



St Marys 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.



THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT, Year C – December 16th, 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
Internet: 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
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), 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
Baptisms: Preparation sessions are held regularly. Please call the Sacramental Coordinator to register. Available during Mass or on 3rd Sunday 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.

Liturgy/Mass Times

WEEKEND
ST MARY'S BAIRNSDALE: Sat: 6:00pm & Sun: 9:30am
CHILDRENS LITURGY: 1st & 3rd Sunday monthly - school term
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
6:00pm Mass: Grade 6 Graduation.
Wed: 9:10am Mass
6:00pm Parish Reconciliation Second Rite.
Thurs: 9:10am Mass
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
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: after 1st Friday Mass
Anointing of the Sick: 2nd Friday during Mass
Morning Office: 8:45am in St Mary's Chapel
Rosary: after weekday morning Mass

Welcome
to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.

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

NEXT WEEKEND 22nd & 23rd December 2018

ROSTERS	Commentator	Proclaimer	Procession of Gospel/Gifts	Special Ministers
6:00pm	B O'Kelly	S Gibson	G Dooley	B O'Kelly, T & K Flannery
9:30am	H Sampson	N Rooney	S Dean, C & S Tilley	S Tilley, G & K Cassidy

CHURCH CLEANING: Month of December: Volunteers needed

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Ryan, Elaine Page.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Joe Pruscino, Eileen Mason, Clem Rooks, Albert Nelson, Jim Bennett, Bev Benedetti, Leonie Bennett, Theresa Brown, Sheila Collins, Eileen Dean, John Kolar, Fr John Gowen, Mgr. Thomas Lynch, Fr James Duffy, Pat Brennan, Maureen Connolly, Peter Brown, Rudolfo Calvi, Max Kelsey, Arch. Eric D'Arcy, Fr Cornelius Sheehan.

"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), Bill Keyte, John Graves, Yvonne Roy, Jean Coleman, John Buck, Daryl Evans, Ena Morris, Brenda Lyons, Bill Cole, Billy Sant, Sue Bayley, Gerry McDonald, Vincent O'Reilly, Kerry Larkin, Holly Box, Mark Kelly, Terry Pendergast, Victoria Haeusler, Joyce Harrington, Grant Mitchell, Anne Armstrong, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Trish Freebairn, Rick Jones, Tracey Moffatt, Brian Rowe, Tyler Green, Gerard Templer (brother of Trudy Kosmer), Di Dunlop, Guy Newman, Paul McFarlane, Elisha Weekes (g-daughter of Maree & Wayne Stagg), Shannon Helmers, Margaret Flynn, Raylene Steer, Rose Gallagher, Amanda Matthews, Betty Holloway, Elizabeth Knight, Peter Grimsted, Tammy Ewing, Maryanne Esmonde, James Warren, Trish Henderson, Coral Prendergast, Michael Counsel, Elizabeth & Frank Stehmann, Tyson Chapman, Thomas Anderson.

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

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." PHILIPPIANS 4:6
St Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

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.

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.

ST MARY'S OPPORTUNITY SHOP

We thank you for your support over the last 12 months. We have been kept busy and the volunteers have made new friendships and found satisfaction from being able to help others. If YOU have a spare few hours that you could give us once a week or once a fortnight, and feel comfortable to work the cash register, your help would be most appreciated and is very much needed. Please contact Bev or Judy at the Opp Shop on 5152 2088 to offer your assistance. Please note the shop will close at 12:30pm 21st December and reopen early in January.

RCIA CANDIDATE

Thank you for your support in witnessing Helena Wilson's journey on the way to becoming a full member of the Catholic Community.

As Helena receives the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation this weekend, please continue to pray for her as she strengthens her relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.

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 1st 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 on 7th February.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Bairnsdale branch of Catholic Women's League was formed on 1st August 1937 and went into recess from 1939 – 1945 during the war years. Sadly after 81 years the branch is in recess again as of 16th November 2018. We are very grateful for all those women before us for their inspiration. Bairnsdale members have worked on the Diocesan Committee, the Governing Body and the National Executive with Mary Jensen being involved in the purchase of Mary Glowrey House in Fitzroy, the headquarters of Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. A meeting room there is named in her honour. Members sincerely thank our priests and parishioners for their support especially with catering for funerals and special events. Many thanks to Helen Sampson for organising the roster for Meals on Wheels, Margaret Dungey, Judy Ward and Carmel Greenwood as Horizon Secretaries, Brenda Lyons for 16 years as Treasurer and Bev Broome as Secretary and many years as Catering Officer. For the moment Bev will still be involved with catering for funerals and donations will go to church funds. Our small group will continue as 'St Mary's Friendship Group' meeting in the Parish Centre each month from February to November. Hopefully in the future CWL may reform. **P.S.** A HUGE thank you to Pat Coloe who has led the Bairnsdale branch of CWL for many years. With her savoury scones, attention to detail and leadership charism, our parish has been blessed with her involvement in the group.

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

19th Dec: 6pm Parish Reconciliation Service

21st Dec: Parish Centre closes until 21st January 2019

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT



We are selling Christmas Gift Cards after weekend Masses in Bairnsdale, Paynesville and Lindenow until 22-23 December. They are also available from Vikki Stone at St Mary's School, Josie Boland at Nagle College or contact Chris Power on 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.

SINGERS FOR MIDNIGHT MASS & 9:30AM CHRISTMAS DAY

We are very pleased to say we have a pianist for Midnight Mass and if you would like to join the choir, practises will be on Wednesday 19th and Friday 21st December at 9:30am to 11:30am in St Mary's Church. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join, the more the merrier. On the night there will be carols from 11:30pm with Mass beginning at 12 midnight.

Also, we are in need of singers for Mass 9:30am Christmas Day. Please contact Maureen Saunders or Pattie at the Parish Centre if you can help out. If you enjoy singing this is a time to share that joy.

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.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

This year's Christmas Eve Family Mass will be celebrated at Presentation Hall, Nagle College at 7pm on Christmas Eve. You are all warmly invited to join us, and children are encouraged to dress as angels, shepherds or kings if they would like.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

BAIRNSDALE

Christmas Vigil: 24th Dec 7pm at Presentation Hall, Nagle College.

Midnight Mass: St Mary's Church with Carols at 11:30pm; Mass 12 midnight.

Christmas Day: St Mary's Church 9:30am.

PAYNESVILLE

Christmas Day: St Patrick's 25th Dec at 8am.

LINDENOW

Christmas Day: St Canice's 25th Dec at 11am.

OMEIO

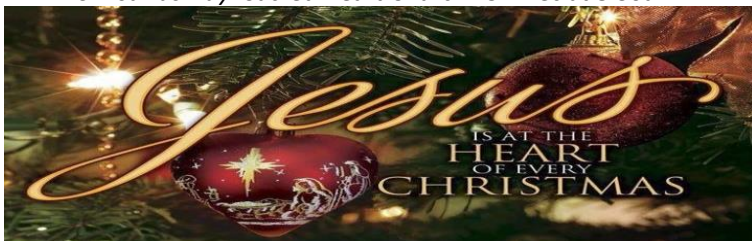
Christmas Vigil: Immaculate Conception Church 24th Dec at 6pm.

BENAMBRA

Christmas Vigil: St Francis of Assisi Church 24th Dec at 7:30pm.

SWIFTS CREEK

Christmas Day: Sacred Heart Church 25th Dec at 8:30am.



SMILE

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4am; for example, it could be the right number.

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*

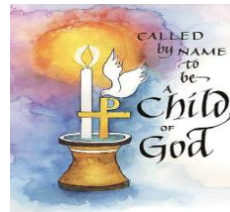
empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creative goodness to others through writing or performing music for the delight of others and the praise of God.

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 Brenda and her gift of **HELPS** – using her knowledge for the betterment of the group; to Pat and her charism of **LEADERSHIP** – prepared to do the hard yards so others can accomplish good things; and to Geraldine and her gift of **HELPS** – saw a need and filled it. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

We welcome into our Parish family this weekend



**Ashton Henry Gregory John
& Sarha Dianne Bonnie Arlene**
children of Rebecca and Peter Laity.
AND
Alexander
son of Catherine and Regan Brooks

HAVE MACHINE, WILL SEW?

Do you like to sew? If this is your gift, the Parish requires your time and talent. Stoles for upcoming Baptisms and those participating in the Sacraments need to be made over the New Year/ January break. The task is simply to sew a 'fringe' onto both ends of the stole, (which is actually 4" wide ribbon). Ribbon and fringe will be supplied. If you can help, please contact Michelle at the Parish Centre. Thank you in advance for your support.

AN ADVENT ECUMENICAL SERVICE

All are welcome to St Brendan's Catholic Church, Lakes Entrance on Saturday 22nd December at 2pm for an Advent Ecumenical Service. A quiet time of reflection in the busyness of life.



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

Collections for week ending 9th December 2018

Envelopes	\$ 1,413.00
Direct Debits & Cards	\$ 305.00
1 st Collection	\$ 434.80
2 nd Collection	\$ 765.35

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.*

Third Sunday of ADVENT, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter
of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by
his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is
the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, /I trust, I shall not
fear. / For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour. /With joy you will draw
water from the wells of salvation. **R**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord/ for he has done glorious
deeds, /make them known to all the earth! /
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy/ for great in
your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Philippians 4: 4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I
repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your
tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very
near. There is no need to worry; but if there is
anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which
is so much greater than we can understand, will guard
your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke 3: 10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?'
he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share
with the man who has none, and the one with
something to eat must do the same.' There were tax
collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to
him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them,
'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked
him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?'
He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be
content with your pay!'
A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people,
who were beginning to think that John might be the
Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you
with water, but someone is coming, someone who is
more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the
strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear
his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his
barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never
go out.' As well as this, there were many other things
he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good
News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Readings for 23/12/2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C
1st Reading: Micah 5: 1-4
Psalm: 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10
Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45

HAVE YOU THOUGHT? – A change of heart

The baptism that John preached and practised was a baptism of
repentance. What he called on people to do was to recognise the
areas of their lives that were unbalancing their relationship with
God. There was a strong recognition that unless they were in right
relationship with one another they could not be in right relationship
with God. In recognising the need for change in their lives, John
challenged them to also make a change of heart: to approach their
lives differently. This is why they were questioning him about
practical ways of living out their new commitment.