



Sacred Heart—SwiftsCreek

# 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)

### 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, October 15, 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: NO MASS**

Clergy Safeguarding Training-Warragul

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

St Mary's PS (Year 1's) 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

### 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, October 22, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	K Flannery	M Saunders	D Ball	P Elliot	
9.30am Sunday	J Coverdale	P Browne—Graham	S Tilley	S Dean	P Pruscino, B and A Capobianco

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: October 28 - S Gibson 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 its final session on October 4 and all agreed that it had 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.

We congratulate Fr Mark on the

**1st Year Anniversary of his  
Ordination to the Priesthood, today.**

Do you have a problem with alcohol? There is a solution.

Alcoholics Anonymous  
(A.A.) has a simple program that

works and has done so for over 80 years.

It is based on one alcoholic helping another.

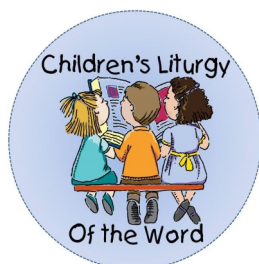
If you need support, contact Bruce: 0412 938 772



### 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:



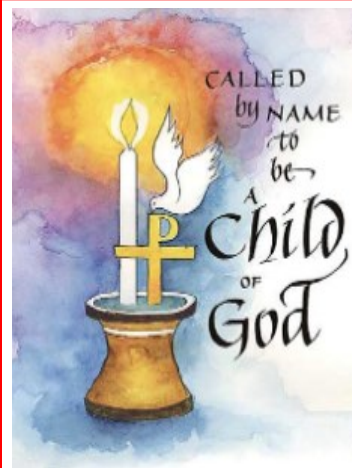
•What did the king in today's gospel decide to do for his son?

•What happened when the servants invited the guests?

•When the guests didn't come, who did the king invite?

•Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is like this story.

Who does God invite to the banquet?



This weekend we welcome

**Bonnie Antoinette**

Daughter of

Leanne and Grant McKenzie

into our Parish family

## SALESIANS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities available 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.**



#### READINGS:

**October 21-22 2023**

**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 95:1, 3, 5-7

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

#### COLLECTIONS:

**October 7-8, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 1103.00

DD & Cards \$ 995.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 604.75

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 792.80

Pay Wave \$ 180.00





**Next GLOW  
October 21.**

**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.

### **NEW LIFE IN GOD'S SPIRIT**

8 week seminar to establish or deepen a personal  
relationship with Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

From Friday October 13 to December 1.

6.45pm for a 7.00pm start.

Contact Michelle at the Parish Centre

5152 2942 or email:

stm.michelleg@gmail.com

**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.**

The submissions are discussed at a subsequent  
meeting and a list of recipients is prepared 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.

There will be an afternoon  
tea after the concert .



**The new  
Diocesan  
Mission  
Council**

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

This week 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.

Information about the DMC can be accessed via this link:

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/dmc> Submissions close on Friday October 20.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Paul Curtis, 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:** Valentina Baleisa, Phil Cerini, Joan Shanahan, Helen Bons, Ria Reefman  
Lucy Mann, Joseph Raudino, Nerine Schiwy, Thomas Keyte, Salvatore Di Palma, Nicholas Dooley, Jim Quigley, Laurie Hodgkisson,  
Daphne Moore, Daphne McKersie, 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:** Elizabeth Steere (USA-niece of Pat Walsh), Sandra Brooks, Bev Broome, Robert McMahon,  
Michael Crane, Dennis Collins, George Ward, 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**

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

### **Opening Prayer**

May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works 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 25:6-10**

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name, If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20**

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **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 22:1-10**

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next, he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited," he said, "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

*Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane*

### **Scripture notes**

In Matthew's original gospel, of simpler form, the wedding parable made the point that those to whom the invitation was sent first (the Jews) rejected it and their place has been taken by others (the Gentiles). The incident of the wedding garment appears to have originally belonged to a separate parable but now applied to the Christian community- those Christians who are not worthy will suffer the same fate as the unworthy Jews (especially the leaders). An invitation demands a response: some accept, others refuse. A third, and very common response today, is no response at all! This is the worst kind of response. Worse than a refusal. God doesn't compel us. God invites us. A command cannot easily be ignored, but an invitation can. What is God's invitation? God is calling us to a deeper and more authentic life on earth; to intimacy with himself; into community with others; and at death into eternal life. Our greatest danger in this life is that we just ignore His invitation and miss out on the joys of the wedding feast.

*New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies Year A Flor McCarthy SDB*