



St Canice's, Lindenow

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK & 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	St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:
Assistant Priests:	Fr Avinash George Fr Hiep Van Nguyen	135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942 Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com Website: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net Facebook: St Mary's Church Bairnsdale
Presbytery:	23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106	

Second Sunday of Advent Year C, 5th December, 2021

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.

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

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday: 9:10am

Tuesday: 9:10am

Wednesday: 9:10am

Thursday: 9:10am

Friday: 9:10am

Paynesville

Wednesday: 10am Rosary

RÉCONCILIATION

is available on

Friday after 9:10am Mass

Saturday 9:30am - 10:00am and
5:30pm to 5:50pm

Australian Bishops endorse Uluru Statement of the Heart

Australia's Catholic bishops, on the recommendation of their key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisers (NATSICC), have endorsed the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

They made the decision as it gathered online for its biennial meeting earlier this month. The bishops' consideration of the matter was informed by the words of St John Paul II, who in a visit to Alice Springs in 1986 said to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: 'Your culture, which shows the lasting genius and dignity of your race, must not be allowed to disappear... Your songs, your stories, your paintings, your dances, your languages, must never be lost.' For more information go to <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/bishops-endorse-uluru-statement-from-the-heart/>



Morwell Catholic Parish are celebrating their 50th Anniversary with a Social on

Saturday 18th December at Kernot Hall beginning at 6pm. Tickets now on sale \$50 per person. This includes 3 course meal, Destiny Band, DJ Junior Trinidad and lots of prizes and surprises. **Contact 5134 2849**

On the spiritual side we will be having a Holy Mass at St Vincent's on the 18th December at 2pm - celebrated by Fr. Jude Pirotta (our very own local born priest) and on the 19th December at 11am Holy Mass at Sacred Heart celebrated with our Bishop Greg Bennet, Josephite sisters are coming and we have invited our past clergy - this will be followed by fellowship BBQ at the back of the Church.

These events are for fully vaccinated only.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS CARDS

These are now available. The calendar will cost \$10 and a packet of 10 cards will be \$6. If no one is selling them after Mass, please call into the Parish Centre to purchase. All monies help support the St Columbans Mission Society and Majellan Publications.

Roster for Masses 11th-12th December 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	M Schumann	J De Boer	D Reefman	C Power
9:30am Sun	S Dean	H van den Einden	A Vowell	J Delany

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: 11th December: C Marriot-Smith **Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.**

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

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 via the Parish Centre 5152 2942; or Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.

DATES TO REMEMBER

5th December - THIS SUNDAY		
Morning Tea after Mass	10:30am	Parish Centre
9th December		
Parish Pastoral Council	5:30pm	Parish Centre
8th December		
Feast Day -		
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary -		
Morning Tea	10:00am	Parish Centre
21st December		
Parish Reconciliation	6:00pm	St Mary's

An Advent group will meet in the Parish Centre at **10am Monday** for the next 3 Monday's as we journey through Advent. All are welcome.
Any queries – please phone the Parish Centre.

Delve Deeper into the Bible

Each week of Advent has a traditional theme. A series of short videos offered by the Bible Project explores the ancient words Shalom (peace), Yakhal (hope), Chara (joy) and Agape (Love) which reveal the deeper meanings of these words. Learning the fuller meanings of these words can enrich our Advent journey. Head to <https://bibleproject.com/advent-word-series-churches/> or use QR Code



Ambrosio DaCunha Asqueli (Tony) is a Timorese seasonal worker employed by MADEC and works at Bon Accord, Lindenow. He has had several trips to Australia, some might remember him when he was a resident at the Salesian House. Several months ago Tony was feeling unwell and approached a couple of parishioners who immediately guided him with medical assistance. After many doctors' appointments and tests, Tony is beginning a 5 week regime of radiation and chemotherapy. He will be staying at Centenary House, Traralgon Monday to Friday. A team of drivers will take him to Traralgon on Monday and pick him up on Friday. Another team of cooks will prepare his main meals in advance, so he arrives with a week's supply of food suitable for his stoma and chemo treatment. During this period Tony will not be able to work, however he still has ongoing daily living costs to deal with so with a small balance leftover from the Bairnsdale Friends of Timor Leste and generous donations, the Parish Support Team has also decided to support him with a small weekly payment. Tony is very grateful for all the support he is receiving, particularly from Frank Brown Graham, Bairnsdale Regional Health, Cabrini Hospital, fellow seasonal workers and parishioners. If you would like to offer your support please contact Paul Heaton Harris at the Parish Centre or Frank BG or Chris Power.



POPE FRANCIS' Universal Intention - December

Intention for evangelisation - *Catechists*



Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Readings:

3rd Sunday Advent Year C

1st Reading:
Zaphaniah 3: 14-18
Responsorial Psalm:
Isaiah 12:2-6
2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Collections for 14/11/21

Envelopes	\$ 2,662.00
DD & Cards	\$ 288.00
1 st Collection	\$ 865.90
2 nd Collection	\$ 710.30
Candles	\$ 632.65

Prayer for Plenary Council 2020

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

The Victorian government now allows "religious ceremonies at places of worship with no capacity limits or density limits" for people aged 12+ who are fully vaccinated. Our smaller churches, **where no more than 50 people** gather, does not require vaccination status to be known. This includes regular weekday Masses at St Mary's. If there are parishioners who are not provided for under the current conditions, please contact the Parish office, or email Fr Michael (stm.michaelw@gmail.com). All related correspondence will be treated confidentially.

Fr Michael

In essential things, unity. In non-essential things, liberty. In all things, charity. (St Augustine)



We welcome into the Parish Community through Baptism

Shay Maria Vincent

daughter of Belinda & Dallas Vincent

Nơi Lóng Giản Cách

Hiện tại Chính phủ tiểu bang Victoria cho phép các hoạt động tôn giáo được trở lại sinh hoạt không hạn chế số lượng người tham dự và sức chứa của nơi thờ phượng đối với những người trên 12 tuổi đã tiêm đủ liều vaccine.

Các nhà thờ nhỏ trong khu vực chúng ta, nơi thường có ít hơn 50 người tham dự nên sẽ không đề nghị trình xuất chứng nhận Vaccine. Điều này cũng sẽ áp dụng đối với các thánh lễ thường trong tuần tại nhà thờ St Mary. Nếu bạn muốn biết thêm thông tin, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Trung Tâm Mục Vụ Giáo xứ hoặc gửi email cho cha Micheal (stm.michealw@gmail.com)

Tất cả đề nghị và thông tin của bạn sẽ được bảo mật Fr Michael

KABAWASAN NG MGA PAGHIHIGPIT

Pinapayagan na ngayon ng gobyerno ng Victoria ang "mga relihiyosong seremonya sa mga lugar ng pagsamba na walang limitasyon sa kapasidad o limitasyon sa bilang ng mga sumisimba" para sa mga taong may edad na 12+ na ganap na nabakunahan. Ang mas maliliit na simbahan, kung saan hindi hihigit sa 50 katao ang nagtitipon, ay hindi nangangailangan na ipaalam ang status ng bakuna. Kabilang dito ang mga regular na Misa mula Lunes hanggang Biyernes sa St Mary's. Kung may mga parokyano na hindi nabibigyang serbisyo sa ilalim ng kasalukuyang mga kondisyon, mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa opisina ng Parokya, o mag-email kay Fr Michael (stm.michaelw@gmail.com). Lhat ng palikipag-ugnayan ay mananatiling na kumpidensyal.

Fr Michael

Parish Pastoral Council: meets 2nd Thursday of the month. Please submit items for the Agenda to the Parish Centre by 10.00am Tuesday the week before. **Members:** Michael Flynn and Angela McKail (Co- Chairpersons) Angelo D'Amore, Marilyn Elliott, Rita Bowers, & Wilma Collier. Ex-officio members: priests, principals and Pattie. **A Parish Directory:** is available at the Pastoral Centre. **Sacraments:** Information & registration forms available at stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com
Baptisms: Call the Sacramental Coordinator to set a date. Baptisms are celebrated during or after Mass on the 1st or 3rd Sunday's 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 5152 2942 or 0427 232 682
Special Wedding Anniversaries: 6 months' notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.
St Mary's Primary School: 5152 3706 **Nagle College:** 5152 6122
St Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre: 5152 6687 **St Mary's Op Shop:** 5152 2088

SYNOD 2021 -2023 *Let's Walk Together!*

Companions on the Journey. Jesus wants us to walk together side by side. Of those in our Church, who do we walk with and who is forgotten? What about those outside the Church, who is not included or welcomed? Have your say <https://tinyurl.com/HavingASay> or use the QR code. Introductory video, prayers and resources at <https://www.cdsale.org.au/synod-of-bishops>



(Pope Francis, Homily for the Launch of the Synod 2021-2023, 10 October 2021)

THE MASS SERIES – by Archbishop Mark Coleridge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane
Every 2 weeks we will, together with Archbishop Mark, share with you each part of the Mass.
The series can be found on YouTube>Archdiocese of Brisbane/playlist>The Mass Series

4. Introductory Rites

The Opening Prayer concludes the arc of the Introductory Rites, and it is one of the most important prayers of the Mass. If you take the Opening Prayers of the Missal, they contain everything that the Church believes and teaches. They're incredibly rich and dense little texts. The priest begins by saying, 'Let us pray.' So he summons the whole community to enter into prayer, then there follows a moment of silence. What's happening in the silence? Everyone is praying in their hearts and in that silence have been drawn into the presence of God. Out of the silence the priest gathers up the prayer of everyone in the community, 'the Collect'. Why? Because the priest collects the prayers of everyone there into a single voice and a single prayer. So, we start the opening prayer by saying Almighty, Ever-Living God, God our Father and at the end we say through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. There is a reminder of the Trinity and we are drawn more deeply into the life of the Trinity as we open our hearts in prayer. The structure of the opening prayers, looks back to the type of prayer that you would have heard in the state religion of Ancient Rome. It's a structure which early Christianity inherited and then adopted it. So these little prayers are deep and rich. What they do is gather up the prayer of the entire Church of every time and in every place, as well as the prayer of this particular community, but also join with the Church in Heaven. Because the prayer of the Mass is the prayer of the Church in Heaven and on Earth, so the Mass in that sense celebrates the marriage of Heaven and Earth.

St Vincent De Paul—The Giving Tree



With the beginning of Advent our thoughts turn towards our journey to Christ's birth. It is a time of awareness and preparation. Let us remember that
*'Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours.
 Ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion must look out on the world. Ours are the feet by which Christ may still go about doing good.
 Ours are the hands with which Christ blesses people now.'* St Teresa of Avila
 So take a tag(s) from the tree and support those in difficult situations this Christmas.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

David La Porta, George Holford (son of Marina), Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Kayla Hayles, victims of: mental health issues; Covid-19; terrorist attacks, war and conflict; asylum seekers; family violence and poverty.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time...

Des Lovell, Frank Burton, George Burton, Jack Burton, Norma Stevens, Pat Brennan, Peter Brown, Max Kelsey, Maureen Connolly, Concetta Pruscino, Damien Johnson, Gerald Rashleigh, Steve Klobukowski, Dennis Crane, Robert Rhodes, and the 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 ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Bob Marshall, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Terry Flannery, Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Michael Flynn, Mark Rashleigh, Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Arthur Roberts, Paul Hawker, Margaret O'Reilly, Maree Elbourne, Ella Ford (NZ), Damian Greaves, Victoria Shaw, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Jim Quigley, Craig Counsel, Linton Smith, Andre Buxton, Marcie Hayles, Brian Rowe, Vic Smythe, John Pruscino.

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.

2nd Sunday of Advent, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

A reading from the prophet Baruch (5:1-9)

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east:

see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Philippians (1:4-6,8-11)

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (3:1-6)

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: 'A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.'

Jerusalem Bible © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes

"Prepare a way for the Lord, make his pathways straight". It's not the Lord's way that needs to be straightened, it's our ways. We let misunderstandings run on from year to year, meaning to clear them up someday. We keep quarrels alive because we cannot quite make up our minds to sacrifice our pride and end them. We pass people sullenly, not speaking to them out of silly spite, and yet knowing that it would fill us with shame and remorse if we heard one of them were dead tomorrow. We let our neighbour starve, till we hear he is dying of starvation; or let our friend's heart ache for a word of appreciation, which we mean to give him someday. If only we could realise that "time is short", how it would break the spell. How we could go instantly and do the thing that we might never have another chance to do.

So if there is some crooked attitude, behaviour or relationship that needs to be straightened out, let us straighten it out, then we will truly be preparing a way for the Lord to come to us.

Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies