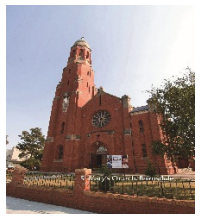




St Francis of Assisi Benambra

BAIRNSDALE – OMEO
East Region – Diocese of Sale

Who we are tomorrow begins with what we do today.



St Mary's Bairnsdale

Vision: We are a welcoming community where the word of God, through the message of Jesus Christ is made known & lived.
Our mission is to: 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. Strengthen and grow our faith.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – July 30th, 2017

| Parish Contacts | Liturgy / Mass Times |
|-----------------|----------------------|
|-----------------|----------------------|

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen
Assistant Priest: Fr Darek Jablonski
jablonskidarek@gmail.com
Retired Priests: Fr John O’Kelly PE; Fr Bernie Mahony
Bairnsdale Presbytery:
 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale 3875 Phone 5152 3106
 Email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com
 Internet: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net
St Mary’s Parish Pastoral Centre:
 155 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale 3875 Phone 5152 2942
Parish Business Manager: Martin White
Pastoral Coordinator: Pattie Pruscino
Parish Sacramental Coordinator: Michelle Grimsted

St Mary’s Primary: Phone 5152 3706
 Principal: Michelle Garbutt
 Newsletter: www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au
Nagle College: Phone 5152 6122
 Principal: Neville Powles
 Newsletter: www.nagle.vic.edu.au
St Mary’s Op Shop: Phone 5152 2088

Parish Pastoral Council: meets 2nd Thursday of the month.
 Please submit items for consideration to the Parish Centre by 10.00am on Tuesday the week before the meeting.
Members: Clare Marriot-Smith(Chair), Rob Gray, Sandie Tilley, Denise Fallon, Gillian Mason & Marguerite Byrne.
A Parish Directory of all Groups and contact details is available at the Pastoral Centre.
Sacraments: Sacramental Information and registration forms are available at: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com
Baptisms – Preparation sessions are held regularly. Please call the Sacramental Coordinator to register. Available on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday’s of the month.
Weddings – 6 months’ notice required, schedule dates with priest.
Funerals – Please check with priest before setting dates & times.
Anointing of the Sick – Please call the Parish Office.
Communion to the Housebound & Aged Care – Please call Jo De Boer 5153 0423 Mobile: 0409 530 423
Special Wedding Anniversaries – 6 months’ notice is needed to facilitate a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

WEEKEND
ST MARY’S BAIRNSDALE: Sat: 6:00pm & Sun: 9:30am
ST PATRICK’S PAYNESVILLE: Sun: 8:00am
ST CANICE’S LINDENOW: Sun: 11:00am
1st Wed. of Month 10:30am BUPA/Eastwood Aged Care
2nd Wed. of Month 10:30am OPAL/Harnham Aged Care
4th Wed. of Month 10:30am Maddocks Gardens

2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month - MASS
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OMEO: Sun - 9:00am
SACRED HEART, SWIFTS CREEK: Sat - 6:30pm
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, BENAMBRA: Sun - 11:00am
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of the Month - LITURGY of the WORD
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OMEO: Sun - 9:00am
SACRED HEART, SWIFTS CREEK: Sun - 8:30am
ST FRANCIS of ASSISI, BENAMBRA: Sun - 9:30am

ST MARY’S BAIRNSDALE – WEEKDAYS
 Mon: 9:10am Mass
 Tues: 9:10am Mass
 Wed: 9:10am Mass
 10:30am Mass BUPA/Eastwood Aged Care
 Thurs: 9:10am Mass – St Mary’s Primary School
 Fri: 8:00am Mass Nagle College Chapel
 9:10am Mass

RECONCILIATION
ST MARY’S BAIRNSDALE: After Friday 9:10 am Mass
Saturday: 9:30am – 10:00am, 5:30 pm – 5:50pm
OTHER CHURCHES: Before Mass

DEVOTIONS
Morning Office: 9:00am in St Mary’s Chapel
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: after 1st Friday Mass
Rosary: after morning Mass/Liturgy of the Word
Anointing of the Sick: 2nd Friday during Mass

GLUTEN FREE

Please know that we have available GLUTEN FREE hosts. Anyone needing a GF host, please see the priest before Mass to organise.

WELCOME to parishioners and visitors who have come to celebrate Mass today.

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| NEXT WEEKEND 5th /6th August | | | | |
| ROSTERS | Commentators | Proclaimer | Procession of Gospel/Gifts | Special Ministers |
| 6:00pm | C Power | S Gibson | M Calabro | C Power, M Elliott & B Calabro |
| 9:30am | P Brown-Graham | N Nash | S Dean, S & C Tilley | P Winter, M Owen & P B-Graham |
| ALTAR SERVERS 9:30am MASS: | | | | |
| CHURCH CLEANING: 1st – 15th August: P & S Roderick | | | | |

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr Kevin Penry SJ, Dr G Yunupingu, Marie Petterson.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Frank Power, Marie Wade, Annunziata & Giuseppe Di Palma, Nicolina Tedeschi, Giosue & Genoveffa Calvi, Fr Michael Murphy, Fr Red Wilson, Fr Maurice McKenna, David Murray, Leonard 'Mick' Michalowsky, Peter van Nuttrim, Alma 'Bid' Egan, Fr Martin Hayes, Mgr. John O'Hea.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Fr Joe Pulis SDB, Allan Cooke, Noel O'Keefe, Denise Roberts, Peter Brown, John Buck, Maryanne Esmonde, Keith Murray, Claire Conquest, Caroline Lytton, Debbie Curtis Lee, Cath Smyth, Maree Elbourne, Rohani Wallace, Rick Jones, Betty Holloway, Kaili Kidner, Elizabeth Knight, Holly Box, Coral Prendergast, Michael Counsel, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Pauline Cocco, Maureen Stone, Billy Sant, Arthur Elbourne, Harrison Stagg, Rhonda Coloe, Peter Grimsted, Michelle Bowles, Louise Roehr, Thomas Anderson, Fr Frank Freeman SDB, Brian Rowe, Peg Marsh, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Kerry Larkin, Tammy Ewing, Roma Jansen, Mark Kelly, Joyce Smilie, Maria Sticca, James Warren, Tyson Chapman, Shannon Helmers, Guy Newman, Trish Henderson, Judith Mathews, Amanda Braddock, Edna MacNamara, Roslyn Websdale, Elizabeth & Frank Stehmann.

Please remember all parishioners who are in ill health or recuperating from illness or surgery.

Please let the Parish Centre know if you wish to add or remove

STAMPS FOR SALESIAN MISSIONS

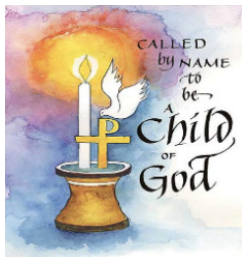
Thank you to all who continue to save their used stamps to benefit the Salesian Missions. It is very helpful if the stamps have been trimmed to leave a small border around them. Please leave stamps at the Parish Centre for collection.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS want us to know that they are available to people who wish to speak with them at any time. If there is some problem you wish to discuss please do not hesitate to call Bruce (0412 938 772) or Jeanette (0409 662 925). They will be very glad to speak with you.

MESSAGE STICK

You may be aware that over the last few weeks the message stick has not been brought forward with the Gospel. We are saddened to report that it has been taken. We know its whereabouts and who removed it and we are in the process of working through having it returned safely without too much fuss.

We welcome into our parish this weekend



Lucas Rosario Joseph and Annabelle Louisa Rose
children of
Michael & Louisa Evans
and
Raphael Michael
son of
Matthew & Katherine Argentino

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 30th July – Ecumenical church service @ St Brendan's 6pm.
- 1st August – Paul Munday in Parish Centre at 3:30pm OR 5:30pm.
- 10th August – E-Conference 10:30am to 2:45pm in Parish Centre.
- 12th August – Sacrament of Confirmation 6pm
- 15th August – East Region Meeting 10:30am in Parish Centre.
- 2nd September – Ordination to the Diaconate 11am, St Mary's Sale

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

To further develop the **change of culture** within the whole Church, we continue to be committed to the cause of Child Safe Parishes here in East Gippsland. The process of **implementing the Child Safe Standards**, as legislated by our Victorian parliament, is well underway in our schools and is making progress in our Parishes. I am grateful to all those volunteers who have gained their **Working With Children Check** and had it registered in our Parish office. A **Code of Conduct** has been established by the Parish Pastoral Council and all our volunteers are asked to sign this document, which is also kept in our Parish records, ready for a potential audit. Perhaps, you have read recently that the Australian Bishops have created a national **Catholic Professional Standards** body to oversee the **compliance** of standards in schools and Parishes. The inaugural CEO, Ms Sheree Limbrick was appointed on June 1. Our own Professional Standards Officer in the Diocese of Sale, **Mr Paul Munday**, was well received by those parishioners who attended an *Information Session* here in the Parish Centre on April 20. Paul will make another visit on **August 1**. I encourage all parishioners to come along, to better understand the reasoning behind what is being asked of all of us and have your questions answered. Paul will present to our **Op Shop volunteers at 3:30pm and then a more general purposes meeting at 5:30pm**. These are very important meetings, providing both information and formation. Creating and nurturing a Parish environment where children and vulnerable adults can be safe and encounter Divine love through our human hearts is a high priority for us at St Mary's. **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS MATTER OR YOU ARE THINKING 'WHY SHOULD I GAIN A WWCC?', IT IS IMPORTANT YOU ATTEND ONE OF THESE MEETINGS.**

Fr Michael

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8: 28

Do you really trust God? Do you believe that all things work for good? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, means that God's plan for our lives may be different than our plan. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Two of our seminarians, Avinash George and Hiep van Nguyen, will be ordained Deacons for the Diocese of Sale on Saturday 2nd September at 11.00 am at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale.

A Diocesan Choir is being formed to lead the singing at the Ordination Mass. We are also looking for instrumentalists.

If you are interested in joining the choir/musicians for this wonderful occasion, please contact Mrs Sophy Morley, Diocesan Director of Music, as soon as possible. P 03 5622 6677

E smorley@sale.catholic.org.au

M 0413 590 007

Singers/Musicians will receive a music pack and details of rehearsal times and venues around the diocese.

PIPE ORGAN AND MUSICAL EVENTS GROUP

POMEG is presenting 2 concerts during the month of August at the Bairnsdale Uniting Church.

Gippsland Symphony Orchestra will be playing, and featuring Brian Chapman on piano on **Sunday, 13th August at 2:30pm**. **COST: \$20** (school students free). Music will include Mozart and Schubert.

On **Sunday, August 27th at 2pm** outstanding young Australian Pipe Organist Edwin Kwong will be playing works by Bach, Elgar, Handel and more. **COST: \$25** (school students free).

Tickets to both concerts are available at Just Books Bairnsdale. Any enquiries to 5152 9434.

SMILE

How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.
Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

EUTHANASIA/ASSISTED SUICIDE LEGISLATION

As you know, the Victorian Parliament will debate an assisted suicide or euthanasia bill sometime in the second half of 2017. Over the last couple of weeks, with the support of Bob Marshall, other parishioners and *The Life, Marriage and Family Office* in the Melbourne Archdiocese, names have been collected on a petition that will now be taken to our local member of Parliament, Tim Bull MP. We thank you for your support and ask that you keep up the prayers on this matter. As we become more informed about the issue, we are encouraged to raise our voices in opposition to the proposed legislation. We encourage you to be proactive.

EUTHANASIA: MYTHS & REALITIES

MYTH: Euthanasia allows people to 'die with dignity'.

REALITY: People do not 'lose' their dignity as death approaches. Our dignity – our great value as a human person – does not depend upon the 'quality' of our lives; it is found in our very being. Even if we face death emaciated or delirious or unable to feed, speak or toilet ourselves, we always retain our dignity and continue to reflect God's glory.

'Dying with dignity' means accepting the reality of our human condition and showing reverence and gratitude for the gift of life. It involves living through the dying process in a way which reflects our great value as a human being: accepting the love and care of those around us and waiting for death to come naturally. By contrast, voluntary euthanasia is a tragic rejection of the truth about the value of our lives and the care of others. It is an 'undignified' way to die.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation continues for 35 students with the help and support of their parents and teachers. It will culminate on Saturday, 12th August at the 6pm Mass when Bishop Pat will be present and confirm them. Please keep the candidates, their families and teachers in your prayers as they journey towards this very special time in their lives.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

For the past 18 years, our parish has financially supported people in local, national and international communities. The funds for this financial support have been derived from 2.5% of parishioner's planned giving contributions, amounting to approximately \$4,000 each year. Parishioner's suggestions are warmly invited for this year's allocation of funds in support of local, national and international needs. **Please leave your written suggestions at the Parish Centre by July 31st.**

Collections for week ending 23rd July 2017

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 1,697.00 |
| Direct Debits & Cards | \$ 245.00 |
| 1 st Collection | \$ 229.85 |
| 2 nd Collection | \$ 692.25 |

ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICE AT LAKES ENTRANCE

We are invited to St Brendan's Church on Sunday 30th July at 6pm for Soup & Sandwiches followed by a Service at 7pm. The theme is 'Reconciliation because the Love of Christ compels us.' ALL are welcome.

K.O.G.O

"Knit One Give One" is a Melbourne based group which distributes hand knitted woollen items to many people in need all over Australia. Parishioners are invited to knit such items as beanies (especially ones in the colours of the aboriginal flag), scarves, gloves, babies and children's wear as well as squares that can be sewn together to make blankets. Please see their website for patterns and instructions: www.kogo.org.au

CALLED AND GIFTED

Charism is simply the Greek word used in the New Testament for "favour" or "gratuitous gift".

Appreciating charisms, or spiritual gifts, helps us to see our parish as a place of gifts, rather than a place of needs.

The Charism of

MUSIC

empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creative goodness to others through writing or performing music for the delight of others and the praise of God.

Is this your gift?



Our parish is blessed with many people who share their gifts/charisms within our church and wider community. We give thanks to Margie and her gift of **HELPS** – supporting her local community; to Peter and his charism of **GIVING** – supporting those who help the wider community in times of trouble; and Joan and her gift of **SERVICE** – giving of her time to help at the Opp shop. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank **GOD** who has given them.

e-CONFERENCE

Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: the Hope of Pope Francis

In the past year alone, communities around the world have been grappling with momentous socio-political change and uncertainty. Eg: the rise of fundamentalism, the growing violence and displacement of peoples in the Middle East, the election of numerous populist leaders such as Presidents Trump in the USA and Duterte in the Philippines and Britain's historic vote to leave the European Union. Pope Francis represents the hope of many people in these times of uncertainty: his message talks about belonging, dialogue, social justice, and mercy in a way that is both a challenge and inspiration for the world and the church.

At this year's eConference, prominent international and national speakers and panellists will reflect upon these turbulent times and discuss them in the context of Pope Francis' unique style of leadership.

Thursday 10th August, St Mary's Parish Centre, Bairnsdale
10am (for a 10.30am start) - 2.45pm

BYO Lunch to share

Speakers and Panellists include

Professor Massimo Faggioli Professor of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Villanova (Philadelphia) International Papal expert, theologian, political scientist

Mr Paul Kelly, Editor at Large, The Australian and one of the nations's most respected political writers.

Professor The Hon Bob Carr, Professor of International Relations, and former Foreign Minister of Australia

Ms Elizabeth Prout AO, Chairman of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Member of the Truth Justice and Healing Council

Sr Clare Condon SGS Congregational Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, Winner-2013 Human Rights Medal

Rev Dr Gerard A. Arbuckle SM, Co-Director, Refounding and Pastoral Development, Sydney- internationally respected consultant to religious congregations and Church-related organisations.

Sr Ruth Durick OSU, the Australian Provincial of the Ursulines of the Roman Union & President of Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) (*panellist only*).

Come along for an in-depth account of Pope Francis' style of leadership and his hope for the future. To help prepare for the eConference, Discussion Questions are available from Pattie Pruscino 5152 2942 or Chris Power 0418 148 657.

Prayer in preparation of Year of Youth

Father,
As we prepare for the Year of Youth,
We pray to Jesus, the risk taker.
Give us a dose of courage to take
Compassionate steps to respect and rebuild our world.
Help us to restore the soil, the water and the air.
Let us encounter You in a friend in trouble, supporting
them to feel safe, valued, accepted and loved.
Fire us with energy and enthusiasm to be leaders,
thinkers and social activists.
Open our hearts to You and new horizons for
spreading joy.
Amen

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Entrance Antiphon:

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

A reading from the first book of Kings 3: 5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. R.

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. R.

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. R.

Responsorial Psalm (continued)

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. R.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans 8: 28-30**

We know that by turning everything to their good
God co-operates with all those who love him, with
all those that he has called according to his
purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long
ago and intended to become true images of his
Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many
brothers. He called those he intended for this;
those he called he justified, and with those he
justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom.

Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew 13: 44-52**

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is
like treasure hidden in a field which someone has
found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells
everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant
looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great
value he goes and sells everything he owns and
buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet
cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds.
When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then,
sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket
and throw away those that are no use. This is how
it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear
and separate the wicked from the just to throw
them into the blazing furnace where there will be
weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.'
And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who
becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like
a householder who brings out from his storeroom
things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Readings for 6/08/2017
The TRANSFIGURATION of the LORD, Year A
1st Reading: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14
Psalm: Ps 96: 1-2, 5-6, 9
2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1: 16-19
Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9