



St Mary's, Bairnsdale

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)

7TH Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, 20th February, 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 each month:

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

LENT A TIME TO REFLECT.....

The Parish is offering this small, easy to carry, booklet for individuals or groups.

'The Spirit and the Cross'

**will nourish and nurture prayer each day during Lent and into
the first week of Easter.**

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

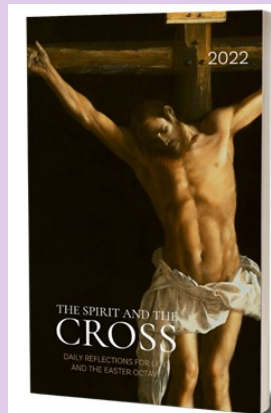
Tuesdays 2pm (face to face at the Parish Centre) or 7.30pm (via Zoom)

Please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre PH 5152 2942 if you would like to join a Small
Group **at another time** or would like further information.

Also on offer is 'Remember' a Lenten program from the Wollongong Diocese. This one is
more conducive for groups.

SMALL GROUPS ARE A REWARDING AND IMPORTANT PART OF THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

Friendships are strengthened, or new friendships developed. Hearing opinions and thoughts
from others helps **broaden and strengthen our own beliefs. A deeper understanding of
Scripture** is often gained and we can rediscover a sense of **God's presence** in our lives.



Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday to Friday: 9:10am

Paynesville

Wednesday: 10am Rosary

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 3rd, 10th, 17th, 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.

RECONCILIATION is available each

Friday after 9:10am Mass

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

PLEASE NOTE: WE NO LONGER NEED TO QR CODE IN, MASKS STILL REQUIRED.

Roster for Masses - 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26/27th February 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	M Schumann	C Power	J De Boer	P Elliott
9:30am Sun	P Pruscino	G Neeson	N Nash	K Bennett

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: 19th February: G Cannizzaro **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.

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.



World Day of Prayer AUSTRALIA

The World Day of Prayer is an ecumenical prayer event held on the first Friday in March each year all around the world.

This year the theme is:

'I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU'

The service has been prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland and will highlight their culture, joys and problems.

All are invited to come together at the
Bairnsdale Uniting Church,
corner Great Alpine & Lanes Road, Lucknow.

1:30pm on Friday 4th March 2022.

Please bring a plate of Afternoon Tea to share.

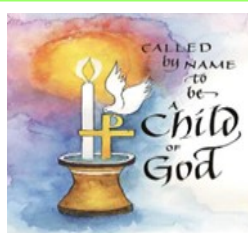


EMMAUS WALKING RETREATS

These walking retreats vary from a day to a few days or a week, walking within various locations around Gippsland. They are an opportunity to spend some reflective time walking as a small community (maximum number of 8 walkers). Participants are invited to explore their own spiritual journey as they walk with Jesus. To register your interest email: salespirituality1@gmail.com

Cost: varies with length of walk.

Emmaus is a joint ministry of the Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia - and The Diocese of Sale.



We welcome into our Parish Family

Neo Michael Bartlett

Son of

Cassandra and Adam

THE SYNODAL JOURNEY 2021-2023

Synod Theme: Mission

This week's focus:

Walking with other Christians – the way of Ecumenism

SYNOD OF BISHOPS – EXTENSION: The local consultation period for the international Synod on Synodality has been extended. Submissions can now be received through the online portal **until Sunday, March 13.**

Don't miss out on this chance to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church!

Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Conversation on Mission

Wednesday 23rd February at 7.30 pm

Come & join this opportunity to share your thoughts and to listen to others.

Please register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BXFJB>

If help is required, please call into the Parish Centre - Michelle or Pattie will be able to help you.

Synod Questions for Discussion and Reflection

Walking with other Christians is essential to our mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. How well do we know our brothers and sisters from other Christian Churches and what do we share? Why don't we do more together?

How are we called to walk together as Christians? How can we listen to one another in making important decisions about our faith and our mission?

You can submit your responses online <https://tinyurl.com/HavingASay> OR send them into the Parish Centre and we will submit them for you.

LENT 2022 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here:

<https://BruceDownes.org/Lent22>

Call 1300 734 880 for more information.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions - February

For religious sisters and consecrated women.



We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

Readings: 27th February 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

1ST Reading: Sirach 27:4-7

Responsorial Psalm:

91:2-3,13-16

2ND Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

Collection for 13/2/22

Envelopes	\$ 1,070.00
DD & Cards	\$ 250.00
1 st Collection	\$ 625.40
2 nd Collection	\$ 640.45
Church Tours	\$ 755.00

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:** Wilma Collier, Marylin Elliott, Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Peter McMahon, Amanda Vowell & Jacinta Da Costa. Ex-officio members: priests, 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

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

Liturgy of the Word – Homily

After we have listened to the biblical readings, we have the homily. It's meant to be a proclamation of the Good News, because, if God speaks to us, it's always Good News. That doesn't mean to say it's easy news but it's Good News. The homilist has listened to the Word of God with the people and now helps the people to take that word and apply it to their real-life situation as a community and as individuals.

It's God's word that we're hungering for. The proclamation of the biblical readings means that the homily has to be not a word of the priest but the Word of God. It is an essentially liturgical moment, the homily. Not personal to the priest but the Word of God spoken to God's people and if they hear the Word of God, there will be that sense that I have heard the Good News that can sustain me in my life and even empower me for mission.



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

Reflection on Scripture with thoughts of a Synodal Church

- Today's readings again pose a challenge and an invitation. They urge us to act radically – to love our enemies and do good to them, to show compassion, to refrain from judging others.
- As we have been treated with mercy and compassion by our living God, so must we act towards others. The image of God's abundant mercy is eloquently described in the Gospel: in the giving in of ourselves to others, we receive God's gifts in overflowing abundance, plentiful and without measure. What would it mean to give to others, especially those with whom we don't get along, without hoping for any reward or return?
- As we strive to become a more synodal Church, how do we measure up in our dealings with other people? Do we accord them dignity and respect, especially when their views are in opposition to our?
- Could we commit to being more open to learn from others, to humbly receive new perspectives and to hear of experiences and reflections other than from our own world view?

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Prue McGoldrick, Helen Websdale, Julie Hussey, 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...

Marie Downie, Kath Connelley, Filomena Maglione, Ann Taylor, Cathie Ludeman, Genevieve Bolleman, Noel O'Keefe, Tony Capobianco, Imelda Mattley, Faye Whykes, John Gagalowicz, Esmonde O'Reilly, Andrew Buck, Betty Dwyer, Gwen Deery, 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:

Michael Counsel, John Mahoney, 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), Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Jim Quigley, Arthur Roberts, Margaret O'Reilly, Damian Greaves, Craig Counsel, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Andre Buxton, 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.

Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

The Opening Prayer (also known as) The Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out in both word and deed that which is pleasing to you. 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.

A reading the first book of Samuel (26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23)

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

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 is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repays us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (15:45-49)

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (6:27-38)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Jerusalem Bible © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes

Saul became jealous of David's popularity and sought to kill him. David had an opportunity to kill Saul but would not do so as in his eyes Saul, as king of Israel was a sacred person, leading us to the gospel injunction to love our enemies. What distinguishes the disciples of Christ from other people, is their ability to love those outside their group and even their enemies. Jesus asks them to be compassionate, forgiving and generous towards one another, assuring the disciples that whatever they give to others will be given back to them with interest. St Paul draws a parallel between Adam and Christ. To Adam we owe the life of earth; to Christ we owe the life of heaven and our 'resurrection bodies' will be very different from the body we know now. Jesus is telling us to love, not hate. Hating expends more energy than any other emotion and is very destructive, and it may not destroy its object, but will surely destroy the one who hates. Loving one's enemies has the potential to break the endless cycle of retaliation. Sadly, Christianity has failed in this endeavour, often simply mirroring a divided society and fostering a climate where hatred could flourish. The power of love is greater than that of evil and can unleash extraordinary energies in us. If we pray for our enemies, peace will come to us, and when we love our enemies, we can be certain that divine grace dwells in us.

Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies Year C