



Immaculate Conception,  
Omeo

# THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

## East Region – Diocese of Sale

### BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, OME0, 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  
**Assistant Priests:** Fr Avinash George  
Fr Hiep Van Nguyen  
**Presbytery:**  
23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

**St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942  
Email: [stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)  
Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

#### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 31st October, 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 - All Saints

**Tuesday:** 9:10am - All Souls  
6.00pm – Bairnsdale  
Cemetery

**Wednesday:** 9:10am

**Thursday:** 9:10am

**Friday:** 9:10am

**Paynesville:** Rosary 10am Wednesday

#### RECONCILIATION

is available on

**Friday** after 9:10am Mass  
and

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

#### 4 SQUARE METRE RULE AND DOUBLE VACCINATED

Everyone has been keenly anticipating our economy opening up and provision for visiting loved ones again. However, with that comes some anxiety now that we are moving towards a 'COVID-normal' society.

Our churches will be open according to the State government requirements of the **4 square metre rule and proof of double vaccination**. St Mary's church will have a cap of 110 for Mass. And, 25 at both Paynesville and Lindenow.

Until the mandated division is removed, a Mass for parishioners of East Gippsland who are not yet double vaccinated, or prefer not to reveal their COVID vaccination status, can be arranged, based on requests. Please email me if you would like to make such a request ([stmichaelw@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelw@gmail.com)). Or, phone the Parish Centre (5152 2942). All such requests will be treated confidentially.

Fr Michael

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

#### Invitation: 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 Luke, titled '**Prepare the way of the Lord; Ecumenical Reflections on the Advent readings in Year C**'.

The Conversation will be led by The Rev'd Dr Robert Derrenbacher and The Rev'd Francis Otobo (parish priest of St Michael's Traralgon).

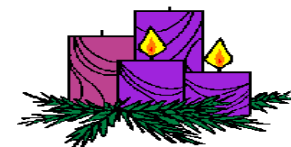
**WHERE:** The Abbey, 1-25 First Parade, Raymond Island

**WHEN:** Friday 26 November, 2021 **TIME:** 10:30am to 3:30pm

A light lunch will be served. Catering charge \$20 per person.

**RSVP:** 19<sup>th</sup> November, booking essential for catering purposes.

**RSVP:** Phone:– The Abbey (03) 5156 6580 or Email:– [info@theabbey.org.au](mailto:info@theabbey.org.au)



#### Roster for Masses 6th–7th November 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	M Saunders	C Marriot-Smith	J De Boer	B O'Kelly
9:30am Sun	H Van den Einden	A Chila	H Sampson	M Elliott

**Cleaning:** Fortnight ending: 13th November: P Pruscino **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.

## THE MASS SERIES – by Archbishop Mark Coleridge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

As an initiative of our Liturgy Team, 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



### Introductory Rites – Greeting

The first thing we do really even before the Introductory Rite, is prepare ourselves, to move into sacred space and sacred time, into the presence of God. You see this in the great basilicas of Rome where you move through different spaces before you enter the Holy of Holies, as it were. Even physically. At Mass we prepare ourselves beforehand, in prayer. But then when the community gathers, we begin with the sign of the cross. Now we begin in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as a way of saying we are entering into sacred space and sacred time. We're not exactly leaving our everyday life but we're entering into another depth and the depth we're entering into is the depth of the Trinity because, again, it's God who gathers us. We might decide to go to Mass but, in the end, it's God who is calling us to share His own life. And the life of God is what we call the Trinity which is perfect communion – a love that is completely unshadowed. And then the priest greets the people who have entered that sacred space and sacred time, the presence of God, with words taken from the New Testament. And so much of the language of the Mass is biblical. The words of scripture are sacred words. They're words born of the Trinity. So therefore the priest, who isn't just himself, when he puts on the vestments he becomes something more than himself – he remains himself but he becomes a figure of Christ in the midst of God's people, and speaking words that are not his own, words that are given to him to speak, from the New Testament: "The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you." And the people respond: "And with your spirit." This is the language of Communion, it's the language born of the Trinity. And that's where we start.

### Catholic Theological College 2021 Knox Public Lecture

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm – 8.30pm

Professor Eleanor Bourke

*Truth Telling & the Yoo-rrook Justice Commission*

Bookings and Info: [ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture](http://ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture)

Enq: sarah.styring@ctc.edu.au ,Phone 9412 3333 Venue: online

November is our month when we especially remember our loved ones who have gone before us. We will again have a large cross at the side of the Altar where you will be able to pin up the names of those you have loved. Pens, pins and the 'purple crosses' can be found nearby. Please help yourself. The large cross will remain in the church for the month of November.



### POPE FRANCIS' Universal intention - October

Intention for evangelisation -

Missionary disciples.

We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.



### STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

A reminder of our banking details.

**BSB:** 083-879 **ACCOUNT:** 48919 4022

**ACCOUNT NAME:** St Marys Parish Bairnsdale/Omeo

**Ref:** Your Name and Envelope Number **or** Marked 1st or 2nd Collection. Thank you for your continued financial support of our Parish.

### Readings: 6th November 2021 32nd Sunday in O T, Year B,

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16

Psalm 145:7-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

### Collections for Week ending 24/10/21

Envelopes \$ 1,027.00

DD & Cards \$ 690.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 582.90

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 420.00

### HELP REQUIRED

Do you have a charism/gift of HELPS, HOSPITALITY, SERVICE - be it in making scones, sandwiches and a cup of tea, serving others? Over the past 2 years we have not been asked to do catering for too many funerals because of Covid and all the restrictions that come with it.



We believe this is slowly coming to an end, and we are again being asked to cater for funerals, mostly at the Parish Centre. If you are able to help in any way we would love to hear from you.

Parish Centre: 5152 2942

### ST MARY'S OPPORTUNITY SHOP

*An opportunity to meet, help and make a difference.*

We are looking for more volunteers to help in the shop. Opening hours are Mon. to Fri. 10am—3pm, Sat. 10-12noon. If you can spare a day or a few hours we would really appreciate your contribution. There are a variety of jobs and a very friendly and supportive team. Please ring 5152 2088 during opening hours and speak to the Day Manager.

### AustralianCATHOLICS Magazine

The summer edition is now out. Pick up a copy if you are looking for a good read. It is the 'Parish Edition' with the theme of "Love and Relationships".

### ST MARY NGÀY BAIRNSDALE - TUẦN

Thứ bảy: 8 tháng Tam 8 6:00 tối Chủ nhật: 9 tháng Tam 9 9:30 sáng **CUỐN SÁCH ĐƯỢC YÊU CẦU CHO MASSES TUẦN TẠI ST MARY mệnh (Giới hạn 20)**

Vui lòng đặt thứ ba đến thứ sáu 10 giờ sáng - 3 giờ chiều: 5152 2942 Hãy giúp chúng tôi tuần thủ các nguyên tắc sức khỏe. Ví dụ: đăng nhập bằng tên và số liên lạc.

### BAIRNSDALE ng ST MARY – WEEKENDS

Sat: 8 Agosto 6:00:00 Araw: ika-9 ng Agosto 9:30 ng umaga **KINAKAILANGANY MAG-BOOK PARA SA MGA LINGGO NG WEEKEND SA ST MARY'S (Limitado 20)**

Mangyaring mag-book Martes hanggang Biyernes 10:00 - 3pm: 5152 2942 Mangyaring tulungan kaming sumunod sa mga alituntunin sa kalusugan. Halimbawa, pag-sign in gamit ang unang pangalan at numero ng contact.



**Parish Pastoral Council:** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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

### 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.***



### **ST MARY'S OP SHOP SHED**



### SPECIAL OPENING –

**Monday 1st November 9:30am to 1:00pm.**

**Normal Opening Hours: Thursday's 9:30am to 1pm.**

**Lots of goodies to browse.**

### ***AN INVITATION TO CATECHIST RETREAT DAY***

for all catechists, those involved in Children's Liturgy  
and friends.

**Where:** Synan Room, Sion House, Witton Street, Warragul

**When:** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November 9:30am to 4pm

**Presenter:** Sr. Mary Raeburn (Order of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion)

**Theme:** "Life has times of orientation, disorientation and reorientation; The psalms and My life."

**Cost:** The day will be free of charge.

Lunch will be catered for, but something for morning tea will be appreciated.

If you are able to attend, please contact Barbara Durand by 2<sup>nd</sup> November: email [BarbaraD@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:BarbaraD@sale.catholic.org.au)  
Mobile 0414 965 079

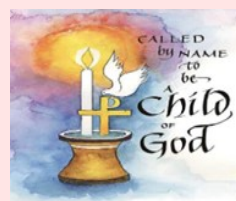
### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**TO ATTEND YOU NEED TO BE DOUBLE VACCINATED.**



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.

**We welcome into our Parish family this weekend**



***Harriet Elizabeth Parker***

*daughter of*

*Nicole Smith & Christopher Parker.*

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Luigi Ciaglia, Rose McMahon, 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...**

Concetta Pruscino, Silvana La Porta, Kathleen Marshall, Peter O'Donohue, Norm Mann, Lucy Mann, Elisabetta De Luti, Keith McNairn, Margaret Nugent, Pauline Hamilton, John McCormack, Bridget Ross, 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:**

Sue Stewart, Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Michael Flynn, Mark Rashleigh, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Arthur Roberts, Margaret O'Reilly, Paul Hawker, Maree Elbourne, Ella Ford (NZ), Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Damian Greaves, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Victoria Shaw, 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.**

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, 31st October 2021

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

### **A reading from the book of Deuteronomy** (6:2-6)

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow. 'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. 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.**

2. 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 letter to the Hebrews** (7:23-28)

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

### **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 Mark** (12:28-34)

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

*Jerusalem Bible © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane*

### **Scripture Notes**

The Rabbis had identified nearly 700 laws in the Scriptures. This sounds a lot but actually compares favourably with the Catholic Church which has 2000 in the Church's code of canonical law and many others governing the celebration of sacraments. Both the commandments Jesus named are found in the Old testament, combining them as no one else had. They are interrelated. True love of neighbour springs from the love of God and no true love of God that does not express itself in love of neighbour. They cannot be separated. In Leviticus the 'neighbour' is restricted to fellow Israelites, however Jesus broadened it, to include EVERYONE! Failure to love is the greatest failure of a Christian. Sin is recognised when it means doing harm to a 'neighbour' but the sin of failing to love or withholding love is equivalent. It is a great danger for church going people that they see no connection between what they do in church on a Sunday and what they do in relation to a 'neighbour' on weekdays. For such people religion is divorced from life and just a private matter between them and God. According to the Bible a religion like that is an abomination. If we have a problem with a particular person we should avoid any retaliation, try to keep some form of ongoing communication, (even just a Good day), and we should pray for that person. To offer sacrifice to God is a great thing. But to show mercy to a fellow human being is even greater and harder. Each one of us, daily, stands in need of God's mercy. Deep compassion combined with true religion is a powerful combination, and when we truly experience it, we are transformed.

*Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies*