



St Mary's Bairnsdale

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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, October 29, 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.

ECUMENICAL ADVENT CONVERSATION



Bishop Richard Treloar, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland, and Bishop Greg Bennet, Catholic Bishop of Sale, invite clergy and lay people from both Dioceses to join them for an Advent Conversation – a seasonal study of the Psalms and Canticles of the Lectionary Cycle alongside some of the great Advent themes.

The Conversation will be led by biblical and theological scholars from the Yarra Theological Union, a college of the University of Divinity, Melbourne: Dr Mary Reaburn, Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Dr Ross Fishburn, Academic Dean. Thursday November 23, 2023 10.00am – 3.30pm. Morning tea and a light lunch will be served \$25.00 per person. Bookings essential. RSVP November 17. The Abbey, Raymond Island: info@theabbey.org.au

Loss and Grief Group meets this Thursday November 2 at 5.00pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

Any questions ring Michael: 5152 2942

Morning Tea after Masses next Sunday November 5

at St Mary's and St Patrick's. Why not come and join us?

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am
Tuesday: 9.10am
All Saints Day Wednesday: 9.10am
All Souls Day Thursday: 9.10am
Bairnsdale Cemetery 6.00pm
Friday: 9.10am
Nagle College Chapel 8.00am
St Mary's PS (Preps) 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

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year November 5, 2023

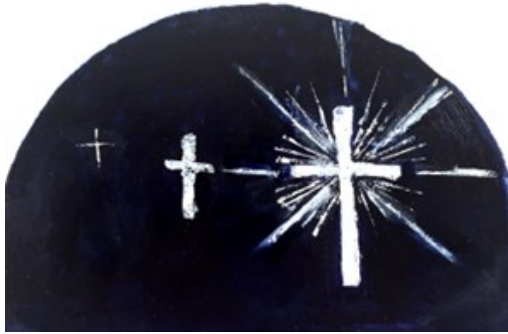
MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	N Light	K Flannery	M Schumann	J Peachey	
9.30am Sunday	A Veldhuiuzen	P Brown-Graham	W Collier	M Grimsted	B and A Capobianco, H Van Den Einden

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: November 11th - B Mahony 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.



SHINING A LIGHT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Linda Evangelista, a 1980's supermodel, recently revealed that she had been subject to domestic abuse. She had been fearful of leaving and speaking out and now she "would love women to know that they are not alone."


Over the weekend of November 17 to 19,
Parishes of the Sale Diocese
will be 'Shining a Light' on Domestic Violence and praying for its end.

Everyone is encouraged to wear white to Mass that weekend and all are invited to attend a

Special Liturgy

Friday November 17 in one of these Parishes:

St Michael's, Berwick; St Michael's, Traralgon; Sion House, Warragul; **St Mary's, Bairnsdale (6.00pm).**



All Souls Day Remembrance
In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, on All Souls Day,
please remember the Souls of:

1. _____

MASS FOR THE HOLY SOULS
Mass Offering envelopes
and purple crosses are
available in the
Church foyer.




The **Mother's Prayer Group** is now meeting in
the Chapel after 9.10am Mass on Fridays

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 does Jesus say is the most important commandment?
- ♦ What did Jesus say was the second most important commandment?
- ♦ How do we show we love God?
- ♦ How do we show we love others as much as we love ourselves?
- ♦ What would the world be like if we all believed these commandments and put them into practice?





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

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.

READINGS:
November 4-5, 2023
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading:
Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 130
2nd Reading:
1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13
Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

<u>COLLECTIONS:</u>	
<u>October 21-22, 2023</u>	
Envelopes	\$ 1056.00
DD & Cards	\$ 530.00
1 st Collection	\$ 651.40
2 nd Collection	\$ 766.70
Pay Wave	\$ 220.00



Congratulations!

Thomas Woolven and
Jessica Fraser

who were married this
weekend in St Joseph's, Swan Reach



**NEXT GLOW
NOVEMBER 5**

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

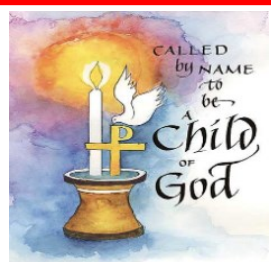
NOW OPEN

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.



Welcome into our Parish family
Luke Nicholls
Son of Deanne and Michael
celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations

Charlie Crane
As he continues his journey with the
Sacrament of Confirmation



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

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

Let Us Pray

Lord, open our hearts when they are closed,
soften them when they are hard,
warm them when they are cold,
fill them when they are empty,
heal them when they are wounded
and mend them when they are broken,
so that we, your disciples,
may bear the fruits of love.

Amen

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Pat Bourke, John Phelan, 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: Noel 'Sam' Currie, Concetta Pruscino, Rosa Lanteri, Elisabetta De Luti, Keith
McNairn, Margaret Nugent, Pauline Hamilton 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, 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, Alepaka Tyrell, Bob Marshall, Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles,
Maree Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, 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

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face

Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. 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 book of Exodus 22: 20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge, my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call, I am saved from my foes. **R.**

Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes

The readings emphasize the imperative to love and show compassion to others, especially those who are vulnerable or marginalized. In Exodus, God instructs the Israelites not to mistreat foreigners, widows, or orphans and to lend to those in need without interest. In Matthew, Jesus sums up the law with the two greatest commandments: love God and love your neighbour. The laws which God gave to Israel were meant to protect the vulnerable: widows, orphans, foreigners. They were meant to alleviate suffering, and to remind the Israelites that they had also suffered and that God had rescued them. Jesus points out that the many laws were all contained in "Love God" and "Love your neighbour." This is the point of these precepts. The word used for love is "agape" which is more than just a feeling of friendship or affection. It is a love committed to action. Both passages remind us that our ethical and spiritual responsibilities are interconnected. Loving God is closely tied to how we treat others. So, we are also called to love the marginalized in our world. And we must not just love them by thinking well of them. We are called to action.

Young Catholics