



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.

2nd SUNDAY of LENT, Year C – March 17th, 2019
Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen
Assistant Priests: Fr Avinash George
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
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: Angelo D'Amore, Michael Flynn, Rita Bowers, Angela McKail, Marylin Elliott and Wilma Collier.
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 your interest. Baptisms are celebrated during or after Mass on the 1st or 3rd Sunday's of each 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 Pattie Pruscino 5152 2942 or 0427 232 682
Special Wedding Anniversaries: 6 months' notice is needed to facilitate a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

Liturgy/Mass Times

ST MARY'S BAIRNSDALE: Sat - 6:00pm & Sun - 9:30am
CHILDRENS LITURGY: 1st & 3rd Sun 9:30 during 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

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

Other 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
11:00am Funeral Mass for Mrs Gerda Flint
Tues: 9:10am Mass
Wed: 9:10am Mass
Thurs: 9:10am Mass with Grade 3's on their Reflection Day as they prepare for their 1st Reconciliation.
6:00pm Mass followed by **'Stations of the Cross'**
Fri: 9:10am Mass followed by **'Stations of the Cross'**
During Lent 'Stations of the Cross' will follow the Friday 9:10am Mass. To foster our Lenten discipline of prayer, fasting and charitable works, an extra Mass followed by Stations of the Cross, is offered on Thursday's at 6:00PM.

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

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

NEXT WEEKEND 23rd & 24th March 2019

ROSTERS	Commentator	Proclaimer	Procession of Gospel/Gifts	Special Ministers
6:00pm	C Power	J De Boer	Volunteers needed	C Power, B Calabro & volunteer
9:30am	T Kosmer	M Elliott	J Delany, J & G Burton	J Coverdale, T Kosmer & M Elliott

CHURCH CLEANING: 16th – 31st March: Looking for some volunteers.

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Gerda Flint, Ethel Smullen (aunt of Mary Rowe), Mary Davies.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Madge Marshall, Terry Boyd, David Eldridge, Graeme Summerton, Ron Hannaford, John Confait, John Shanahan, Frank Wardley, Agnes Gibson, Betty Kirwan, Fr Andrew Ryan, Mgr Joe Daly, Rosa Lamanna, John Tilley, Margaret Bills, Marguerite Leone, Joan Browne, Mgr Dan McCartan, Fr Walter O'Connor, Fr O'Connor.

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

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Helen Duggan, Ray Adamson, Pat Coloe, Phil O'Neill, Daphne Moore, Pat Doe, Margaret Wood (Paula B-G's sister), Julie Frew, Trevor Steer, Bernard McCarthy (Jose's brother), Holly Box, Amy Hood, Billy Sant, Maryanne Esmonde, Patricia Dean (Paula O'Neill's mum), Bill Cole, Yvonne Roy, Sue Bayley, Pauline Northway (nee Mason), Daryl Evans, John Graves, Brenda Lyons, Jean Coleman, John Buck, Ena Morris, Kerry Larkin, Joyce Harrington, Di Dunlop, Gerard Templer (brother of Trudy Kosmer), Serge D'Angelo, Gerry McDonald, Guy Newman, Brian Rowe, Terry Pendergast, Victoria Haeusler, James Warren, Anne Armstrong, Trish Freebairn, Tracey Moffatt, Paul McFarlane, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Peter Grimsted, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Tammy Ewing, Elisha Weekes (g-daughter of Maree & Wayne Stagg), Shannon Helmers, Mark Kelly, Rick Jones, Margaret Flynn, Rose Gallagher, Amanda Matthews, Tyson Chapman, Trish Henderson, Coral Prendergast, Betty Holloway, Elizabeth Knight, Michael Counsel, Elizabeth & Frank Stehmann, 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.

COME ALONG AND SHARE THE FRIENDSHIP

Combined Churches Pastoral Care Group

The first meeting for 2019 of the Combined Churches Pastoral Care Group is to be held at St John's Anglican Church Hall on Thursday 21 March at 12 noon. Marie Stripp, a parishioner of St John's, will be the guest speaker. Marie has led a fascinating life and will be a very entertaining speaker. Please bring along something to share for our **"shared lunch"**. **The group meets three times a year and all are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

The Parish is preparing children, usually those in Grade 3, for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The sacrament will take place on 26th March. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Contact Michelle at the Parish Centre 5152 2942 for any information.

BURSARY FUND - FUNDRAISER

The Knights of the Southern Cross will hold a fundraising dinner on March 28th to support the bursary fund for the education of Sale Diocese Seminarians. The dinner will be at the Black Tie Function Centre, 90 Alfred St, Warragul, 6.30 for 7pm start. The two-course dinner will cost \$60 and wine, beer and soft drinks will be available at bar prices. The event is open to all who want to support this venture.

There will be a silent auction as an additional fundraiser. Tickets are available at <https://www.trybooking.com/470438>.

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

An elderly parishioner, new to the area and living in Eastwood, would like to come to Mass at 6pm on Saturday evening. She is hoping someone may be able to take her with them. If you can help, talk to Pattie at the Parish Centre.

PRAYERS FOR FR ANTHONY

Please continue to keep Fr Anthony in your prayers. His recovery is steady but slow. We ask that you keep all our priests in your prayers for continued good health.

Remember too, those who live in the 'high country', Mallocoota and Buchan who are back to once a month for Mass. Please keep these communities in your prayers.

LENTEN PROGRAM FOR GROUPS OR SINGLES

Evangelisation Brisbane's Lenten Program focus for this year is **COMPASSION**. **Books cost \$8**. There are a couple of prayer groups that are open to people joining them OR Michelle is running a group on Thursday's at 5pm till 6pm at the Parish Centre. If you are interested in joining a group, please speak to Michelle or Pattie at the Parish Centre.

It is now available as an App! Download from **the App Store** or **Google Play** for Android™ devices for just \$1.99. Engage with the Lenten journey during your lunch break or just before you go to sleep. This is a great initiative.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN IN

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." **GENESIS 15:1**

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing equally in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?

LITURGY MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Liturgy team will be the 19th March at 3:30pm at the Parish Centre. All members are encouraged to attend.

PARISH RCIA TEAM

We are seeking expressions of interest for those who wish to be part of a **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** Team. We have 2 Catechumen's who have responded to God's call and are starting their faith formation in the Catholic Church. If you think you may have a 'gift or charism' for this, please contact Michelle at the Parish Centre 5152 2942.

MARIA FORDE IRELAND TOUR

My name is Maria Forde and I am director of the 2019 Maria Forde Ireland Tour. The tour has been running for 15 years with most participants hailing from Catholic parishes and schools around Melbourne state-wide. Parish individuals and groups are invited to register their interest. The tour group is limited to 20. Tour dates are November 27 to December 11th. For a link to the 2019 Maria Forde Ireland Tour please click this link: www.mariaforde.com

Who is Maria Forde? I am a liturgist, a teacher of Secondary Catholic Education and a Catholic Chaplain working voluntarily in a Youth Justice facility, sacraments, and retreat director, a parishioner in the Trentham parish, a musician and proud Irish Australian.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 18th Mar: Proclaimers Group 1:30pm @ Parish Centre.
- 26th Mar: Sacrament of First Reconciliation.
- 28th Mar: 6:30pm Warragul – Bursary Fundraiser.
- 16th Jun: Pilgrimage of Icon and Candle at Bairnsdale.
- 22nd/23rd Jun: Sacrament of First Holy Communion.
- 10th Aug: Sacrament of Confirmation.
- 13th/14th Sep: Diocesan Assembly.

FASTING IN LENT 2019

Pope Francis has recommendations for how we might engage in our own spiritual renewal during Lent:

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



Reduce — Fasting from Things Try buying only what you need, nothing more. Meal planning is a great way to reduce waste. Always go to the shops with a list to reduce impulse buying.

Refill — Fast from big supermarkets Find ways to refill containers and bags in your our local area. Make/find some reusable fresh produce bags and find places that you can bring your own containers. Check out the local markets and bulk stores.

Recycle — Fast from just throwing things away into the "normal bin" Research how to recycle paper, tin and glass the best you can. Think creatively about how you can recycle anything else.

Rot — Fast from throwing away food scraps. They are so useful. Try composting and using the compost to grow your own veggies. This is a great one with the kids, because they learn about how food is grown, they get enjoyment in seeing things grow and they can learn responsibility.



Tati lives in the remote forest of Indonesia. She is a mother of three who was earning an income working in a local rubber plantation. Since taking part in eco-tourism training with Caritas Australia and its partners, Tati can now afford to send her children to school. With new hope and commitment Tati aspires to a future free from poverty for her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help lift communities in Indonesia out of poverty and give them hope to protect our common home.

Lives change when we all give 100%.
www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion
or phone 1800 024 413.

Collections for week ending 10th March 2019

Envelopes	\$ 2,212.00
Direct Debits & Cards	\$ 320.00
1 st Collection	\$ 442.55
2 nd Collection	\$ 677.20
Church Tours	\$ 743.50

SMILE

Waiter, this soup tastes funny. So why aren't you laughing?

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 HEALING

empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love through whom God cures illness and restores health when healing is unlikely to occur quickly or to happen at all.

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 Ella and her gift of **MUSIC** – giving a concert and raising money for Project Compassion; to Sharon and her charism of **SERVICE** – for 'stepping up' when needed; and to Dot and her gift of **ENCOURAGEMENT** – visiting and offering assistance with communion at the nursing homes. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

CALLED AND GIFTED TO READ?

The **Proclaimers' Enrichment sessions** recommences on **Monday, March 18 at 1.30pm** in the St Mary's Pastoral Centre. All benefit by ongoing training in the Ministry of Reader (or Lector) – we need to keep coming back to be refreshed, inspired, informed and ENRICHED. Whether you have been a Reader for a long time or are just now thinking you may be called and gifted for this ministry, why not come and see what it's all about? Bring along a friend. To find out more please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Diocesan Assembly and Pilgrimage: Bishop Patrick has announced a Diocesan Assembly to be held on 13-14 September at Marist-Sion College Warragul. During the Plenary Council 2020 Listening and Dialogue process, several common topics have emerged. It has become evident that many of the suggestions which have been made can be initiated and implemented at a local Diocesan level. The Diocesan Assembly, while part of the overall Plenary journey, is of vital importance as it will provide us with the opportunity to together discern and discuss what it is that we can do here and now for our local Church in the Diocese of Sale. In the months leading up to the Assembly, the Diocesan community is being invited to embark on a period of prayer and preparation with a Diocesan Pilgrimage of the Icon of our Lady of Perpetual Help (the patroness of our Diocese) and the Diocesan Plenary 2020 Candle. Each parish will host the Icon and Candle for one week with the opportunity to receive and bless the Icon at weekend Masses and have it displayed for prayer during the week. Our week to host the Icon and Candle will begin 16th June.



Congratulations and many blessings to **Maureen Cerini** who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. May God continue to watch over 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.

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

A reading from the book of Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

3: 17-4: 1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost.

They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to

Luke 9: 28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him!'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Readings for 24/03/2019
3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C
1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15
Psalm: Ps 102: 1-4, 6-8, 11
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12
Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

LIVING THE GOSPELS – ‘Listen to Him!’

God’s voice from the cloud claims Jesus as his Son, the Chosen One and then goes on to instruct those present – and we, the readers – to ‘Listen to Him!’ For the disciples, this was a message not to get carried away with their own ideas about the Messiah but to listen to what Jesus was saying about the suffering he must endure and to what he was saying about true discipleship. Jesus tells us that to be a follower of his involves sacrifice, hardship and often unpopularity. It is this message we must listen to as much as a promise of salvation.