



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](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)


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

Email: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)

### 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, October 22, 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 THIS WEEKEND.**

#### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

**Friday: No Mass in the Church.**

Friday: Nagle College Chapel 8.00am

St Mary's PS (Year 5'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**

**Masses held 4th weekend of each month.**

**Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek:** 4th Saturday: 6.30pm

**Immaculate Conception, Omeo:** 4th Sunday: 9.00am

**St Francis', Benambra:** 4th Sunday: 11.00am

### 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, October 29, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	J De Boer	C Marriot-Smith	J Peachey	M Saunders	
9.30am Sunday	G and K Cassidy	D Atkins	B Marshall	K Cassidy	B Payne, N Rooney, L Urban

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.***



## NEW LIFE IN GOD'S SPIRIT

*An 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. It's not too late to join.*



### PRAYERS FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

Gathering together to pray for peace, especially in the Holy Land, the place of our Saviour's birth; a land torn apart by violence, displacement, and armed conflict. Let us ask the God of our hearts for a time when guns will fall silent, soldiers will lay down their arms, children will play again, the displaced will return home, and families will begin to rebuild... a time when peace will break out instead of a time for war. Let us be one together in Scripture, song, symbol, and silence.

**St Michael's, Grey Street Traralgon,  
6.00pm Thursday October 26.**



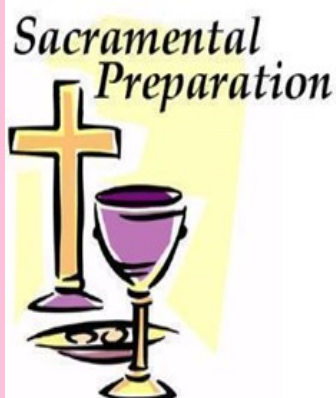
The Old City, Jerusalem

### 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 who are the people who planned to trick Jesus?
- What did the Pharisees say to Jesus?
- What did Jesus say to them?
- Jesus says that we can serve God and serve our country at the same time.
- We can be good Australians by respecting others. How do we show respect for all people?
- How can we serve God by being a good Australian?



**St Mary's Parish is preparing the Sacramental Program for 2024. If any parents/caregivers wish their child/ren to be involved in the programs for**

**Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, or**

**Confirmation, please contact**

**Michelle Grimsted at the Parish Centre on  
5152 2942 or email: [stm.michelleg@gmail.com](mailto:stm.michelleg@gmail.com)**

**Sessions begin in February 2024.**

### 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.



**Congratulations!**

**Thomas Woolven and  
Jessica Fraser**

**They will be married at 1.30pm  
on October 28 in St Joseph's, at Swan Reach**

### 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**. Send us an enquiry:  
[www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)

#### READINGS:

**October 28-29 2023**

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 7: 2-4, 47, 51

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10

Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40

#### COLLECTIONS:

**October 14-15, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 726.00

DD & Cards \$ 255.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 587.90

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 606.15

Pay Wave \$ 200.00





**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.**

**Alpha Corner**



Keep your eyes and ears open  
for when the next program will  
begin.

Pray for those close to you that  
they may accept the invitation  
to COME.

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

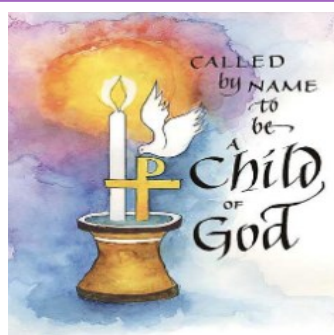
**NOW OPEN**

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.



**We welcome into our**  
**Parish family**  
***Madison Clare***  
**daughter of**  
***Sarah Van der Velden***

### 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](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.

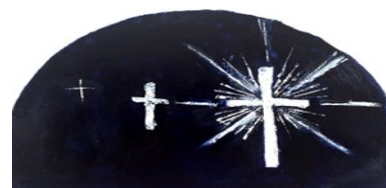
**Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:**

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



### ***SHINING A LIGHT ON*** ***DOMESTIC VIOLENCE***

The Sale Diocese is Shining a Light on Domestic Violence,  
an issue impacting many. Commencing next weekend, we  
invite you to a four-week journey of prayer and listening to  
raise awareness within our Parish and school communities.  
From November 17-19, please wear white to Mass as we  
come together against Domestic Violence.

A special liturgy will be held on November 17, with  
locations at St. Michael's (Berwick and Traralgon), Sion  
House (Warragul), and St. Mary's (Bairnsdale and Yarram).  
We encourage everyone to join and take a stand.

This Sunday October 22 **CRASHENDO!**

a community focussed musical group is holding a concert in St Mary's from 2.00 - 3.30pm.  
*Melbourne Strings* is also performing. Afternoon tea will be offered after the concert. All Welcome.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Paul Curtis, 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:** David Minchin, Mary Douglas, Barbara Eldridge, Molly Smullen,  
Marie Traynor, Clifford Brammall, Martin E White, Pauline Cocco, Valda Reinhardt, MaryAnne Scott, William Hilder, Antonio Cavone,  
Pasquale D'Aloia, Luigi Ciaglia, Valentina Baleisa, Phil Cerini, Joan Shanahan, Helen Bons, Ria Reefman, Lucy Mann, Joseph Raudino,  
Nerine Schiwy, Thomas Keyte, 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:** John Prior, Elizabeth Steere (USA-niece of Pat Walsh), Sandra Brooks, Bev Broome, Michael Crane,  
Robert McMahon, 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,  
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**

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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 45:1, 4-6**

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. Give the Lord glory and honour.**

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R.**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R.**

Worship the Lord in his temple, O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king,'

He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R.**

### **A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5**

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:15-21**

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he replied, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's,' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

*Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane*

### **Scripture notes**

As Christians our first and deepest loyalty is to God. Jesus was implying that there need not be conflict between the demands of the state and those of God. We are dual citizens. We are citizens of the country where we live or were born, and we owe it many benefits: to the forces of law and order we owe the fact that we are able to live in peace and security; to its public services we owe transport, water, light etc; to its social provision we have access to education, medical care etc. These benefits mean that we are under an obligation to the state: to be responsible citizens and as far as possible play our part in making the country a good place for all its citizens. Christians should not shirk public office as it is an opportunity to serve the community. Ghandi and Nelson Mandela, both involved themselves in politics as they felt that their faith and lives were intertwined. Dag Hammarskjöld (Secretary General of the UN in the 1960's) felt that public service was his way of being faithful to God. He said, 'Indifference to evil is worse than evil itself, and in a free society, some are guilty, but all are responsible!' Politics is not an easy profession as there are many temptations, the chief of which is to promote one's own good rather than the good of society. 'No life is more satisfactory than that of selfless service to your country or humanity' (Dag Hammarskjöld)

*Flor McCarthy New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies*