



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.

1st SUNDAY of LENT, Year A – March 1st, 2020

Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.

St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale/Omeo acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai 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 and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen
Assistant Priests: Fr Avinash George
Fr Jayakody Francis
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:
135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale 3875 Phone 5152 2942
Parish Business Manager: Paul Heaton-Harris
Parish Sacramental Coordinator: Michelle Grimsted
Pastoral Coordinator: Pattie Pruscino
Child Safety Officer: Kath Cassidy Phone 5152 2942
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: Angela McKail, Michael Flynn – co-chairpersons, Angelo D'Amore, Rita Bowers, 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, call the Sacramental Coordinator to make a date. 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 Sunday of the Month – MASS: October - May

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
Tues: 9:10am Mass
Wed: 9:10am Mass
10:30am Mass at BUPA/ Eastwood Aged Care
Thurs: 9:10am Mass at St Mary's Primary School Chapel
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, will be offered every Thursday during Lent 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 at St Mary's, Bairnsdale
10:00am Wednesday's at St Patrick's, Paynesville

DON'T FORGET:
MORNING TEA AFTER MASS THIS SUNDAY

NEXT WEEKEND 7th & 8th March

ROSTERS	Commentator	Proclaimer	Procession of Gospel/Gifts	Special Ministers
6:00pm	M Saunders	B Calabro	G Dooley	M Saunders, T & K Flannery
9:30am	H Sampson	M Elliott	R David, J Delany & C Tilley	M Owen, G Burton & J Coverdale
CHURCH CLEANING: 1 st – 15 th March – C & P Heaton-Harris				

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fay Whykes, Genevieve Bolleman, Trevor Bowers (brother of Steve Bowers).

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Leo Deery, Christian Halligan, Barry Neve, Gwenda Leighton, Fr Peter Dawson, Fr O O'Connor, Ursula McCarthy, Marie Francis, Sheila Lees, Lina Ciavarella, Fr John Shanley, Fr John Phelan.

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

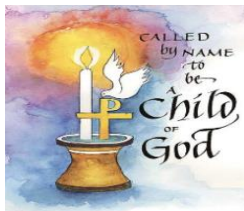
PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Fr Theo Rush ofm, Joshua Kelly, Alex Rachmaniw, Marcie Hayles, Bernard O'Kelly, John Pruscino, Lachlan Van Den Einden, Kitty Cosse, Joan Marshall, Irene Beatson, Loran Tilley-Withers, Alan Cross, Jacek Dutkiewicz, Adam Gilhooley, Tahlia De Felice, Mary Johnson, Nicholas Browne, Carmel Kenyon, Fr Carl Schafer ofm, John Graves, Alan Cooke, Rick Jones, Julie Frew, Yvonne Roy, Cathy Tickle, Matthew Brunt, Bernadette Wolters, Paul Hamilton, Joan Wriggel, Jane Rowlands, Peter Grimsted, Pauline Northway (nee Mason), Billy Sant, Pat Doe, John Buck, Arthur Elbourne, Guy Newman, Ena Morris, Mark Kelly, Ray & Fran Adamson, Amy Hood, Holly Box, Gerard Templer, James Warren, Brenda Lyons, Coral Prendergast, Brian Rowe, Joyce Harrington, Paul McFarlane, Shannon Helmers, Tammy Ewing, Rose Gallagher, Elizabeth Knight, Gerry McDonald, Margaret Flynn, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Anne Armstrong, Tracey Moffatt, Trish Henderson, Tyson Chapman, Michael Counsel, Elizabeth Stehmann.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

All children up to grade 6 are welcome to participate in Children's Liturgy. It is the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month during school term. We hope to see you there. If your child is a bit unsure, a parent or carer is welcome to join in. A great way for our young children to learn about God's love for all.

We welcome into our Parish family this weekend



Jobie Alan,
Layla Vera,
Maddix Luke
children of
Brooke & Luke Beveridæ



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

EAST GIPPSLAND
FARMERS

We're here to help. We will visit you, or, come and see us at Vinnie's Assistance Centre, Bairnsdale Riviera Plaza, Shop 15.

PH: (03) 5152 6687

EAST GIPPSLAND CHILD SAFE TRAINING SESSION

As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults, registered volunteers are expected to attend a Child Safe Training Session on

Saturday, March 21st, 2020

St Marys Parish Centre 10.00am – 12.30pm

If you are unable to attend another option is St Mary's Cathedral, Sale, on Sunday March 1st, 2pm – 4:30pm. It is an important occasion as we continue to build up the child safe culture of our Parish.

RSVP **apologies only** to St Mary's Parish Centre during office hours.

FAMILY YOUTH MASS

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Family Youth Masses will be held on the 4th Sunday of the month for 2020. The next gathering will be 22nd March, 5pm at St Mary's Church. Mark this date in your diary. Families, parishioners old and young are most welcome to come along.



**PLENARY 2020 –
How is God calling us to be a
Christ-centred Church?**

In this phase, we are continuing to listen to what the Spirit is saying as we move from listening and dialogue, into listening and discernment. This process of discernment is communal rather than individual. As such, we are called to work together as a group. The process is built upon the practise of Spiritual Conversations drawn primarily from the St Ignatian tradition. It is a way for us to listen to the voice of the Spirit.

The 'gatherings' will be held at the Parish Centre.

Pick up a copy of the 'Snapshot' from the foyer.

THEME 6. Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal

1st half: Wednesday 4th March 5:30pm – 6:30pm

2nd half: Wednesday 11th March 5:30pm – 6:30pm

A GENTLE REMINDER: If you know you are unable to attend the 1st half of a theme, it is best you do not attend the 2nd half. These gatherings are of 'communal discernment', so if you have not been involved with the 1st half you have been unable to hear other people's thoughts, so it makes it difficult to be part of a 'communal decision'.

We look forward to seeing you there for Theme 6. This will be the last theme for our parish. Come along you may be surprised what God is whispering to you.

**PROJECT
COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER**

**Caritas
AUSTRALIA**



Indigenous minorities in the Philippines face regular discrimination and disadvantage. Manide woman, Shirley faced challenges supporting her children and sending them to school. With Caritas Australia's support, Shirley's life has been transformed.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help people like Shirley, and her children gain confidence and respect within their community.

Let's Go Further, Together.

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Go Further Together"**.

As Teresa of Calcutta said, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love." You will be helping empower our world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Collections for week ending 23rd February 2020

Envelopes	\$ 1,961.30
D/D & Cards	\$ 470.00
1 st Collection	\$ 718.95
2 nd Collection	\$ 1,933.65
Church Tours	\$ 122.40

UPDATE FROM SAMARITAN'S PURSE

"We are so very grateful for the wonderful meals your church has provided. We have been truly blessed by your hospitality and generosity. We are seeing the healing hand of God in the service of our volunteers and are so thankful to be here in your community. The group 'shipped out' on Saturday 29th February." Lyn

May God continue to bless the workers as they support others in their time of need.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year we are gathering at the **Salvation Army Church** on **Friday 6th March at 1:30pm** joining with people in over 150 countries around the world, in 88 different languages! We will pray to God for Zimbabwe using the prayers and thoughts that they have sent to us. World Day of Prayer has a motto: *Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action*. Let's be informed, pray and act today and in the days ahead on behalf of Zimbabwe and Australia.

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. **ALL are welcome to come along, join in and to bring a plate of afternoon tea to share.**

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage!

The weekend is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. **Next weekend is on 17-19 April 2020 in Melbourne.** Starts: 7pm Friday. Ends: 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 Website: wwme.org.au



A VERY WARM WELCOME TO FR FRANCIS

Bishop Pat has appointed Fr Jayakody Francis as Associate Pastor of the three Parishes of East Gippsland. Fr Francis is a priest of the Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka and has been assigned to our Diocese for a three-year period. He arrived in Australia seven months ago. Fr Francis was born in 1953 and ordained in 1982. Please exercise your East Gippsland hospitality and make him welcome. We are so grateful for his presence among us.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM RESULTS Dec 2019

Pledges at 2016 per year	\$167,258
Collections 2018 (Actual) per year	\$153,759
Confirmed Pledges 2019 per year	\$171,152
New Pledges	\$ 8,500
Increase of	\$ 12,394
Increase on 2016 Committed	16.8%
Increase on 2018 (Actual)	7.4%

ECUMENICAL PASTORAL CARE GROUP

St John's Anglican Parish invite you to a shared lunch on 19th March 2020 at St John's Hall starting at 12noon. Please bring a plate to share. A relaxed and friendly way of meeting new people and sharing our stories. Don't know if this is for you? Come along and find out.

ALL ARE WELCOME

SMILE

What do you get if you cross a duck with a box of matches?
A fire-quacker.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4th Mar: 1st half of 6th theme – Plenary Council 5:30pm Parish Centre
- 5th Mar: PPC meeting 5:30pm at Parish Centre.
- 6th Mar: World Day of Prayer: Salvation Army Church 1:30pm.
- 11th Mar: 2nd half of 6th theme – Plenary Council 5:30pm Parish Centre
- 19th Mar: Ecumenical Pastoral Care Group 12noon St John's Hall.
- 21st Mar: All Parish Volunteers Meeting 10am Parish Centre.

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 can 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

WISDOM

empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness through remarkable insight that enables him or her to come up with creative solutions to specific problems and make good decisions..

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 Paul and his charism of **SERVICE** – seeing a problem and doing something about it; to Glenda and her gift of **EVANGELISM** – bravely sharing her faith with others through Plenary Council 2020; and to Connie and her charism of **FAITH** – here for a short while and keenly joined a Lenten group. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

A JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

It is not too late to join up/in. The Lenten program comes with a book, which will cost \$6. If you would like to join a group for the 7-week program, each session will go for approximately 1½ hours, please let Michelle or Pattie, at the Parish Centre, know.

Groups are:

Pattie Pruscino's 18 McKenzie Street Tuesday's @ 7:30pm;
Margaret Sheehan's 54 Calvert Street Tuesday's @ 2pm beginning 4th March and 10am Wednesday's at the Parish Centre.

PRAYERFUL AND EUCHARISTIC?

The Catholic Diocese of Sale is delighted to welcome back Fr Paul Turner, from the Diocese of Kansas City-St Joseph. Fr Paul is a gifted and highly respected theologian, liturgist, writer and musician. His blogs on all matters liturgical can be found at <https://paulturner.org/> **Monday 16th March: 7.30 pm at St Patrick's Parish Centre, Pakenham.** Public Workshop *How is God calling us to be a Christ-Centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic?* All are welcome. Bookings \$10 per person (includes workshop & supper) Please book online <https://www.trybooking.com/BIMRS>



Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich....

All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://PalmsAustralia.com) will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Central to the mission of the Immaculate Conception Parish (known as St Mary's Parish) is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and vulnerable persons and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. If you wish to speak with someone phone: Kath 5152 2942; Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030

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.

1st Sunday of LENT, Year A

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

A reading from the book of Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Readings for 8/03/2020

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4

Psalm: Ps 32: 4-5, 18-20, 22

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans 5: 12, 17-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 4: 1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT – An Invitation

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.