



St Francis of Assisi, Benambra

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, September 3, 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.

Come and share a cup of tea or coffee and a chat after

9.30am Mass TODAY in the Parish Centre

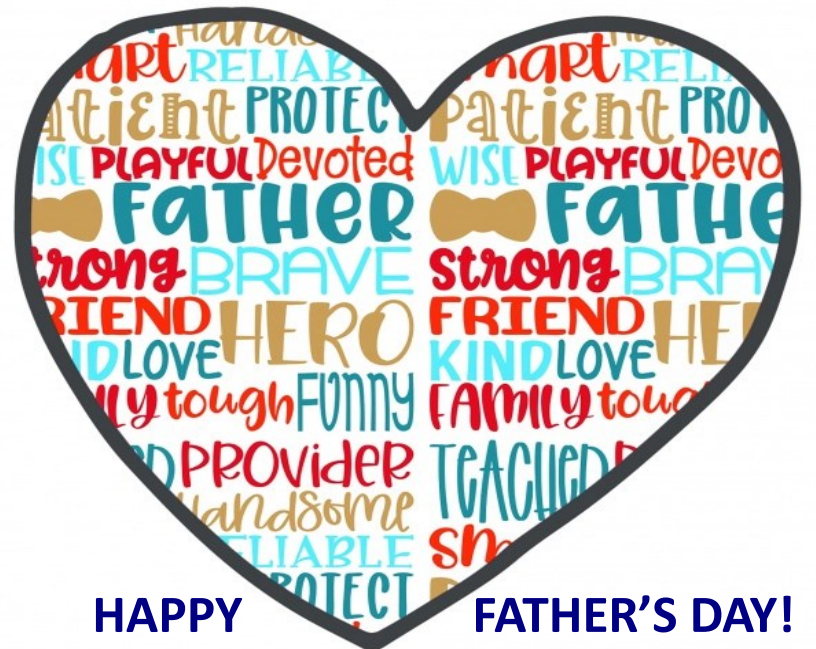
And after 8.00am Mass at

Paynesville

Diocese of Sale Priests' Welfare Foundation

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Today

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.



WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: **NO MASS**

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

St Mary's PS (Year 1's) 11.30am

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, September 9-10, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	G Dooley	D Ball	S Gibson	K Flannery	
9.30am Sunday	R David	G Neeson	M Mendonca	J Delaney	B Payne, N Rooney, R David

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: September 16 - H Sampson 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.



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

This year's theme for **Season of Creation,**

'Let Justice and Peace Flow', invites

Parishioners to share their hopeful vision for creation.

Prophet Amos cries out:

“But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” Amos 5:24

and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.

As the people of God, we must work together on behalf
of all Creation, as part of that mighty
river of peace and justice.

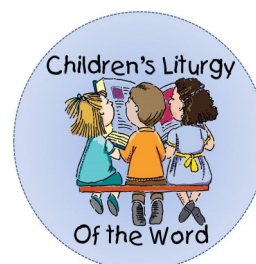
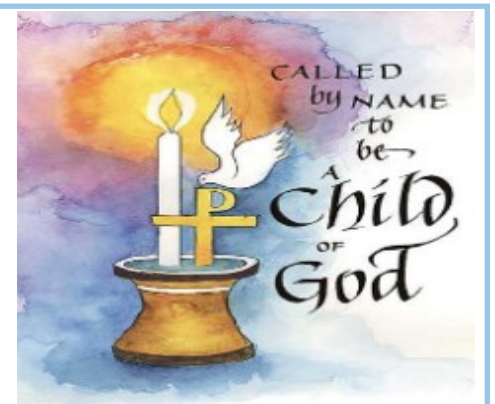
POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS

SEPTEMBER

For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of less importance

**We welcome into our
Parish Family
this weekend
Estelle,
daughter of
Geneva and Kevin Rijs**

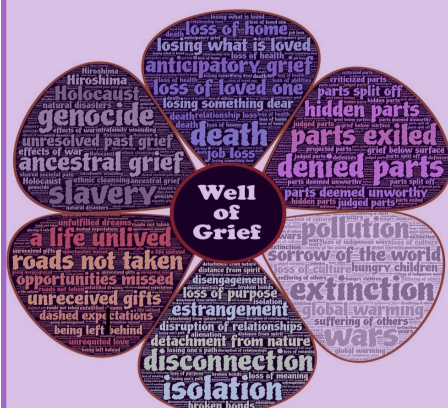


Worksheets Available for Collection

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:

- ♦ What are some of your favourite games?
- ♦ In which of these games do people have to take turns?
- ♦ What happens if people do not take turns?
- ♦ Jesus tells us in today's gospel that we must forget about ourselves and put others first. What does Jesus mean by this?
- ♦ How can we put others' needs before our own?
- ♦ Why is it sometimes hard to do this?
- ♦ We pray that we will think about others before ourselves



The Loss and Grief Group

will be meeting

Thursday September 7

in the Parish Centre

5.00pm

READINGS:

September 9-10 2023

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekial 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

COLLECTIONS:

August 26-27, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 1030.00
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DD & Cards	\$ 555.00
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1st Collection \$ 1054.40

2nd Collection \$ 533.20

Pay Wave	\$ 60.00
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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.
For more information contact
Fr. Mark or Michelle Grimsted 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

**A big thank you to all those who contributed to make
the celebration of Confirmation such a warm, inviting
and successful night.**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Madeline 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



Congratulations

To the

candidates

who celebrated the

Sacrament of

Confirmation

with **Bishop Greg and Fr Mark**

last Saturday

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: John Spirason, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), John Banks 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: Francesca Aloisio, Francesco Aloisio, Geoffrey Downie, Jan Feltham (Ross),
Nicolina Tedeschi, Pasquale Tedeschi, Jack Donchi, Fr Joe Pulis SDB, Pina Ciaglia, Frank Murphy, Maureen Sheehan, Manfred Ratzman
Alma Turzan, Anne Farrell, Dinah Howe, Mary Collins, Vittoria Battista, Shirley Stoddart, Neil Wigg, Leo Bills, Mark Morgan, 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: Sr Angela Ryan CSV, 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, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne.

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

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Opening Prayer

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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 Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughingstock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

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.**

For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **R**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's. 'Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes

Jeremiah feels overwhelmed by the demands of a task that has brought him nothing but insult and derision, and yet he cannot quit because he feels the fire burning within him. In the Gospel Jesus told his disciples, "To take up your cross and follow me". For Nelson Mandela, this cross was his love of his people and his country. He had to separate himself from his wife and family in order to do this. For many, religion is a crutch to help see them through the difficult life challenges, but it should be a pair of wings; increasing our joys giving us energy and vitality and making us into loving people. As Christians we must avoid focusing purely on self-fulfilment and not taking up the 'Cross', and at the other extreme the negative language of denial and renunciation which does not allow for the proper appreciation of self-worth. Jesus chose the way of love, which often ends in suffering/disappointment of some kind. But with Jesus by our sides, we are assured of sharing our life

Flor McCarthy New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies