



St Patrick's Paynesville

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 Joseph Abutu

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B January 28, 2024

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.



Welcome Home Fr Joseph!

Fr Joseph took up his role as St Mary's Parish Priest on Thursday January 17.

He concelebrated Morning Mass with Fr Mark; and the Parish Staff had a 'meet and greet' morning tea afterwards, followed by a slightly more formal 'Staff Meeting'.

St Mary's is blessed to have Fr Joseph as our Parish Priest and, along with Fr Mark and the Parish Staff we look forward to an exciting future for our Parish family.

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday:

Sue Deery Requiem Mass 11.00am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 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

ROSARY

Monday: 7.00pm

via Zoom

Contact the Parish Centre for a link

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B February 4, 2024

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	J Peachey	K Flannery	M Schumann	J Peachey	
9.30am Sunday	J Coverdale	P Brown-Graham	S Tilley	S Dean	P Pruscino, B and A Capobianco

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: February 3 - 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 Alpha Program

Starts Friday February 16, 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Dinner included; no cost; all welcome

Faith, Food, Fellowship, Fun

Contact Madelaine: 0400 576 291 or Pattie: 0427 232 682



Nagle College
Bairnsdale

Welcome back!

To our students and teachers at St Mary's
Primary School and Nagle College.

We pray for your success and growth in 2024.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OMEQ

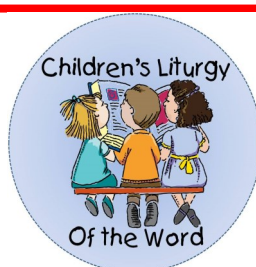
Prayer Group and Liturgy of the
Word on Sundays when there is no Mass.

9.00am in the Church, followed by morning tea.

For more information contact Jessica: 0491 706 678

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 is a prophet?
- Who are our modern-day prophets?
- Do prophets teach by words, or actions, or both?
- Can we be prophets? How?

READINGS:

February 3-4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:1-6

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

COLLECTIONS:

January 20-21, 2024

Envelopes \$ 967.80

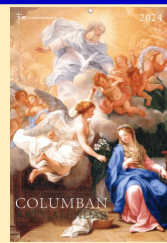
DD and Cards \$ 570.00

1st Collection \$ 680.35

2nd Collection \$ 749.15

Pay Wave \$ 170.00

Columban Art Calendars



Still available. See Kath Cassidy, or Michael at
the Parish Centre. Only a few left. \$10.00

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.

I slept and dreamt that life was a joy.

I awoke and saw that life was a service.

I acted and behold, service was a joy.

*You're
Invited!*

Call for Volunteers

We have had a number of our Special Ministers retire
from their roles recently and therefore we are looking for
Parishioners to become Welcomers, Commentators,
Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

This is a wonderful opportunity to become more deeply
involved in the Mass. Masses don't just happen, there is
a considerable amount of effort by a dedicated team of
people to help make the Mass spiritually nourishing
for those who attend.

You will have support to help settle into your new role.

If you are interested please contact Michael at the
Parish Centre: 5152 2942.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS

January - For the gift of diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of
different charisms within the Christian community and to
discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the
Catholic Church.



Recommences soon!
Dates to be announced
St Mary's Youth Group
5.00pm Youth Group
in the Parish Hall and then
6.00pm Mass for Children's Choir and
Liturgy of the Word.

Sacramental Program 2024

St Mary's Parish Sacramental Program for 2024 begins soon.

If you would like your child to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, enrolment in the program closes on Friday February 9.

To discuss this further, please contact me at the Parish Centre on 5152 2942 or via email stm.michelleg@gmail.com

Blessings always,
Michelle Grimsted
Parish Sacramental Coordinator



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Geoff Neeson (Chair), Madelaine Schumann,
Narelle Gibbons, Jacinta Da Costa, Leonie Urban
Ex-officio members: Fr Joseph, 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

The Loss and Grief Group will be meeting in the Parish Centre

Thursday February 1, at 5.00pm.

If you are dealing with a recent loss, or have ongoing grief, please consider joining us. The group is caring, supportive and confidential.

To find out more contact Michael on 5152 2942.



Morning Tea after
9.30am Mass at
St Mary's Bairnsdale
and after 8.00am Mass
at St Patrick's Paynesville

Next Sunday February 4.

Come and join us for a cuppa and a chat

A Prayer for the Holy Land

Lord,
be our peace and break down
the walls of partition dividing
the Holy Land. Lord, help us to
be lights to the Holy Land.
Lord, help the people of the
Holy Land follow the example of Jacob and Esau and
reconcile themselves to each other. Amen.



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Sue Deery, Alice Otober (Fr Francis' mother) victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, Family Violence, Asylum Seekers and all others who have passed away.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Msgr John Callahan, Fr Laurie Cusack, John Deery, Lawrence Liccione, Beryl Seib, Benny Lamanna, Karen Skeen, Patricia Wood, Eileen Ebert, Baby Lisiata Tuliakiono, Keith Murray, Frank Melrose, Faye Pruscino, Joe Garro, Paul Rowe, Annunziata Retino, 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: Gabrielle Carrasco (great-niece of Chris and Sandie Tilley), Rob Brennan, Terry Smyth, Mary Herro, Shane Hayles, Pat Coloe, Bill Tilley, Kieran Hayles, Bev Broome, Michael Crane, Robert McMahon, Dennis Collins, Bob Marshall, Kathleen Robertson, 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.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B January 28

Entrance Antiphon

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Opening Prayer

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth 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 book of Deuteronomy 18:15-18

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

Responsorial Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9

R. If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in, let us kneel and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes

It's interesting to note that this unclean spirit immediately knows Who Jesus is. This is because each of two opposites emphasizes the other very clearly. For example, the colour black is most clearly seen when it is placed in front of something white. Or something hot is most noticeable after experiencing something very cold. And a loud noise is most jarring when someone is sitting in silence. And so it is with Jesus and evil. Jesus, the Holy One of God, is most clearly seen when He comes in contact with an unclean spirit. Reflect, today, upon your own spiritual journey toward holiness. If you do see serious sin in your life, know that God wants to profoundly free you and draw you through a major conversion. If you do not see serious sin in your life and if you already strive daily to become holy, then rejoice if your spiritual consolations and communications from God are much more subtle and, at times, undetectable. Keep working at perfection and rejoice that you are on the correct path.

Catholic Life