



St Patrick's, Paynesville

# 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](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)

#### St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:

135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942

Website: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)

Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

### 8<sup>TH</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, 27<sup>th</sup> 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

#### PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes to support **Caritas Australia** this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.



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

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and/or envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or calling 1800 024 413.



#### Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday to Friday: 9:10am

##### Paynesville

Wednesday: 10am Rosary

#### RECONCILIATION is available each

Friday after 9:10am Mass

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

**'Cuppa with Mary'** – When visiting Melbourne, please include a visit to the Mary MacKillop Museum that tells Mary and the SOSJ's (Sisters of Saint Joseph's) story. Entry is free. Do a walking tour of the Mary MacKillop Heritage trail and Mary's place of birth. Consider organising a Parish group and have a 'Cuppa with Mary'. Group bookings which includes a presentation, tour and prayer reflection in the Chapel where Mary prayed, cost \$20 per person. Contact Kate on 9926 9300 for a group booking.

**Accommodation Specials** - With Melbourne opening up, book a stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Accommodation in the heart of Melbourne. Contact Kate on 9926 9300.

### Roster for Masses - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent Year C - 5-6<sup>th</sup> March 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	C Marriot-Smith	M Saunders	B O'Kelly	P Elliott
9:30am Sun	P Brown- Graham	D Fallon	J Coverdale	A Chila

**Cleaning:** Fortnight ending: 12th March B Mahony : **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.***



### **SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION**

The Parish has begun the preparation of children, usually those in Grade 3, for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This weekend 36 children will make a commitment to learning more about this sacrament in preparation to receiving it on 30<sup>th</sup> March. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they continue to grow in their faith.

Contact Michelle at the Parish Centre 5152 2942 for further information.



### **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 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

Please bring a plate of Afternoon Tea to share.

### **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.**

### **MORNING TEA - 6TH MARCH**

Don't forget - Morning Tea will be on next Sunday following 9:30am Mass. Come on over - have a cuppa, a bite to eat and some great conversation.

### **LOSS & GRIEF GROUP**

This group meets the first Thursday of the month, so the next meeting will be 3rd March at 5:00pm in the Parish Centre (entry from Nicholson Street). If you would like to know more about this group please phone Pattie 5152 2942 and she will pass on more information.



### **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) ;**

**7.30pm (via Zoom); or Thursdays 10am at Parish Centre.**

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, and 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.

### **THE SYNODAL JOURNEY 2021-2023**

**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>

Synod Questions for Discussion and Reflection

### **COFFEE CONVERSATIONS WITH A FRIEND**

**You can find these leaflets in the church and Parish Centre.**

**Have a cuppa with a friend and ask the questions!**

**Write down your collective thoughts and send them in.**

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.

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and April 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday morning @ 10:30am OR Thursday evening @ 7:30pm**

**Facilitators:** Theresa Denny & Geraldine Naismith

**-Bookings:** [salespirituality1@gmail.com](mailto:salespirituality1@gmail.com) **Cost:** \$25 per session.

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

### **Readings: 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year C**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Deuteronomy 26:4-10

**Responsorial Psalm:**

91:1-2,10-11,12-13

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 10:8-13

**Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13

### **Collection for 20/2/22**

Envelopes \$ 1,005.00

DD & Cards \$ 635.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 496.15

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 328.85



**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**

**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 everyday life as individuals and as a community.

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 essentially a 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.



**Your Parish Pastoral Council**

meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. Items for the Agenda to be given in 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](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 Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre:**  
5152 6687

**St Mary's Op Shop:** 5152 2088

**Helping the Healey's – Raffle Fundraiser**

You may have seen the story of Bella in our local paper recently. Friends have organised a raffle to raise funds to support the family as they focus on the health and well being of all the family. If you would like to support them, raffle tickets are available from Krystal on 0466 376 392. There are over 45 prizes to be won.

The Autumn edition of ***Australian Catholics*** is now out. You can pick up a copy from the foyer of the church. It is always a good read. One article is about 'Duty of care' – to be good stewards of the earth. Also 'Mega Quiz' - how well do we know the Bible? So, ENJOY.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Ron DeBoer, Guido Maglione, Dorothy Warner, Joe Duffy, Ben Buckley, Prue McGoldrick, 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 Francis, Sheila Lees, Ursula McCarthy, Lina Ciavarella, Leo Deery, Kathleen Griffin, Maureen Matthews, Marie Downie, Kath Connelley, 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:**

Leo Russell, 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), 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, 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.

**8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C**

**Entrance Antiphon**

The Lord became my protector.  
He brought me out to a place of freedom;  
he saved me because he delighted in me.

**The Opening Prayer also known as The Collect** because the priest collects/gathers all our prayers (in the silence between 'Let us pray..... and "Grant us, ..... ) and offers them up to God.

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,  
that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule  
and that your Church may rejoice, untroubled in her devotion.  
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 book of Ecclesiasticus** (27:4-7)

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord/ to make music to your name, O Most High,/ to proclaim your love in the morning/ and your truth in the watches of the night. R.

The just will flourish like the palm-tree/ and grow like a Lebanon cedar. R.

Planted in the house of the Lord/ they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,/ still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just./ In him, my rock, there is no wrong. R.

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians** (15:54-58)

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.  
**Alleluia!**

**A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke** (6:39-45)

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

*Jerusalem Bible* © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

**Scripture Notes**

'They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be...' Psalm 92:15

One of my ministerial joys comes from meeting monthly with a small group of community members who are in their early 90's. We have enriching conversations about the later years of life and how this stage affects their spiritual growth. They remind me that no amount of physical diminishments or limitations can mar a person's ability to seek an ever closer relationship with God. Psalm 92 proclaims that the lives of elders can continue to be fruitful in new ways. I hear this in their descriptions of increasing gratitude for the things overlooked in the past - such as being able to take a shower, relishing quiet time for deeper contemplation and increasing awareness of the endless opportunities to extend a kindness to someone nearby. These older women have become more convinced about the most essential part of life's journey: a vigorous union with the One who has claimed their hearts.

Joyce Rupp, OSM