



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

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

Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, August 27, 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.

Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit this weekend



Vivienne Abejula	Joan of Arc	Lucy Bradley	Elizabeth	Annabel Brazzale	Ursula
Mila Brodribb	Peter	Marcus Burley	Miguel	Jackson Calabro	Michael
Lexi Capobianco	Teresa	Patrick Crane	Peter	Dante Desio	Antonio
Archer Emmett	William	Lucas Evans	Joseph	Perri Foy	Ann
Alyssa Fulton	Rose	Griffin Glover	John Bosco	Rory Hansen	Joseph
Ruby Harmer	Agatha	Ella Horner	Clara	Arie Knott	George
Hyde Ljubic	Paul	Ryder McGovern	Raphael	Lillian Penglase	Lillian
Amelie Prince	Katharine	Ashtyn Stone	Marie	Max Taylor	Moses
Ruby Thomson-McDonald	Rose	Skye Tiffin	Mary	Ethan Veldhuizen	Luke
Margareth Villa	Margaret	Indi Ward	Francis	Lucas Watt	Miguel

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: **NO MASS**
 Tuesday: Requiem Mass-Joy Websdale
 11.00am
 Wednesday: 9.10am
 Thursday: 9.10am
 Friday: 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

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek: 4th Saturday: 6.30pm
 Immaculate Conception, Omeo: 4th Sunday: 9.00am
 St Francis', Benambra: 4th Sunday: 11.00am

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, September 2-3, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	B O'Kelly	M Schumann	C Shanahan	P Elliott	
9.30am Sunday	N Nash	T Kosmer	P Brown-Graham	M Owen	H Van den Einden, S Dean, C Tilley

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: September 2 - K Cassidy 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 FAITH, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, and FUN

Dear Lord,

All glory and honour to You Lord Father. We pray for your blessings and love upon the Alpha team, the guests and their families. We pray that your mighty and gentle hand continues to guide this ministry in our Parish. We ask that the Holy Spirit continues to burn in all our hearts, leading us closer to the Father's Love through this beautiful program.

In the name of our Lord, sweet Jesus, we pray.

Amen.



Diocese of Sale
Priests' Welfare Foundation

SPECIAL COLLECTION: SEPTEMBER 2-3, 2023

**FATHER'S DAY APPEAL FOR THE PRIESTS' WELFARE
FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALE:**

This Fund supports the Priests and Deacons of our Diocese in times of sickness or retirement. At present the Foundation is supporting nine Priests and three Deacons in retirement and is responsible for the other Priests, including our overseas Priests, and Deacons in time of sickness. The budgeted expenditure of the Foundation for them over the next year will be about \$400,000.

A Special Collection will be taken up next weekend to assist the work of the Priests' Welfare Foundation of the Diocese of Sale. All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible.



Social Justice Group

The 2nd Discussion Session on
'The Voice Referendum' will be
held on

Thursday August 31 at 2.00-3.30pm

in the Parish Centre



**Morning Tea will be held after
9.30am Mass at St Mary's
Bairnsdale
and after 8.00am Mass at
St Patrick's Paynesville**

Sunday September 3

Come and join us for a cuppa and a natter



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:

- ◆ In today's Gospel, what question did Jesus ask his disciples?
- ◆ What did Simon Peter boldly say?
- ◆ Let us take a few moments to think how we might answer Jesus' question.
- ◆ Who do you say Jesus is?
- ◆ Jesus is both God and human.
- ◆ How does believing in Jesus change us?

We pray that Jesus will be with us this week as we live as his disciples.



Lord, grant us a strong and courageous faith, a faith that burns brightly even in times of darkness, a faith that doesn't falter even when there are no miracles or happy endings. A Good Friday faith that trusts until the dawn of Easter, a faith that is rooted in your love for us and that expresses it in our love for others. Amen.

READINGS:

September 2-3, 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Responsorial Psalm:Ps 62:2-6, 8-9

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

COLLECTIONS:

August 19-20, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 809.60
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DD & Cards	\$ 570.00
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1st Collection \$ 560.20

2nd Collection \$ 655.75

Pay Wave	\$ 90.00
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INVITATION TO A JOURNEY OF FAITH

What: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

When: Every Tuesday from August 15, 2023

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

Time: 4.00pm—5.30pm



St Mary's Youth Group

**Our next gathering will be
Saturday September 2.
5.00pm Youth Group in the Parish Hall
and 6.00pm Mass for Children's Choir and
Liturgy of the Word.**

**For more information contact
Fr. Mark or Michelle Grimsted 5152 2942**

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS

AUGUST

For World Youth Day



We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

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

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.

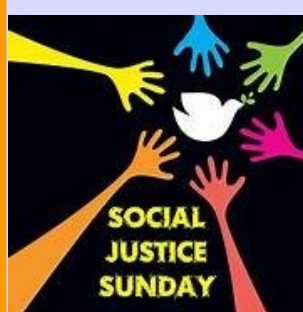
Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:

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



Social Justice Sunday

August 26-27, 2023

This year's Social Justice Statement, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse, invites us to engage with a complex and confronting social reality. It explores the roots of violence and abuse, honours the voices of victims, offers a social and theological exploration of the reality of violence, especially against women and children, and invites us to develop relationships in all parts of our lives 'marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control.' We welcome this urgent call from our Church to deepen our faith through full and frank discussion and dialogue, advocacy and action. If the content of the Statement raises issues or concerns for you, please refer to the Getting Help page in the Statement for a list of support channels, or speak to a trusted friend, your GP, your Parish Priest or Parish Pastoral Worker. Access the Statement <https://bit.ly/SJS22-23>. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 62019845.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: John Banks, Joy Websdale (Gwen Cook's sister), Doreen Noble and all victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, Asylum Seekers and those living with Family Violence or Mental Health issues.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Alma Turzan, Anne Farrell, Dinah Howe, Mary Collins, Vittoria Battista, Shirley Stoddart, Neil Wigg, Leo Bills, Mark Morgan, Michael Trybus, Penny Hood, Rita Spirason, Angelo Elia, Frank Murphy, Maureen Terrill, Freda Carrick, Frank Gregson, Marjorie Dore, Hank Janson, Peter Vanzin, Joyce 'Jean' Rankin 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: Alepaka Cree Egan Tyrell, Bob Marshall, Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles, Denise Roberts, Jan Baxter, Maree Lesley Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Stuart Murray (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, baby Ethan, Robyn Finlay, Rick Harney, John Spirason, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted).

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Opening Prayer

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you, I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**
I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**
The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes

Peter makes a wonderful profession of faith in Jesus, who responds by conferring the primacy on him. Peter had obvious leadership qualities and is the most frequently mentioned and quoted, in all four Gospels. They show that there was a solid side to his character, but also an opposite side. When Peter denied Jesus 3 times, it was his lowest moment. Jesus did not, as a result, write Peter off as weak, cowardly and unreliable but made him 'chief shepherd of his flock'. Why? Because He knew that there was another better side to Peter. Generosity and selfishness, courage and cowardice can co-exist in the same person. Peter's fall was the result of weakness rather than malice. He fell because he thought he was strong. It was a very humbling and chastening experience for him to find out that he wasn't as strong or as brave as he thought. He learnt that Jesus still loved and trusted in him enough to make him leader of his Church on earth. God does not choose perfect people to do his work – no such person exists. God chooses human beings, who are flawed, but nevertheless have a capacity for greatness and holiness. Peter is both a consolation and a challenge to us. We, too, can become better than we are.

Flor McCarthy New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies