??? SUNDAY MASS MORNING TEA

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Morning Teas, making sandwiches, slices etc, setting/cleaning up. If you would like to contribute to this great social event, please contact Helen Van Den Einden: 0434 531 504 or Michael at the Parish Centre: 5152 2942.



### **POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS - JULY For a Eucharistic life**

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and their brothers and sisters.

#### READINGS:

July 22-23 2023

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27

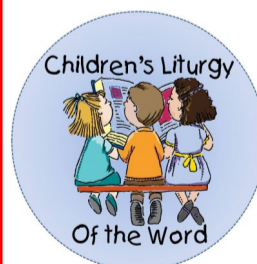
Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

#### COLLECTIONS:

July 8-9, 2023

Envelopes	\$	1230.00
DD & Cards	\$	1055.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$	604.50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$	727.55
Pay Wave	\$	80.00

### 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 grown a plant from a seed? What happened?
- ♦ What do seeds need if they are to grow into a plant?
- ♦ Where did the farmer sow the seed in today's gospel?
- ♦ Why didn't some of the seed grow?
- ♦ The seed is like the word of God wanting to be planted in us.
- ♦ How can we become the 'good ground' so it can grow in us?



### Can You Help?

Does anyone have an unused  
**acoustic guitar** they would like to  
donate to St Mary's Choir?  
Please contact Paul or Michael  
at the Parish Centre: 5152 2942



### INVITATION TO A JOURNEY OF FAITH

**What:** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

**When:** Tuesday August 15, 2023

**Venue:** Resource Room at St. Mary's Parish Centre  
135 Nicholson Street, Bairnsdale

**Time:** 7.00pm – 8.30pm

#### **Who is RCIA for?**

Persons interested in being initiated or completing  
initiation into the Catholic Church through  
Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Persons who were Baptised in a Christian Church and  
want to be received into the Catholic Church

St Mary's RCIA Coordinator: Michelle Grimsted  
stm.michelleg@gmail.com or 5152 2942

### POSITION VACANT

**St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale Omeo**

**Bookkeeper / Office Manager**

Experience in MYOB an advantage.

Supportive Team Environment. Family Friendly.

Part time – 22.5 hrs (Negotiable)

Call the Parish Office for a Position Description  
or further information: 5152 2942

### 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

### RCIA DIOCESAN WORKSHOP

**Enquiry stage: Sharing of Ideas**

**Invitation to: Clergy, RCIA Coordinators,  
RCIA teams and interested Parishioners.**

**Date:** Saturday July 22

**Time:** 9.00am for 9.30am start

**Venue:** Oblate Hall, St Kieran's Parish  
Lloyd Street, Moe

**Finish:** 1.00pm lunch and fellowship

**Bring:** Resources you are using for RCIA

**Cost \$10.00-Lunch and Morning Tea provided**

**RSVP Joan Robertson:**

**St Joseph's Parish Office 5623 1642**

### **Scripture notes:**

God cares for the earth by sending rain and sunshine to make it fruitful, and he cares for us by sending us his word. God speaks to us in the scriptures, but also through the events in our lives. God's words in the scriptures help us to interpret these events. It is not enough to merely hear God's word; we have a heart open to receive it and to live it. We are surrounded by words from the moment we are born, many of which go in one ear and out of the other. God's words have the potential to enrich our lives, and for that to happen those words must find a place in our hearts and understanding, and be acted upon. St Teresa said, "If God has not got your heart, he has nothing." The question to ask is: What place has God got in my heart? If God has no place in my heart, God will have no place in my life. If God has a central place in my heart, God will also be at the centre of my life, and my life will be more joyful and fruitful as a result.

*Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Margaret Sheehan, Bess Quigley, Frank Field, and all victims of natural disasters, mental health, COVID-19, terrorist attacks, war, conflict, Asylum Seekers, Family Violence and poverty.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Stephen Redenbach, Vera Maginn, Christopher Coverdale, Jean Hannaford, Nunzio Lanteri, Margaret Postma, Carmel Hall, Kerrie Knott, 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:** John Hayles, Denise Roberts, Maree Lesley Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, Jan Baxter, Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Stuart Murray (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, Baby Ethan, Robyn Finlay, John Atkins, Rick Harney, John Spirason, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted).

**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.**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

### **The Opening Prayer**

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. 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 prophet Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

**Responsorial Psalm** R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. R.

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. R.

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. R.

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat, They shout for joy, yes, they sing. R.

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**Alleluia, alleluia!** The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:1-23**

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive.

For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.