



Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek

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

Presbytery:

23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com

St Mary's 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)

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C, 20th MARCH, 2022

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

2nd & 4th Sunday monthly: 11am

Swifts Creek, Omeo & Benambra -

January, March, May, July,
September and November.

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek

4th Saturday: 6:30pm

Immaculate Conception, Omeo

4th Sunday: 9:00am

St Francis, Benambra

4th Sunday: 11am

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday to Friday: 9:10am

Stations of the Cross

following Mass each Friday
during Lent.

Paynesville

Wednesday: 10am Rosary

RECONCILIATION is available each

Friday after 9:10am Mass

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



3rd Sunday of Lent

Janice 44, is a proud Wagilak woman, a
traditional dancer, who tells stories

through movements handed down over generations.

With your support, Janice and the Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation support the community
to generate income and employment, while keeping culture alive.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help provide employment and training for
First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better
tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

You can help people like Janice to keep traditional culture alive by making a donation through
Project Compassion boxes and/or envelopes, visiting lent.caritas.org.au or phoning 1800 024 41



Spiritual Spring Cleaning Tips

- Missed the start of Lent? No bother – start whenever you can – even an imperfect attempt is better than none.
- Make a plan. Make it achievable. And write it down.
Poorly defined goals tend to get lost in the clutter of life.
- Keep forgetting to honour your Lenten promise? Diarise it. Set the alarm on your phone. Put sticky notes on the bathroom mirror.
Pen it on the back of your hand.
Get an accountability partner (kids make excellent ones!)
- Regressed to bad habits? Just start over. Don't let the laziness discourage you recommit regularly to your Lenten promise.
- Struggling to stay motivated? Bolster your Lenten promise by offering it for an additional cause. e.g. the comfort of a sick friend, the suffering of a particular family, the work of a missionary etc.

Roster for Masses – 4th Sunday in Lent Year C - 26-27th March 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	P Reefman	B O'Kelly	M Saunders	P Elliot
9:30am Sun	S Dean	H Van Den Eiden	A Vowell	J Delaney

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: 26th March - K Cassidy **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 via the Parish Centre 5152 2942;
or Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.**

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.

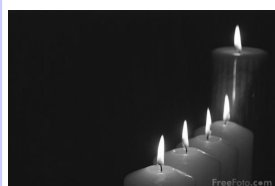
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

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.***



LENTEN RETREAT ON RAYMOND ISLAND



It's just on 4 weeks now till we begin our
Lenten Pilgrimage on Raymond Island with
Cath Connelly and Russell Smith.

FULL TIME OPTION Monday 4th April 2022 – Friday 8 April
2022 Motel-style accommodation – all meals provided
Twin /share accommodation: \$690 pp Single accommodation:
\$890 per person.

PART-TIME OPTIONS Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th April 2022
9.30am Meet in the Chapel – walk the tracks of Raymond
Island followed by reflection in the Chapel with Cath and
shared lunch - \$25 -3.00pm Meet in the Chapel – walk the
shore-line of Raymond Island followed by reflection in the
Chapel with Cath and shared evening meal - \$40 -Wednesday
6th April 2022 9.30am Meet in the Chapel – longer walk along
Island to Gravelly Point beach and option of return walk -
\$55 - includes lunch and dinner-(BYO lunch and no dinner \$25)
Overnight accommodation 1 night – single \$130 per person
Twin Share per person \$70.

There are shorter pilgrimages morning and afternoon on
Tuesday 5th and Thursday 8th and a longer walk on
Wednesday 6th April, with overnight options or daily
attendance listed as well, along with the costs for each option.

**Please contact me if you have any more
'Pilgrimage' questions. Rev Edie Ashley**

Abbey Priest m.0423 400 359 edieashley@bigpond.com

For bookings – please contact Anna info@theabbey.org.au or
on 03 5156 6580, 8.30am- 3.00pm Monday – Friday



RESTORING FRESHNESS IN THE TIME OF LENT –

Michael Elligate

Online Lenten Series presented by Emmaus
Spirituality Ministry. Emmaus is a joint ministry of the
Catholic Diocese of Sale and
Jesuits and Ignatian Spirituality Australia.

The Online series will be held

March, 24th, 31st, and April 7th Thursday morning @ 10:30am

OR Thursday evening @ 7:30pm

Facilitators: Theresa Denny & Geraldine Naismith

-Bookings: salespirituality1@gmail.com **Cost:** \$25 per session.

ALL are welcome and don't let cost prevent you from participating.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions -March

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges.

We pray for Christians facing bioethical changes;
May they continue to defend the dignity of
all human life with prayer and action.

LENT A TIME TO REFLECT.....

The Parish is offering this small, easy to carry, booklet for individuals or
groups. Each day includes a scripture reading and a reflection upon it,
some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes
from Pope Francis. The Parish is also offering **LENTEN SMALL GROUPS**
Tuesdays 2pm (in person at the Parish Centre) ;
7.30pm (via Zoom); or Thursdays 10am at Parish Centre.
Contact Pattie at the Parish Centre PH 5152 2942 for more info.
Friendships are strengthened, and new friendships developed.
Hearing opinions and thoughts from others helps **broaden and**
strengthen our own beliefs and be aware of
God's presence in our lives.

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down
of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children,
at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Anglican Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

**We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.**

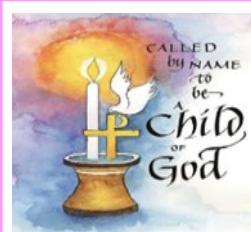
**With You alone to guide us,
make yourself at home in our hearts;**

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

**Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.**

**Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and
time, in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen**



We welcome into our Parish family
through the sacrament of **Baptism**

Stella daughter of **Rebecca**

Readings: 27th March **4th Sunday of Lent, Year C**

1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Responsorial Psalm:

33:,2-7. **Rv 9**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians
5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Collection for 13/3/22

Envelopes \$ 2,448.00

DD & Cards \$ 1,450.00

1st Collection \$ 943.10

2nd Collection \$ 782.50

Scripture Notes

The incident of the burning bush is about God's concern for his people, and he sends Moses to liberate them. In spite of all that God does for the Israelites, many of them were not pleasing to him, and died in the desert. Paul tells us that this is a warning for us in that just because we have received the sacraments, it doesn't mean that we are automatically saved. In the Gospel Jesus dispels the popular belief that accidents befalling people, are a punishment for sin. The Pharisees believed that sinners should just be abandoned, but Jesus did not agree. There is a contrast between the vineyard owner and the gardener. The vineyard owner wanted to chop down the tree, interested only in the end product and not nurturing it to become fruitful. The gardener knew that it can take a lot of careful tending for a particular tree to become fruitful. The vineyard owner was the way of the head, not the heart; power rather than love; no patience with the slow and no sympathy for the weak.

The gardener's way was love; being patient and kind and not giving up easily, coaxing, encouraging, and waiting. Jesus died for us sinners, showing an interest and care in us. The Church is full of fig trees that were once barren, but which became fruitful: St Paul, St Augustine, St Francis of Assisi, St Ignatius of Loyola are just a few. Human beings are a complex mix of good and evil, and it takes wisdom to accept the frailty of the human character, the occasional unreliability of even the best people, and sometimes unexpected goodness of even the worst. We must learn to be patient and lenient towards ourselves first, acknowledging our dark side without giving in to it, but struggle on knowing, that with God's help, the good will triumph.

Flor McCarty SDB New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies Year C

A-Cross the World The Uniting Church has a display of posters depicting various crosses from around the world, with the story behind them, Bible readings, Prayers and points for reflection. There are even some to make yourself. You are invited to 'come and spend some time' browsing and reflecting whenever the church is open.



NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Peter McMahon, Amanda Vowell and Jacinta Da Costa will be commissioned during the 9:30 Mass this Sunday. Wilma Collier and Marilyn Elliott are generously continuing their four year term.

Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Principals and Pattie.

A Parish Directory: is available at the Pastoral Centre.

St Mary's Primary School: 5152 3706

Nagle College: 5152 6122

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 Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre: 5152 6687

St Mary's Op Shop: 5152 2088

NEW PARISH APPOINTMENT

We are very pleased and grateful to be able to advise you that **Mr Michael Flynn** will replace **Pattie Pruscino** at the Parish Centre. Michael has been a parishioner here for many years and has just completed a 4-year term on the Parish Pastoral Council. During a time of ill health over the last year, he has had time to reflect and discern where the Lord is taking him, leading him on this path.

There will be a couple of weeks 'change-over'.

Please welcome and support him as he settles in.

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**

7. Liturgy of the Word – Creed

Once (we), the people of God, have heard the Word of God, we stand up and recite the Creed together. This is our way of saying "Yes, we believe the Word that we have heard. We put our trust in the God who has spoken to us." There are two Creeds that we use: one is the Creed of the Council of Nicea, in 325AD using very old words; the other we know as the Apostles' Creed is the baptismal creed used in the early centuries of the Church of Rome. They are similar in that they say, we believe in God Father, Son and Spirit; the God who has called us into His own life; who speaks to our heart. In the Council of Nicea's creed, we say, "that Jesus is consubstantial with the Father". It means that He is in perfect union with the Father. In the Apostles' Creed, we say that Jesus descended into the realm of the dead, he descended into hell. This means that He goes into the dark world of the dead and in so doing, floods that world with the light of Easter. Some of the language is strange but at its heart the creed, is the same in every age and every place. It is God's people saying yes to the God who speaks and yes to the word that we have heard here and now.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Mahoney, Jack Monette (father/f.i.l of Jennifer & Stephen Butler), Kate D'Brass, Ron DeBoer, , 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...

Cam Kilpatrick, Jon Shanahan, Frank Wardley, Betty Kirwan, Rosa Lamanna, Ron Hannaford, Dennis Prendergast, Francesca Lanteri, Paolo Lanteri, Lorna Gilchrist, Margaret Bills, Marguerite Leone, Joan Browne, Terry Boyd, Lorraine O'Brien, David Eldridge, Agnes Gibson, John Confait, Graeme Summerton, John Tilley, 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 ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Leo Russell, Michael Counsel, John Spirason, Tricia & Alan Cooke, Lyn Donchi, Paul Fitzgerald, Fr Pax Scarf OFM, Bin Li (husband of Liah), Bob Marshall, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Victoria Shaw, Paul Hawker, Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Michael Flynn, Mark & Elizabeth Rashleigh, Maree Elbourne, Ella Ford (NZ), Craig Counsel, Margaret O'Reilly, Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Jim Quigley, Arthur Roberts, Damian Greaves, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Marcie Hayles, Brian Rowe, Vic Smythe.

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.

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

The Opening Prayer also known as the Collect

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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 (3:1-8,13-15)

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.'

At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R.**

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (10:1-6,10-12)

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (13:1-9)

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."