



St Marys Church Bairnsdale

**BAIRNSDALE – OMEO**  
**East Region – Diocese of Sale**  
*Who we are tomorrow begins with what we do today.*



St Patricks Paynesville

**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.**



**SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT, Year C – December 9th, 2018**

**Parish Contacts**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Willemsen  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Xavier Pinto C.Ss.R.  
**Bairnsdale Presbytery:**  
 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale 3875 Phone 5152 3106  
 Email: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)  
 Internet: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)  
 Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)  
**St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
 155 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale 3875 Phone 5152 2942  
**Parish Business Manager:** Paul Heaton-Harris  
**Parish Sacramental Coordinator:** Michelle Grimsted  
**Pastoral Coordinator:** Pattie Pruscino

**St Mary's Primary:** Phone 5152 3706  
 Principal: Michelle Garbutt  
 Newsletter: [www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au)  
**Nagle College:** Phone 5152 6122  
 Principal: Neville Powles  
 Newsletter: [www.nagle.vic.edu.au](http://www.nagle.vic.edu.au)  
**St Mary's Op Shop:** Phone 5152 2088

**Parish Pastoral Council:** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> 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), Denise Fallon, Angelo D'Amore, Michael Flynn, Rita Bowers and Angela McKail.  
**A Parish Directory of all Groups** and contact details is available at the Pastoral Centre.  
**Sacraments:** Sacramental Information and registration forms are available at: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)  
**Baptisms:** Preparation sessions are held regularly. Please call the Sacramental Coordinator to register. Available on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**GLUTEN FREE?** Anyone needing a GF host is asked to speak to the priest before Mass to organise.

*Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.*

**Liturgy/Mass Times**

**WEEKEND**

**ST MARY'S BAIRNSDALE:** Sat: 6:00pm & Sun: 9:30am  
**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday monthly - school term  
**ST PATRICK'S PAYNESVILLE:** Sun: 8:00am  
**ST CANICE'S LINDENOW:** Sun: 11:00am  
**1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of Month 10:30am** BUPA/Eastwood Aged Care  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of Month 10:30am** OPAL/Harnham Aged Care  
**4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of Month 10:30am** Maddocks Gardens

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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 at OPAL/ Harnham Aged Care  
 Thurs: 10:00am Mass – St Mary's Primary 'whole school Mass' at St Mary's Church.  
 Fri: 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:** 8:45am in St Mary's Chapel  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** after 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass  
**Rosary:** after weekday morning Mass's  
**Anointing of the Sick:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday during Mass

**PRAYERS FOR FR ANTHONY**

Please continue to keep Fr Anthony in your prayers as he has been diagnosed with Glandular Fever and told to take complete rest. With this comes the situation that Fr Michael is having to spend more time in Lakes Entrance, Orbost and other parts of the East. We hope that by the middle of January he will be back on board. We ask that you keep all our priests in your prayers for continued good health.

**NEXT WEEKEND 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

<b>ROSTERS</b>	<b>Commentator</b>	<b>Proclaimer</b>	<b>Procession of Gospel/Gifts</b>	<b>Special Ministers</b>
<b>6:00pm</b>	C Marriot-Smith	P Reefman	M Calabro	P Elliott, M Elliott & J Peachey
<b>9:30am</b>	P Brown Graham	G Neeson	P Walsh, R & J Gray	D Atkins, R David & P Brown Graham
<b>CHURCH CLEANING: Month of December: Volunteers needed</b>				

## **Please pray for**

### **OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Elaine Page, Kaili Kidner.

### **ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:**

Pat Brennan, Peter Brown, Rudolfo Calvi, Max Kelsey, Maureen Connolly, Arch. Eric D'Arcy, Fr Cornelius Sheehan, Steve Klobukowski, Frank Burton, George Burton, Jack Burton, Fr James Hayes, Fr Dave Cagney, Fr Patrick O'Donohue.

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

### **PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:**

Ray Worseldine, Patricia Dean (Paula O'Neill's mum), Amy Hood, Bruno Capobianco, Lawrence Liccione (brother of Maureen Newcomen), Serge D'Angelo, Pauline Northway (nee Mason), Billy Sant, Bill Keyte, John Graves, Yvonne Roy, Jean Coleman, John Buck, Daryl Evans, Ena Morris, Brenda Lyons, Bill Cole, Ana Lobo, Sue Bayley, Gerry McDonald, Vincent O'Reilly, Kerry Larkin, Terry Pendergast, Victoria Haeusler, Joyce Harrington, Grant Mitchell, Anne Armstrong, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Trish Freebairn, Rick Jones, Mark Kelly, Tracey Moffatt, Brian Rowe, Gerard Templer (brother of Trudy Kosmer), Holly Box, Di Dunlop, Tyler Green, Paul McFarlane, Elisha Weekes (g-daughter of Maree & Wayne Stagg), Shannon Helmers, Margaret Flynn, Raylene Steer, Guy Newman, Rose Gallagher, Amanda Matthews, Betty Holloway, Elizabeth Knight, Peter Grimsted, Tammy Ewing, Maryanne Esmonde, James Warren, Coral Prendergast, Michael Counsel, Trish Henderson, Tyson Chapman, Thomas Anderson, 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 names of persons from the sick list.*

### **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."*

PHILIPPIANS 1: 9-10

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

### ***The Good We Rarely Tell Anyone***

- There are 1,321 parishes in Australia, including 29 belonging to Eastern Catholic Churches, serving 5.2 million Catholics of which 624,000 worship every Sunday (c. 12%), which means we could fill the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) seven times every Sunday with Mass going Catholics! Of this group, 94,150 of these Mass-goers are aged between 13 and 18.
- Worldwide numbers are booming.

Source: Fr Richard Leonard SJ, Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

### **COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2019**

These calendars are now available. COST: \$10. Please see Pattie at the Parish Centre. Some will be available in the 'baskets' at Mass time at Paynesville and Lindenow. A great buy for Christmas. Unfortunately packets of 'holy' Christmas cards are not available through the Piety Stall this year. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

### **SMILE**

No one has more driving ambition than the teenage boy who wants to buy a car.

### **RCIA CANDIDATE**

As Helena Wilson prepares to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation on December 16<sup>th</sup>, we ask for you to keep her, and her husband Alan, in your prayers.

'May Helena walk in the light of Christ and learn to trust His wisdom. May Helena commit her daily life to the Lord's care, so that she may come to believe in the Lord with all her heart.'

Amen



### **AN INVITATION**

If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church, know that we are thinking about you. We are glad you are here and invite you to be an active part of us again. If you would like more information on our parish program Reconnect, please contact Patricia Walsh on 5152 2418 or Sandra Tilley sfo on [smtilleyofs@bigpond.com](mailto:smtilleyofs@bigpond.com)

### **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020**

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Parishioners and Leaders for all your support and the gift of your time these past few months as we gathered for the Plenary 2020 process with the 'Listening and Dialogue Encounters'. It has been so encouraging that our Parish and School communities have engaged and spoken up, even though at the start it may have appeared the early conversations were clumsy, angry or shallow. Like anything, with time, better understanding of the process, refinement of questions and total trust in the Holy Spirit, I believe these encounters have enabled us to draw from the well within to answer God's question to the best of our ability.

It has been an amazing opportunity to further develop and deepen our relationship of mind, heart, prayer and spirit with God. Sharing our stories with others and listening to one another. It is my sincere prayer that these voices be heard at the Plenary Council and help to answer what God is asking of us in Australia at this time.

God Bless you all....

Michelle Grimsted, Gaudium et Spes Team Member.

### **DROUGHT RELIEF MEALS URGENTLY NEEDED**

Do you like to cook? If so, we need your help. Farmers and their families in the High Country who are affected by the drought are in need of meals. If you are able to supply home cooked meals such as a lasagne or a spaghetti meat sauce, your kindness will be greatly appreciated. Please drop them into the Parish Centre to be passed on.

*"Never see a need without doing something about it". – Mary MacKillop.* If you have any queries, please contact Michelle at the Parish Centre.

### **HELP NEEDED AT CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Are you able to help with being a Commentator, Reader, Special Minister, Singer or candle bearer? The people organising the Parish Reconciliation Service, Midnight Mass and 9:30am Mass on Christmas Day need to know if you are available to help at any of these Masses. Please fill out a form, found on the pews, and return via the collection plate. Your help and support would be very much appreciated.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

19<sup>th</sup> Dec: 6pm Parish Reconciliation Service

21<sup>st</sup> Dec: Parish Centre closed until 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

**A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT**



We will be selling Christmas Gift Cards after weekend Masses in Bairnsdale, Paynesville and Lindenow each weekend until 22-23 December. They are also available from Vikki Stone at St Mary's School, Josie Boland at Nagle college or contact Chris 0418 148 657. Card values range from \$5 to \$30. You are invited to 'come and see'.....ask one of our members how the Gift Cards work.

**LOSS AND GRIEF GROUP**

The Loss and Grief Group is now up and running. If you have experienced loss, or experiencing grief you are welcome to attend. The group isn't specifically about bereavement but includes any loss eg. independence, job and the like. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the Parish centre @ 5pm. If you would like more information please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre and she will arrange for someone to contact you.

**Please note: The group will take a break over Christmas and January and meet again in February.**

**THANK YOU TO**

**ST MARY'S GRADE 6'S – STUDENTS & TEACHERS**



Faith in action is love and love in action is service – A big shout out and thank you to our amazing Grade 6 students, who gave the gift of their time and talent to colour in over 250 Christmas Cards for the disadvantaged families in our community. These cards will be placed in this year's Christmas Hampers given out from either St Vincent's de Paul Society or the Salvation Army. These small acts done with great love, will bless others, making a huge difference bringing the message of hope found only in Jesus Christ.

**CALLED AND GIFTED TO READ?**

The parish thanks Donrita for leading this group over the last few months. As she will be in Sydney from the 6<sup>th</sup> December until after Christmas, the group will reconnect in February 2019. Enquiries: contact Pattie at the Parish Centre.

**DID YOU KNOW? – HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

This particular gospel goes to great lengths to place the events of Jesus' life in a particular historical context. It is the gospel of Luke that identifies the birth of Jesus as taking place in the reign of Caesar Augustus and the governorship of Quirinius. Again, in today's passage, the writer is keen to establish the historical time and place. It is made clear that the ministry of Jesus occurred in a particular time and place. But the Gospel makes clear that the message Jesus proclaimed reaches beyond its original context across time and place to our lives today.

**Collections for week ending 2nd December 2018**

Envelopes	\$ 1,534.00
Direct Debits & Cards	\$ 2,520.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$ 295.45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 668.20
Tours - Restoration	\$ 169.75

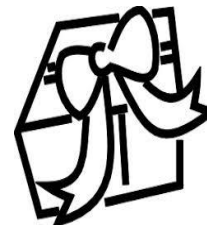
**CALLED AND GIFTED**

*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.**

Everyone is given unique gifts. Many people are able to recognise their charisms and abilities, but there are many who are unsure of their gifts. We must all do our little bit to encourage and help discern how we may use our gifts/ charisms. No gift is too small or insignificant.

*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 Jodi, Jacob and Steve and their gifts of **MUSIC AND TEACHING** – their love of music shines through their students which was on display at a recent school concert. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

**A QUOTE FROM A NAGLE STAFF MEMBER**

"I accompanied our Year 12 leaders to a day with Bishop Patrick this week. I was impressed with their pride in Nagle College and how they showcased this to other schools. It was a great opportunity for them to meet with Bishop Pat and to mingle with the other leaders. All those young people just amazed me...and reassured me that our future is in very good hands."

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The process for renewal of membership is now complete and the vacancies left by Clare and Denise will be filled by Marilyn Elliott and Wilma Collier next year. Many thanks to all those engaged in the process, from making recommendations of people to discerning the most suitable nominees.

**A BLESSING OF THE CRIBS/NATIVITY SCENES**



The Holy Family is an icon of our Church, where we learn the meaning and mystery of our faith. It was very encouraging to see families participate in this blessing by bringing along their nativity scenes which began the season of Advent, our time of preparation for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas.

**ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD**

Deacon Paul Hiep Van Nguyen will be ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Sale on Saturday 15th December at 11.00 am at St Mary's Cathedral Sale. All are most welcome to attend.

**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.

Prayer for the 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.*

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Second Sunday of ADVENT, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

A reading from the prophet Baruch 5: 1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap  
the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the  
diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:  
since God means to show your splendour to every  
nation under heaven, since the name God gives you  
for ever will be,  
'Peace through integrity, and honour through  
devotedness'.  
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your  
eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from  
west and east at the command of the Holy One,  
jubilant that God has remembered them.  
Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an  
escort, now God brings them back to you like royal  
princes carried back in glory.  
For God has decreed the flattening of each high  
mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the  
valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can  
walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests  
and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel  
at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in  
joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and  
integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

**R.** The Lord has done great things for us; we are  
filled with joy.  
When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, /  
it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled  
with laughter, /on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels/ the  
Lord worked for them!'/ What marvels the Lord  
worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**  
Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage/ as streams  
in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears/  
will sing when they reap. **R.**  
They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying  
seed for the sowing:/ they come back, they come  
back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,  
remembering how you have helped to spread the Good  
News from the day you first heard it right up to the  
present. I am quite certain that the One who began  
this good work in you will see that it is finished when  
the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much  
I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My  
prayer is that your love for each other may increase  
more and more and never stop improving your  
knowledge and deepening your perception so that you  
can always recognise what is best. This will help you  
to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for  
the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect  
goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the  
glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke 3: 1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when  
Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch  
of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of  
Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,  
during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word  
of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the  
wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the  
forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the  
sayings of the prophet Isaiah:  
A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill  
be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and  
rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Readings for 16/12/2018*  
**Third Sunday of Advent, Year C**  
1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18  
Psalm: Isaiah 12: 2-6  
2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7  
Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18