



Immaculate Conception, Omeo

# 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: [stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@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)

#### First Sunday of Advent—November 27, 2022

We acknowledge the Gunaikurai 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 and 4th Sunday: 11.00am

##### **Swifts Creek, Omeo & Benambra**

December

##### **Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek**

Sunday December 25: 10.30am

##### **Immaculate Conception, Omeo**

No Mass

##### **St Francis, Benambra**

Saturday December 24: 6.00pm

##### PRAYER FOR THE ASSEMBLY OF THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OF OCEANIA

O God, you revealed yourself in Christ Jesus as loving, merciful, and just.

Guide our Bishops of Oceania as they meet together to further Pope Francis' call to become a listening Church.

Open their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit, that they might truly discern and faithfully serve the needs of your People and your World.

Colour our way of life and give witness to your presence among us.

You who live and reign, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



**THANK YOU Fr Francis Obo for generously coming over from the Cathedral Parish in Sale at short notice. Fr Mark Godridge became suddenly unavailable for Masses in the High Country, so Fr Michael has gone there. Please welcome Fr Francis.**

##### DIOCESAN DIGITAL MEDIA OFFICER



The Diocese of Sale is seeking to appoint an experienced Digital Media Officer on a part time basis of 4 days per fortnight (0.4 FTE) to assist with the continued development of our Diocese's social media presence and website. The appointee will be responsible to the Bishop of Sale through the Business Manager. Key responsibilities will include sharing the good news from within our Diocese and from outside sources by way of social media and our websites through periodic new stories; ensuring our website is up to date and easy to access; co-ordinating video messages from our Bishop; and networking and collaborating with our parishes, Catholic Education, and other agencies in respect of the Diocese's digital content management. The appointee is expected to demonstrate a commitment to, and support of the mission of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Sale. A high level of professionalism, initiative and superior communication skills are required in this key role.

**Applications:** A Position Description, Application Form, and other relevant information is available. To receive this pack please email: [hr@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:hr@sale.catholic.org.au)

##### Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday–Wednesday: 9.10am

**Thursday: No Mass**

Friday: 9.10am

**Paynesville**

Wednesday Rosary: 10.00am

**Reconciliation** is available each

**Friday:** after 9:10am Mass

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

##### Roster for Masses – The 2nd Sunday of Advent Year A— December 3-4, 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister	Offertory Procession
6:00pm Saturday	C Marriot Smith	M Schumann	C Shanahan	P Elliott	
9:30am Sunday	R David	T Kosmer	N Nash	M Owen	P Pruscino, B & A Capobianco
Cleaning: Fortnight ending: December 10 — P Pruscino <b>Please</b> 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.**

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for \_NOVEMBER



### 'For children who suffer'

We pray for the children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education, and the opportunity to experience family affection.

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

Morning Tea after 9.30am Mass

SUNDAY at St Mary's and  
after 8.00am Mass at Paynesville



It's that time of year again!

Think eco-friendly Christmas—  
when it comes to food and  
decorations

- Don't get anything you think will be left hanging round after Christmas and end up in the bin.
- Compost your leftovers or make a worm farm. Choose local and organic when it comes to food.
- Avoid using plastic disposable cutlery and napkins – use cloth and washable plates.



Happy 90th Birthday to

*Bessie Quigley.*

May your day be filled with joy, happiness and laughter.

## TOYS TOYS TOYS



St Vincent de Paul Conference Bairnsdale is carrying out a toy drive this year, as the number of children we are supporting with our Christmas hampers has grown substantially. If you

can see your way clear, could you please provide a new toy or book by December 8 and drop it into our centre at 92 Macleod Street Bairnsdale or Vinnies Op Shop Church Street, Lakes Entrance? Or you can drop them into the Parish Centre in Bairnsdale.

It would be very much appreciated. Thank you.  
Phone SVDP Assistance Centre on 5152 6687.

**ADVENT**  
IS A JOURNEY TOWARDS  
BETHLEHEM. MAY WE LET  
OURSELVES BE DRAWN BY THE  
LIGHT OF GOD MADE MAN.

*Pope Francis*

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

Thursday December 1, at 5.00pm.

If you are interested and haven't been before  
please contact Michael on 5152 2942



## 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.

### Concluding Rites:

Once the feast is over it's time for us to go out into the world, sent by Christ. The reason for our gathering, listening to God's word, celebrating the sacrifice, and sharing the feast, is to be empowered to continue God's work with a blessing from God. The priest gives his body and his voice so that God's word, power, and blessing can flow through him into the life of the community. As we began by signing ourselves with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, so we set forth from the Mass to go out into the world on our journey in faith with the same sign of the Trinity in the final blessing. This blessing accompanies us in every step we take. "Go in the peace of Christ" completes this rite, arming us with what we need to accomplish God's will.

### December 3-4, 2022

#### Second Sunday of Advent

#### Readings:

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10  
Responsorial Psalm:  
Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 15:4-9  
Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

### Collections:

#### November 19-20, 2022

Envelopes	\$ 832.00
DD & Cards	\$ 425.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$ 676.25
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 887.85
Pay Wave	\$ 140.00
Church Tours	\$ 217.05
Special Collection	\$ 872.90

Have a problem with alcohol? There is a solution. A.A. has a simple program that works and has done so for over 80 years. It is based on one alcoholic helping another.

If you need support, contact Bruce: 0412 938 772



Starting in December, each month we will be highlighting a country experiencing conflict. So often these countries are in the headlines for a few weeks and then disappear from view, while the people it affects may be forgotten.



# Advent

This is the coming of Jesus into the world.

We use the four Sundays and weeks of Advent to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas, despite the secular preparations taking place, e.g. buying presents and going to parties etc - **our outer world**.

Advent reminds us to remember and prepare for the birth of Jesus.

**ADVENT GROUPS** give us the opportunity to focus on **our inner world** - to take some time to sit quietly and ponder where and how God is working through us.

**An invitation is extended to all Parishioners to join one of the following groups starting this week from 22nd November**



**Tuesdays at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre**  
using 'Incarnate' (Diocese of Wollongong) program

**Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm via Zoom**

**Wednesdays at 9.45am in St Mary's Church Chapel**

**Wednesdays evenings 7pm via Zoom**

Other groups using 'Stay Awake! Prepare for the Coming of Christ (Sydney Archdiocese)

**Saturdays 10am St Brendan's Hobby Room Lakes Entrance**

'Looking and Longing for Christ'

**ALTERNATIVELY**, Booklets with daily reflections which can be used singly or in a group maybe obtained at the Parish Centre during office hours. A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

## 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 discussions of this week's Gospel are:



- ♦ **Today we begin Advent-a time when we prepare for the coming of Jesus.**
- ♦ **What are some things you look forward to?**
- ♦ **How do you get ready to prepare for them?**
- ♦ **Jesus asks us to live properly. How can we live properly?**
- ♦ **How can we make Advent a time of preparation this week?**

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Amanda Vowell (Chair), Wilma Collier, Marylin Elliott, Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Peter McMahon, Jacinta Da Costa**

**Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Principals and Michael F.**

**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](mailto: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

## BECOME AN EARTHCARE PARISH / FAMILY

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote his environmental encyclical

**Laudato Si'** in which he implores us to protect our common home.

To escalate the implementation of **Laudato Si'**, Pope Francis has now established the **Laudato Si' Action Platform** with its

**7 Goals for 7 sectors over 7 years.**

Our **Australian Bishops Social Justice Statement 2021-22**,

**'Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor'** reinforces the call to care for all

creation and invites us to join them in taking action and committing to the **Laudato Si'** goals. Catholic Earthcare Australia has made it easy for Parishes & families to take up the Bishops' invitation by developing a process to assist you on the journey towards these 7 goals and to becoming living **Laudato Si'** communities. Become a Catholic Earthcare Parish/Family at

<https://catholicearthcare.org.au>

or contact St Mary's Social Justice Group at the Parish Centre

Phone: 5152 2942

## EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR UKRAINE



To donate, please visit:

[www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine](http://www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine) or phone: 1800 101 201.

Prayer Cards and Donation Slips are available in the Church foyer.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sr Margaret Ann Broomhead RSJ, Philip Strickland, victims of natural disasters (especially the Indonesian earthquake), mental health, COVID-19, terrorist attacks, war, conflict, asylum seekers, family violence and poverty.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Rafael Wilson, Alex Bain, Sarah Traynor, Fr Tim McInnes, Robert Rhodes, Giaconda Capabianco, Barry Rowe, Rick Bourke, Kayla Hayles, 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:** Salvadore Britto, Mary Johnson, Cherie Morgan, John Atkins, Rick Harney, Jim Duggan, George Burton, Fred Crea,

Marie Ayres (S-I-L of Pat Coloe), John Spirason, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe),

Maree Elbourne, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Brian Rowe, Alan Casanelia (Margaret Sheehan's brother) .

***Please remember all parishioners who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery.***

## **First Sunday of Advent -Year A November 26-27, 2022**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### **The Opening Prayer**

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. 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 Isaiah 2:1-5**

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R.**

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14**

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 24:37-44**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

*Jerusalem Bible©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane*

### **Scripture Reflection:**

Preparations for Christmas often involves putting up decorations, buying gifts and making food. The season of Advent reminds us that we need to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ in our hearts and in our deeds. So, as we begin this season, we must remember that the Lord is always in our midst. He is:

- the child who doesn't have any Christmas presents
- the homeless person who has nowhere to go for Christmas
- the person living on their own who has no close family
- the family or teenager who have left their home because of violence.
- those affected by war, flood, famine, and fire
- and those without a voice.

So, to prepare for Christ, we need to make preparations for Jesus in all of the places where we encounter Him during this time.

*Young Catholics*