



St Patrick's, Paynesville

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW,

OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK & 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 Priests: Fr Avinash George
Fr Hiep Van Nguyen

Presbytery:
23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:

135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942

Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net

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

First Sunday of Advent Year C, 28th November, 2021

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.

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

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday: 9:10am

Tuesday: 9:10am

Wednesday: 9:10am

~~**Thursday:** 9:10am~~

Friday: 9:10am

Paynesville

Wednesday: 10am Rosary

RECONCILIATION

is available on

Friday after 9:10am Mass
and

Saturday 9:30am - 10:00am and
5:30pm to 5:50pm



WE CONGRATULATE OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Jordan Andrews, Shanique Baldock, Laura Blackshaw,
Evangeline Booth, Oliver Brooks, Illy Capobianco,
Lucy Cashman, Tahlia Chila, Imogene Clay,
Hunter Crane, Amber Cribbes, Joseph Dwyer, Chelsea Eddie,
Matthew Faithfull, Chelsea Foy, Jessica Grimsted, Paige Hack,
Emme Hadden, Frazer Jackson, Ethan Jones, Clancy Knott, Paul Lanteri,
Zaeln Lynch, Haylee McKinnon, Tanah Moon, Lochlan O'Kelly, Bella Prince,
Dana Riley, Zahra Ross, Jhana Sibal, Angus Taylor, Abigail Taylor, Kane Taylor,
Charles Tijo, Charlotte Walkley, Allegra Webster.

We give thanks to their families, carers and educators who have travelled with them on their journey of faith. May they continue to grow in their love of God the Father, his Son Jesus Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to work within them. Amen.

SYNOD 2021 -2023 Let's Walk Together!



Companions on the Journey. Jesus wants us to walk together side by side. Of those in our Church, who do we walk with and who is forgotten? What about those outside the Church, who is not included or welcomed? Have your say <https://tinyurl.com/HavingASay> or use the QR code.

Introductory video, prayers and resources at <https://www.cdsale.org.au/synod-of-bishops>



Quote of the Day (Pope Francis on Synodality)

The Christian community must reflect the "style of God, who travels the paths of history and shares in the life of humanity." This is a "time to look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say, to build rapport, to be sensitive to the questions of our sisters and brothers."

(Pope Francis, Homily for the Launch of the Synod 2021-2023, 10 October 2021)

Roster for Masses 4th-5th December 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	B O'Kelly	M Saunders	C Marriot-Smith	P Elliott
9:30am Sun	G & K Cassidy	T Kosmer	G Neeson	H Sampson

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: 11th December: C Marriot-Smith **Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.**

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

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 via the Parish Centre 5152 2942; or Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.

DATES TO REMEMBER

2nd December			
	Loss & Grief Group	5:00pm	Parish Centre
5th December			
	Morning Tea after Mass	10:30am	Parish Centre
9th December			
	Parish Pastoral Council	5:30pm	Parish Centre
8th December	Feast Day -		
	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary -		
	Morning Tea	10:00am	Parish Centre
21st December			
	Parish Reconciliation	6:00pm	St Mary's

An Advent group will meet in the Parish Centre at **10am Wednesday** for the next 4 Wednesday's as we journey through Advent. All are welcome. Any queries – phone the Parish Centre.

Delve Deeper into the Bible

Each week of Advent has a traditional theme. A series of short videos offered by the Bible Project explores the ancient words Shalom (peace), Yekhal (hope), Chara (joy) and Agape (Love) which reveal the deeper meanings of these words. Learning the fuller meanings of these words can enrich our Advent journey.

Head to <https://bibleproject.com/advent-word-series-churches/> or use QR Code



International Day of People with Disability - 3rd December 2021

The theme for the day is

"Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world".

Over 4.4 million people in Australia live with a disability. This day aims to increase awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and to celebrate their achievements. Pope Francis highlighted three points in his 2020 message for IDPWD: promoting a **culture of life** that constantly affirms the dignity of people with disabilities; **inclusion** that seeks to speak no longer about 'them', but rather about 'us'; and opening **active participation** to people with disability to support all to belong and to contribute in their communities.



A Day of Prayer for Myanmar- 28 November 2021



Today the Bishops Conference invites us all to join with all faith traditions to pray for peace and hope for the people of Myanmar. After decades of violence and trauma, the people of Myanmar have now been under military rule for most of 2021.

POPE FRANCIS' Universal intention - November

People who suffer from depression.

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.



Readings:

2nd Sunday Advent Year C

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm: 125
2nd Reading: Philippians
1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Collections for 14/11/21

Envelopes	\$ 1,434.00
DD & Cards	\$ 720.00
1 st Collection	\$ 429.75
2 nd Collection	\$ 635.10
Special Collection	
Columban Missions	\$ 600.00
Restoration Box	\$ 620.00

Prayer for Plenary Council 2020

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your

people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

The Victorian government now allows "religious ceremonies at places of worship with no capacity limits or density limits" for people aged 12+ who are fully vaccinated. Our smaller churches, **where no more than 50 people** gather, does not require vaccination status to be known. This includes regular weekday Masses at St Mary's. If there are parishioners who are not provided for under the current conditions, please contact the Parish office, or email Fr Michael (stm.michaelw@gmail.com).

All related correspondence will be treated confidentially.

Fr Michael

In essential things, unity. In non-essential things, liberty. In all things, charity. (St Augustine)

Nơi Lóng Giản Cách

Hiện tại Chính phủ tiểu bang Victoria cho phép các hoạt động tôn giáo được trở lại sinh hoạt không hạn chế số lượng người tham dự và sức chứa của nơi thờ phượng đối với những người trên 12 tuổi đã tiêm đủ liều vaccine.

Các nhà thờ nhỏ trong khu vực chúng ta, nơi thường có ít hơn 50 người tham dự nên sẽ không đề nghị trình xuất chứng nhận Vaccine. Điều này cũng sẽ áp dụng đối với các thánh lễ thường trong tuần tại nhà thờ St Mary. Nếu bạn muốn biết thêm thông tin, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Trung Tâm Mục Vụ Giáo xứ hoặc gửi email cho cha Micheal (stm.michealw@gmail.com)

Tất cả đề nghị và thông tin của bạn sẽ được bảo mật Fr Michael

KABAWASAN NG MGA PAGHIHIGPIT

Pinapayagan na ngayon ng gobyerno ng Victoria ang "mga relihiyosong seremonya sa mga lugar ng pagsamba na walang limitasyon sa kapasidad o limitasyon sa bilang ng mga sumisimba" para sa mga taong may edad na 12+ na ganap na nabakunahan. Ang mas maliliit na simbahan, kung saan hindi hihigit sa 50 katao ang nagtitipon, ay hindi nangangailangan na ipaalam ang status ng bakuna. Kabilang dito ang mga regular na Misa mula Lunes hanggang Biyernes sa St Mary's. Kung may mga parokyano na hindi nabibigyang serbisyo sa ilalim ng kasalukuyang mga kondisyon, mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa opisina ng Parokya, o mag-email kay Fr Michael (stm.michaelw@gmail.com). Lhat ng palikipag-ugnayan ay mananatiling na kumpidensyal.

Fr Michael

Parish Pastoral Council: meets 2nd Thursday of the month. Please submit items for the Agenda to the Parish Centre by 10.00am Tuesday the week before. **Members:** Michael Flynn and Angela McKail (Co- Chairpersons) Angelo D'Amore, Marilyn Elliott, Rita Bowers, & Wilma Collier. Ex-officio members: priests, principals and Pattie. **A Parish Directory:** is available at the Pastoral Centre. **Sacraments:** Information & registration forms available at stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com
Baptisms: Call the Sacramental Coordinator to set a date. Baptisms are celebrated during or after Mass on the 1st or 3rd Sunday's 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 5152 2942 or 0427 232 682
Special Wedding Anniversaries: 6 months' notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.
St Mary's Primary School: 5152 3706 **Nagle College:** 5152 6122
St Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre: 5152 6687 **St Mary's Op Shop:** 5152 2088

THE MASS SERIES – by Archbishop Mark Coleridge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Every 2 weeks we will, together with Archbishop Mark, share with you each part of the Mass. The series can be found on YouTube>Archdiocese of Brisbane/playlist>The Mass Series

3. Introductory Rites Penitential Act and Gloria

As the people of God, gathered by God, we have entered the life of the Trinity – with the sign of the cross and the greeting, having entered the presence of God, we stand before the truth of ourselves and we acknowledge, all of us, that we have sinned. That's really what the Penitential Act does. The first thing we say is 'I have sinned' but the second thing we say to God, whose presence we have entered, is: but You are an infinite mercy far, far greater than any of our sins. So the acknowledgement of our sins gives way to the acclaim of God's mercy and that combination is crucial. To say that we have sinned means that we are very, very small in the presence of God, but we recognise that this God stoops down to pick us up and make the little ones great. We are very small but the mercy of God makes us unbelievably great. We don't become God but we become human beings possessed of a unique and magnificent dignity because of the mercy of God. So the Penitential Act has two aspects - it's all about the truth that we discover and acknowledge only once we enter the presence of God, once we enter the sacred space and the sacred time of the Trinity.

And then, once we have acknowledged and acclaimed the mercy of God, the cry that breaks forth, particularly on more solemn feast days, more important feasts, is the Gloria, where we take up the song of the angels. "Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth". Peace will only come to me and to us – all of us – if we discover that truth, that I have sinned but there is mercy. In a world that denies that there is sin and denies the possibility of mercy there can be no peace. We save our high praise of the Gloria for the seasons that are not penitential. Therefore the Gloria falls silent in Lent and Advent, not because we don't understand the mercy, but we're focusing upon sin more than the mercy that provokes the great praise of the angels and the Church in the Gloria. So the cry of the angels: Glory to God, Father, Son and Spirit – for this gift of infinite mercy which is the life that is bigger than death and the power that heals every wound of sin.

So the acknowledgement of sin, the acclamation of mercy and entering into the great song of the angels, are all part of a single dynamic that leads us more deeply into the mystery of God.



Last week at St Mary's Primary School there was a buzz of excitement as students and staff participated in the various events of Mission Week. Reading the prayers on the prayer line gave a glimpse of how heartfelt and aware our children are of the injustices in our world, and of the need for all people to respond to do what is right and good.

Staff and students all enjoyed **Crazy Sock Day** on Thursday and the Mega Mission Market on Friday was sensational! Thank you to each family and to the staff, for your generosity in supporting the Mega Mission Market. Our donation to Catholic Mission this year will be **\$2921.10!!!** A fantastic way to **'Sock it to Poverty'**.

St Vincent De Paul—The Giving Tree



With the beginning of Advent our thoughts turn towards our journey to Christ's birth. It is a time of awareness and preparation. Let us remember that

'Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours.

Ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion must look out on the world. Ours are the feet by which Christ may still go about doing good.

Ours are the hands with which Christ blesses people now.' St Teresa of Avila

So take a tag(s) from the tree and bring goods back for those in real need this Christmas.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Kayla Hayles, Sue Stewart, Edna Hebbard (mother of Kaye White), Anthony Titulaer (son of Bill & Joan), Margo Kerby (Lakes Entrance), victims of: mental health issues; Covid-19; terrorist attacks, war and conflict; asylum seekers; family violence and poverty.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time...

Concetta Pruscino, Damien Johnson, Gerald Rashleigh, Steve Klobukowski, Dennis Crane, Sarah Traynor, Fr Tim McInnes, Robert Rhodes, Gioconda Capobianco, Barry Rowe, Rick Bourke, Sue D'Amelio, and the 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 ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Bob Marshall, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Terry Flannery, Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Michael Flynn, Mark Rashleigh, Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Arthur Roberts, Paul Hawker, Margaret O'Reilly, Maree Elbourne, Ella Ford (NZ), Damian Greaves, Victoria Shaw, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Jim Quigley, Craig Counsel, Linton Smith, Andre Buxton, Marcie Hayles, Brian Rowe, Vic Smythe, John Pruscino.

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.

1st Sunday of Advent, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (33:14-16)

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

Responsorial Psalm

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my Saviour. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians (3:12-4:2)

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (21:25-28,34-36)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.' 'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

Jerusalem Bible © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes

In the first reading, the prophet assures the people that God will send the Messiah enshrining wisdom, justice and integrity.

Paul, in the second reading prays that the Lord may deepen the love the Thessalonians have for one another, which will in turn reach out to all people.

The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near and would be preceded by cosmic signs, and the disciples were urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

This Sunday each year the Church invites us to embark on a journey through the Liturgical Year.

We will re-visit all the mysteries of Christ's life and teaching from his expected arrival, (Advent) through to his death, resurrection, ascension into heaven and sending of the Holy Spirit.

We have heard the story many times, so the challenge is to hear the story better, understand it more deeply and make it more our own. His story enables us to live our story more fully and more joyfully.

On this day the liturgy directs our eyes towards the goal of our own journey, and that of the world, (the Second Coming). Jesus says that we should await His coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer, 'Stay awake, praying at all times.'

First Sunday of Advent - A Reflection by Andy Hamilton SJ

Let us ponder on how Advent and times of fasting and feasting reflect the difficult and joyous times in our own lives. While we wait for the joy and celebration of Christmas, we may experience difficulty, but we wait in hope for Emmanuel. Just as Jesus' coming gives us hope in the dark, our compassion and care for others, particularly refugees and asylum-seekers experiencing oppression and difficulty, can be that hope.

