



Sacred Heart, **Swifts Creek**

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 Michael Willemsen

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

Feast of Christ the King Year A, November 26, 2023

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.

SHINING A LIGHT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



WE ARE CALLED TO BE CHILDREN OF LIGHT NOT DARKNESS.

Our Diocese joins together to Shine a Light on the Domestic Violence that occurs behind the shield of the family home. Let us pray for its end.

We can all be prepared to work towards ending domestic violence by listening to people who have been abused without judging or blaming them for the harm caused by another person.

We continue to 'Shine a Light' on Domestic Violence.

This weekend starts the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

November 24 is the 'International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women'.

We encourage you to continue to wear a 'White Ribbon' to show your support.



Some of those present at the 'Shine a Light' Special Liturgy last Friday night.

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: Requiem Mass Tony Di Palma
11.00am

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: **No Mass-Clergy Reflection Day**

Friday: 9.10am

St Mary's PS (Year 3's) 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

First Sunday of Advent Year B, December 3, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	B O'Kelly	M Schumann	C Shanahan	P Elliott	
9.30am Sunday	M Owen	P Pruscino	H Van Den Einden	P Pruscino	M Owen, G and K Cassidy

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: December 9 - 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 through the Parish Centre: 5152 2942.

Alternatively contact Bairnsdale Police: 5150 2600 or Towards Healing: 1800 816 030.



Blessing of the Cribs Mass

St Mary's Church Bairnsdale 1st Sunday of Advent

Dear Parent and Caregiver,

Spirituality and learning about God is closely woven within the very existence of love in a Christian family.

The Holy Family is an icon of our Church, where we can learn the meaning and mystery of our faith.

This is found in living our ordinary family life with the Lord Jesus at the centre of it all.

Your family is warmly invited to attend the Blessing of the Cribs Mass to be held

Sunday December 3 at 9.30am St Mary's Church – Bairnsdale

To participate in this blessing, please bring along your family nativity scenes to this Mass, which begins the season of Advent. Our time of preparation for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas.



CULTURAL HERITAGE DAY

On the Feast of Christ the Universal King.

9:30 Mass Sunday November 26 at St Mary's Church.

Come in your national dress.

Bring your national flag and join the procession into the Church.

Bring food from your culture to share with others.

Gather in the Parish Hall afterwards to celebrate our cultural diversity.

No Masses at Paynesville and Lindenow this Sunday November 26 as we celebrate Cultural Heritage Day at St Mary's-9.30am.

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:



- ♦ Jesus tells us a story about the end of the world in today's gospel.
- ♦ What happens to the people of all nations when they come before the king?
- ♦ What does he say to the blessed people on his right?
- ♦ What are some of the good deeds that these people did?
- ♦ What does he say to the people on his left?
- ♦ The king said when the good people were kind to others, they did it for him.
- ♦ What can we do to show our kindness to others?
- ♦ We pray that we will do good things for others and become blessed people.

READINGS:

December 2-3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

1st Reading:
Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1, 3-8
Responsorial Psalm:
Ps 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
2nd Reading:
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37

COLLECTIONS:

November 1, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 911.00
DD & Cards	\$ 555.00
1 st Collection	\$ 819.30
2 nd Collection	\$ 855.35
Pay Wave	\$ 200.00
Restoration	\$ 2,713.05
Candles	\$ 1,167.60

Advent Mini Retreat

Are you seeking to find peace in the midst of flurry as we approach Christmas celebrations? If so, you are invited to join us for 1 hour a week as we enter the season of Advent, quietly reflecting on the coming of Christ. Come be part of this prayerful fellowship with kindred spirits, encountering Emmanuel! You are most welcome.

When: Thursdays November 30, December 7, December 14 and December 21

Where: St Mary's Chapel **Time:** 9.45am

If you are interested contact Michelle at the Parish Centre:

5152 2942 or michelleg@gmail.com



Morning Tea after Masses at St Patrick's and St Mary's next Sunday December 3.

Come and join us.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS

NOVEMBER — For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

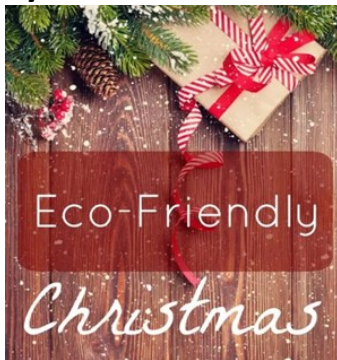


**NEXT GLOW
DECEMBER 2**

**St Mary's Youth Group
5.00pm Youth Group in the Parish Hall
and 6.00pm Mass for Children's Choir and
Liturgy of the Word.**

Caring for Creation

How to have your best eco-friendly Christmas yet!



It's that time of year again! Holidays means taking time with friends, family, and loved ones to enjoy a well-deserved break at the end of the year.

It's a time for sharing happiness and celebrating together with food, decorations, and fun. But there's no reason that all that celebrating must come at the cost of the environment

Here are some tips!

1. Avoid lights or use LED in your decorations to reduce your energy use for the season.
2. Send E-cards instead of traditional cards to save paper.
3. Use recycled wrapping paper or make your own.
4. When it comes to decorations think natural, look outside for materials, and avoid plastic.
5. You can create some amazing eco-friendly decorations that not only look great but don't break the bank.
6. Don't put unwanted gifts in the bin! Donate them or pass them on to another friend.
7. Compost your leftovers or make a worm farm.
8. Buy eco-friendly gifts or donate instead of buying.
9. Choose local and organic when it comes to food.
10. Put out a separate bin for recyclables while entertaining.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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



St Mary's Family Christmas Mass Nagle College 7.00pm Christmas Eve

Your child is invited to participate in the Children's Gospel Dramatisation for the St Mary's Family Christmas Eve Mass.

The following acting parts are waiting to be filled: [Mary, Joseph, Caesar Augustus, 3 Kings, Inn Keeper, Shepherds and Angels.](#)

If your son/daughter wishes to participate, there will be a practice session at the dress rehearsal on Christmas Eve morning at Nagle College. We will supply costumes for your child to wear.

To register your interest, please email your family's preference by Friday December 1, 2023 to this address: stm.michelleg@gmail.com



**Australian
Red Cross**

Volunteers urgently needed for
Patient Transport

If you can help please contact Fr Mark for further details

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Tess McGreevy, Tony Di Palma, victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, Asylum Seekers and those with Family Violence or Mental Health issues.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Rafael Wilson, Alex Bain, Sarah Traynor, Fr Tim McInnes, Robert Rhodes, Giaconda Capobianco, Barry Rowe, Rick Bourke, Antonio Pruscino, Pasquale Pruscino, Pat Pruscino, Domenico Rettino, Helen McBride, Graham Rowe, Jim Dwyer 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: Bill Tilley, Tim Davies (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Kieran Hayles, Elizabeth Steere (USA-niece of Pat Walsh), Sandra Brooks, Bev Broome, Michael Crane, Robert McMahon, Dennis Collins, Alepaka Tyrell, Bob Marshall, Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles, Maree Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, baby Ethan, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Robyn Finlay, Rick Harney, 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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 25-26, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise. 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 prophet Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest - it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **R.**

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in the proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25: 31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes

As we celebrate this glorious mystery of our faith, we must accept and believe all that we know about it. But as we do, we must also approach it with deep humility, admitting to ourselves that we will never fully comprehend the awesomeness of that day until it comes. No earthly concept will ever come close to fully describing that moment in time, but we must adhere to our belief in it with a profound and unwavering faith. Reflect, today, with a deep faith, upon this glorious and definitive moment in time still to come. On that day, all that will matter is how faithful you have been to the will of God. Your charity will become an open book for all to see, and the rewards for your charity will remain with you forever. As you think about that day with faith, allow it to encourage you to do all you can today to prepare for the Last Judgment. When that day comes, it will be too late to change. Get ready today and tomorrow and every day of your life so that when Jesus does return in all His glory, it will be the most glorious day of your life.

Young Catholics