

St. Mary's Bairnsdale

# 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](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)

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

Email: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)

#### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ A, June 11, 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.

**Whoever eats my flesh  
and drinks my blood has  
eternal life, and I will  
raise him on the last day  
John 6: 54**



#### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am

Tuesday: 9.10am

Requiem Mass-Matt La Porta: 1.30

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

#### Paynesville

Wednesday: Rosary 10.00am

#### RECONCILIATION

#### **Friday:**

After 9.10am Mass

#### **Saturday:**

9.30am to 10.00am

5.30pm to 5.50pm

#### 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

**Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek:** 4th Saturday: 6.30pm

**Immaculate Conception, Omeo:** 4th Sunday: 9.00am

**St Francis', Benambra:** 4th Sunday: 11.00am

#### 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A, June 17 - 18, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	N Light	M Saunders	P Reefman	C Marriot-Smith	First Holy Communion children
9.30am Sunday	D Atkins	G Neeson	P Brown-Graham	H Sampson	First Holy Communion children
Cleaning: Fortnight ending: June 24 - J and D Fallon <u>Please</u> 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.***



Anyone can read the scriptures in public: only the believer can proclaim them.

# THE ART OF PROCLAMATION

A workshop for readers in proclaiming the word of God

10.00 - 1.00pm

**14 JUNE**

St Mary's Parish,  
Bairnsdale

2.00 - 4.30pm

**17 JUNE**

St Patrick's Parish,  
Pakenham

**Are you a reader or would you like to be a reader at Mass?**

You are welcome to attend one of our two formation workshops. Learn more about your ministry as a reader and share some practical tips about proclaiming the word.



**Presenters**

Sophy Morley  
Sr Rose Duffy (Pakenham)

Please register using QR code  
or  
Contact your Parish Office



*Yours is a share in the work of the Lord's spirit  
who opens our hearts to God's holy word.  
Fr Austin Fleming*

For more information contact Siji Dominic at 03 5614 5163 / email [SijiDesale.catholic.org.au](mailto:SijiDesale.catholic.org.au)



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

The St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal will happen on the weekend of June 24-25, 2023. The theme of this year's Winter Appeal is "what if your mum, grandma, or sister became homeless?", highlighting women over 55 years of age who are becoming homeless in record numbers. Each year our Winter Appeal plays a vital role in enabling the good works of the Society and, with your support, we hope to achieve a strong result. You will find donation envelopes on your seats and be assured your donations come to our local Conference and will continue to support our local community.

Bairnsdale Conference

92 Macleod Street Bairnsdale 5152 6687

Lakes Entrance Assistance Centre

339 Esplanade Lakes Entrance 0457 213 288



## BLESSING AND OPENING OF NEW ASSISTANCE CENTRE

The Lakes Entrance St Vincent De Paul Assistance Centre, located at 339 Esplanade, was officially opened on Wednesday May 24. The Centre is run by SVDP Bairnsdale and was opened due to an increased demand for their services. Entirely staffed by volunteers the Centre is open Monday and Friday: 10.00-2.00. The SVDP hopes, if there are more people prepared to commit themselves to even an hour a week, the days may be increased.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact SVDP Assistance Centre Bairnsdale: 5152 6687

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OMEO



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



Have a problem with alcohol?  
There is a solution.

Alcoholics Anonymous (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

## **POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS - JUNE**

**For the abolition of torture**

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.



### READINGS:

**June 17-18, 2023**

**The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 19:2-6

Responsorial Psalm: 99:2, 3-5

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 5:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 9:36-10:8

### COLLECTIONS:

**June 3-4, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 1067.00

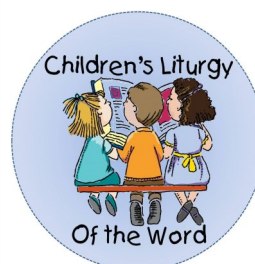
DD & Cards \$ 3502.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 574.90

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 808.30

Pay Wave \$ 120.00

## 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:

- **Who do you invite when you share a meal?**
- **Who does Jesus invite to share in his sacred meal?**
- **What are some of the things we do at this sacred meal, the Mass? (i.e., listen to God's Word, bring forward gifts, sing, pray, join in processions etc)**
- **Eucharist means 'thanksgiving'. What can we thank God for in the Eucharist today?**



## Refugee Week June 18-24, 2023

### 'Finding Freedom'

Most people who want to come to Australia need help.  
The law is confusing and changes quickly.

**Tuesday June 20 7.30pm at St John's Hall,  
Francis Street Bairnsdale**

**Special Guest Speaker Susan Murphy**  
**Registered Migration Agent**

**will share information about the main types of visas  
which are available to Refugees and Asylum Seekers.**

**During the evening The Bairnsdale Gentlemen's Choir  
will provide entertainment and  
a light supper will conclude the evening.**

**Right now 15,000 people are living in deep poverty  
while seeking asylum in Australia.  
Help us secure them a safety net.**

Over 70,000 people who have sought protection in Australia are waiting for the government to make a decision on their applications. Of those, approximately 15,000 people – including children, the elderly, and people with disabilities – urgently need a basic safety net to help them survive while they wait.

These 15,000 people are facing desperate poverty, chronic food shortages, malnutrition, homelessness, and dire health issues while they wait years for a decision on their protection applications.

**This can all change with a simple decision by the  
Australian Government; we just need you to tell them  
it's time to act.**

**(East Gippsland Asylum Seekers Support Group)**

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Jacinta Da Costa,  
Geoff Neeson, 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](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

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

Enrolments are now being taken for  
candidates to participate in the  
Sacrament of Confirmation, to be  
celebrated with Bishop Greg on  
Saturday August 26, 2023

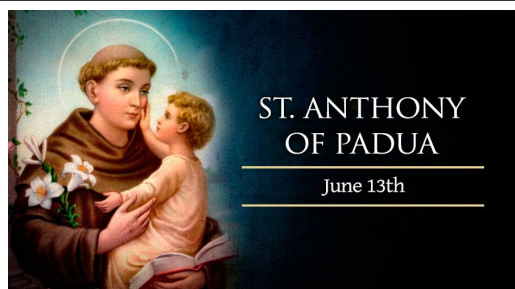
Children who have already celebrated  
their First Reconciliation and  
First Eucharist, and are in Year 6 or  
over, can participate.

**Enrolments close July 1, 2023.**

For further information please contact  
Michelle via email:  
[stm.michelleg@gmail.com](mailto:stm.michelleg@gmail.com)  
or call the Parish Centre on 5152 2942.



**St Mary's PS Grade 4 First  
Holy Communion students made  
over 80 sausage rolls to go into  
the freezer for those in need.**



**Congratulation to our Italian community  
on the 50th Anniversary celebration of  
St Anthony Festa in St Mary's Parish**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ida Tomasiello (Anna Capobianco's sister), Matt La Porta, Leo Coffey, Brian Rowe, all victims of natural disasters, mental health, COVID-19, terrorist attacks, war, conflict, Asylum Seekers, Family Violence and poverty.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Roger Reinhardt, Olwen May Stephens, David Roberts, Glad Stray, Anne Reinhardt, Bob Seehusen, Peter Morgan, Ruth Fraser, Bill Ffrench, Joe Ainsworth, Tony Zagami, Jim O'Brien, Theresa Conway, Agostino Calvi, Cath Lees, Berna Carroll, Lillian Bills, Robert Bills, Brian Keady, Bill McNeill, Grace Calabro, Paul McFarlane, Brendan Prendergast, Kath McAuley, Jean McNeill, 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 Johnson, Adrian Coulter, Jan Baxter, Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Stuart Murray (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, Baby Ethan, Robyn Finlay, Darcy Sutton, John Atkins, Rick Harney, John Spirason, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted).

**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.**

**The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ June 10-11, 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon**

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

**The Opening Prayer**

O God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds. 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 8:2-3, 14-16**

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart - whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. **R.**

He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees.

He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**

**A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10:16-17**

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6:51-58**

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

*Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane*

**Scripture notes:** The Importance of Humility and Gratitude in Remembering God's Blessings

The first reading reminds us of the importance of humility and gratitude in our relationship with God. The passage describes how the Israelites were led through the wilderness by God and provided for in miraculous ways. They were reminded that God's provision extended far beyond their material needs – they were given His Word to guide them and sustain them in their journey.

The message we hear is still relevant for us today. It is all too easy to become prideful and forgetful of God's blessings when we are comfortable and things are going well. We might begin to take our possessions or accomplishments for granted, or feel as though we have achieved success on our own merit. However, this passage reminds us that all good things come from God – our talents, our material goods, and even the opportunities that we encounter.

Rather than becoming complacent or boastful, we are called to trust in God's word and blessings. We are reminded to stay humble and recognize our dependence on God. We should approach our lives with a sense of gratitude, knowing that we have been given so much and recognizing that our lives are sustained by God's grace.

In practical terms, this might mean setting aside time each day for prayer or meditation, expressing thanks for the blessings in our lives, or simply taking time to acknowledge the people and circumstances that have contributed to our success. By doing so, we cultivate a deeper sense of humility and gratitude, recognizing that all good things come from God and that we are called to be good stewards of the blessings that we have received.

*Young Catholics*