



Immaculate Conception, Omeo

# 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)

### 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, October 8, 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.



*Journey with Sr Carolina*

**THIS WORLD MISSION MONTH**

[catholicmission.org.au/carolina](http://catholicmission.org.au/carolina)

*"...it should be remembered that breaking our material bread with the hungry in the name of Christ is already a work of Christian mission. How much more so is the breaking of the Eucharistic bread, which is Christ himself, a work of mission par excellence since the Eucharist is the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church."* Pope Francis' Message for World Mission Day 2023. It is in this spirit that Catholic Mission invites Parishioners in every Diocese in Australia to join with us again and support our brothers and sisters in Timor-Leste. **Special Collection at Masses on October 21 and 22.**

#### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am  
Tuesday: 9.10am  
Wednesday: 9.10am  
Funeral Prayers Frank Schlitz: 11.00am  
Thursday: 9.10am  
Friday 9.10am  
Nagle College Graduation Mass: 11.15am  
**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

### 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, October 14-15 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	G Dooley	C Marriot-Smith	D Reefman	J Peachey	
9.30am Sunday	R David	T Kosmer	N Nash	M Owen	P Pruscino, B and A Capobianco

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: October 14 - B and A Cattapan 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.**



St Mary's Alpha Group celebrated the final session on Wednesday and all agreed that it has been a great blessing to 'walk and dance' together on the Alpha journey. We have developed lasting friendships as we shared fun, food, fellowship and faith, experiencing God's love for us first hand. As one guest reflected, "this has been a wonderful time to have conversations about the really important matters of life that we just don't get to do in our everyday life."

### Prayer for Alpha

Dear Lord, Father, Abba,

We give thanks for this beautiful opportunity to deepen our faith in you. We are so grateful for all the many graces and blessings You have showed us during the Alpha program. We call on the Holy Spirit to fill us with boldness and wisdom as we share the Good News of Your love for us.

Thank you Lord, in the name of Sweet Jesus we pray. Amen.

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS

### OCTOBER

#### For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The next set of Planned Giving Envelopes is ready.  
They are available in the Church foyer.

### WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE

Thank you everyone for all your love, support, and prayers during this very difficult time in our lives on the sad passing of our beautiful angel Carmen Katharina. There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy you have extended to our family during this period of grief. Your enduring kindness, thoughtfulness and messages of hope will always be remembered. They provided us with the strength we need to overcome our heartache. Also, thank you to all those who volunteered at the wake and brought the delicious food. Your generosity didn't go unnoticed as we remembered and celebrated who Carmen was and how much she has touched our lives.

Thank you for sharing the experience with us.  
God Bless You.

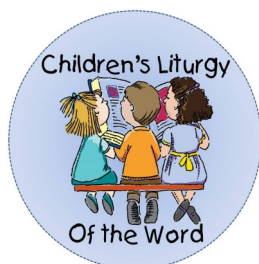
The Golonski and Grimsted Families.

### 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 looked after the vineyard in today's Gospel when the owner left the country?
- What did the people who rented the vineyard do to the owner's servants at harvest time?
- What did they do to the owner's son?
- Jesus says the vineyard is like God's kingdom which has been given to us. What does he mean?
- We have been given the kingdom. How should we work for God in the kingdom?



#### READINGS:

**October 14-15 2023**

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians

4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-10

#### COLLECTIONS:

**Sept 30—Oct 1, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 1127.00

DD & Cards \$ 1970.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 679.80

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 765.70

Pay Wave \$ 230.00

## SALESIANS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the  
Australia-Pacific region

The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco:  
English Teachers, Youth Workers and Youth Ministers

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close

**October 31, 2023.** Send us an enquiry:

[www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)







**Next GLOW  
Tonight October 7.**

**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.

Dear Lord,

As we move towards The Voice Referendum we ask that You grant us the wisdom to thoughtfully discern on our decision and the grace to accept the fact there are differing opinions. We ask that You guide our decision as witness to Your compassion and enduring, unconditional love for us. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



**St Mary's Social Justice Group**  
Submissions for the annual distribution of the  
Parish Welfare Fund are

**NOW OPEN.**



The Parish puts aside 2.5% of Planned Giving receipts for local, national, and international needs of those who are neglected by society.

Your suggestions are warmly invited for this year's disbursement of accumulated funds.

**Please leave your written suggestions at the Parish Centre by November 10.**

All suggestions are discussed at a subsequent meeting and a list of recipients is drawn up for Fr Michael's approval.

### **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](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

On Sunday October 22, Crashendo, a community focussed musical group is holding a series of workshops for students at the Bairnsdale Hub, followed



by a concert in St Mary's from  
2.00-3.30pm. *Melbourne Strings* will  
also be performing.

We have been asked to provide an  
afternoon tea, so we are asking for  
your help. If you are able to prepare  
sandwiches or slices for the day it would be greatly appreciated.  
The concert is free, but with a gold coin donation for afternoon tea, which  
will go to the St Mary's Church Restoration Fund. If you can assist us please  
contact Helen Van Den Einden: 0434 531 504 and let her know what you  
are able to provide. Please respond by October 11. Thank you.



**The new  
Diocesan  
Mission  
Council**

### **New Diocesan Mission Council – Calling for submission of Expressions of Interest**

This weekend Bishop Greg Bennet announces the formation of the new  
Diocesan Mission Council (DMC) and invites the people of the Diocese to  
submit Expressions of Interest in becoming a member of the Council. In-  
formation about the DMC can be accessed via this link:

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/dmc>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bill Stevens, Frank Schlitz, 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:** Salvatore Di Palma, Nicholas Dooley, Jim Quigley, Laurie Hodgkisson,  
Daphne Moore, Daphne McKersie, Dick Pepper, Elizabeth 'Betty' Merlo, Margaret Kelsey 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:** Bev Broome, Robert McMahon, Michael Crane, Dennis Collins (brother of Cheryl Heaton-Harris),  
George Ward, Sr Angela Ryan CSB, Alepaka Tyrell, Bob Marshall, Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles,  
Denise Roberts, Maree Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, 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.**

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

**Entrance Antiphon**

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven, and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 5:1-7**

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend has a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**

Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9**

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:33-43**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

*Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane*

**Scripture notes**

Both the first reading and the Gospel talk about a vineyard (Israel), Its owner (God) and the wicked tenants in the Gospel (the people of Israel, In reality the religious leaders who had been given charge of the vineyard by God); the servants are the prophets sent by God, rejected and killed; the son and heir, Jesus, who is killed by the tenants, who tells them that the vineyard will be let out to other tenants (the Gentiles). Nelson Mandela's story is similar. Many people tried to change South Africa's terrible racist system before he came on the scene and his attempts to instigate reforms ended in his imprisonment for 27 years. However, he came out of it without bitterness and with the respect of his enemies and the entire world. A man once rejected became the President of a new multi-racial South Africa. God did not abandon or destroy the vineyard. Instead, He handed it over to other tenants who would produce the fruits. Doesn't this mirror some events going on in our world today? Evil can only be overcome by good and God looks to us to produce the fruits of Justice, Love and Peace in our world. It is a great privilege but also a great challenge.

*New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies Year A Flor McCarthySDB*