



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.

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD, Year A – April 5th, 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

LITURGY/MASS TIMES

PALM SUNDAY AT BAIRNSDALE

Palms will be blessed during Mass celebrated by Fr Avinash and available from 10:30am for collection by those out exercising or shopping. There will be a basket at the entrance of the church and another one at the Nicholson St entrance to the Parish centre.

EASTER LITURGIES

The following are the times of live-streamed Sale Cathedral Easter liturgies led by our Bishop, who will soon leave to take up his appointment in the Archdiocese of Adelaide:

Holy Thursday, 6:00pm	Good Friday, 3:00pm
Easter Vigil, 6:00pm	Easter Sunday, 9:30am

Please note, Channel 7 will be televising two Easter ceremonies from the Catholic Cathedral in Sydney: Good Friday at 3:00pm and Easter Sunday at 10:30am (check local guides).

For parishioners across East Gippsland, you are invited to join Fr Michael and Fr Avinash 'in spirit' when they concelebrate the Easter Triduum at the same times as our Bishop at St Mary's, Cathedral (see above). Homilies will be posted to the St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale website and Facebook page after each liturgy concludes.

To all, may your Holy Week be one of true encounter with our risen Lord.

For Livestreamed Masses from the Diocese of Sale go to <https://www.cdsale.org.au/coronavirus> and click on the parish name to connect and they are listed below:

- Cranbourne: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am and 6pm. Daily at 9.30am.
- Narre Warren: 9.30am Sunday. Daily Wed-Sunday 9.30am.
- Sale Cathedral: 9.30am Sunday
- Pakenham: 10am Sunday

- <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>
- <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>
- www.wordonfire.org/daily

There will be a Sunday Gospel reflection uploaded onto our Parish website as well as onto our Facebook page. We will do this each weekend until we can, again, gather. Please stay tuned. Our website links are as follows: -

Internet: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net
 Facebook: **St Mary's Church Bairnsdale**
 YouTube: **St Mary's Bairnsdale**

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.

NEXT WEEKEND 28th & 29th March				
ROSTERS	Commentator	Proclaimer	Procession of Gospel/Gifts	Special Ministers
6:00pm			NO INFORMATION	
9:30am			UNTIL WE KNOW WEEKEND MASSES WILL RESUME.	

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Alan Cross, Peter Robbins, Bro. Noel Hannabery SDB.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Arthur Gilchrist, Ray Cook, Peter Duggan, John McMahon, Veronica Saunders, Fr Daniel McMahon, Matt Coco, Fr Patrick O'Brien, Fr Patrick Quigley, Fr Gerard Toner, Fr William Reagan.

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

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Val Jamieson, Fr Theo Rush ofm, Joshua Kelly, Marcie Hayles, John Pruscino, Lachlan Van Den Einden, Kitty Cosse, Joan Marshall, Irene Beatson, Loran Tilley-Withers, 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, Michael Counsel, Gerard Templer, James Warren, Coral Prendergast, Brian Rowe, Joyce Harrington, Paul McFarlane, Shannon Helmers, Tammy Ewing, Rose Gallagher, Elizabeth Knight, Gerry McDonald, Margaret Flynn, Tracey Moffatt, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Anne Armstrong, Trish Henderson, Tyson Chapman, Holly Box, Elizabeth 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 PROGRAM

As you can see from our takings for last week our weekly collections have dropped off significantly. People have asked me if there is a way of getting their Stewardship and contributions to the Parish.

Unfortunately, there is no simple way to securely collect cash.

So, suggestions are -:

Internet Banking Direct Credit the Church Account with your name and Envelope Number as a reference.

BSB: 083-879

ACCOUNT: 48919 4022

ACCOUNT NAME: St Marys Parish Bairnsdale Omeo

Ref: **Your Name and Envelope Number or Marked 1st or 2nd**

Collection OR send cheques to St Mary's Parish, 23 Pyke Street, Bairnsdale, Vic, 3875.

Otherwise - Please keep your Envelopes with your commitments, saving them until we return to Sunday services.

Our Parish finances will be severely affected in the coming months and we will make necessary adjustments to manage the challenges it presents. Please call Paul Heaton-Harris 0418 377 076 if you have any questions or queries.

Collections for week ending 29th March 2020

Envelopes	\$	0.00
D/D & Cards	\$	215.00
1 st Collection	\$	0.00
2 nd Collection	\$	0.00

Readings for 12/04/2020

EASTER SUNDAY

of the Resurrection of the Lord, Year A

1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37-43

Psalm: Ps 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 5: 6-8

Gospel: John 20: 1 - 9



Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

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

The Listening and Discernment process of the 6 themes has now ended in our Parish. We continue to pray for the success of the Plenary Council 2020.



Dominic, 47, is a father of six from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with Caritas Australia's partner, Centre of Hope who runs a safe house and family anonymous programs and turned a difficult life and an unhappy relationship around.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help support the Safe House project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea.

Let's 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.

REFLECTION FOR THESE DAYS

So much has been and will continue to be, for some time, cancelled: sports events, concerts, plays, worship services, rallies, travel, meetings, classes, family gatherings, and so much more. However -

- Love has not been cancelled.
- Mercy has not been cancelled.
- Prayer has not been cancelled.
- Attentiveness has not been cancelled.
- Goodness has not been cancelled.
- Thanksgiving has not been cancelled.
- Loving relationships have not been cancelled.
- Kindness has not been cancelled.
- Music has not been cancelled.
- Conversations have not been cancelled.
- Learning has not been cancelled.
- Poetry and storytelling have not been cancelled.
- Courage has not been cancelled.
- Meditation and contemplation have not been cancelled.
- Painting and dancing have not been cancelled.
- Families have not been cancelled.
- Community and solidarity have not been cancelled.
- Faith has not been cancelled.
- Hope has not been cancelled.

And ... God's presence with us, has not been cancelled.

Reflection by David Haas

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

CLOSURE OF PARISH CENTRE

As of Thursday 26th March 2020, the Parish Centre is closed till further notice. Staff will work from home where possible. The phone will be diverted to the Presbytery. If you need to contact us, please email, or put an enquiry through the webpage or phone 5152 2942 or 5152 3106 - leave a message and someone will get back to you or to speak with a priest – phone either of the numbers and a priest will 'pick up' when possible.

You may also be aware that the churches have closed their doors. Again, because of COVID – 19, this is something we have been advised to do.

Regarding baptisms and funerals, be sure to speak with someone in authority to know what is currently acceptable.

Other parish groups/organisations that are closed/cancelled until further notice: - *The Vinnies Welfare Centre; *40 Hour Vigil; *St Mary's Op Shop; *Family Youth Mass for April; *all organised prayer groups; *church tours.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER ROBBINS

A grandchild of Judith and the late Peter Robbins has set up a 'Go Fund Me page' in the hope of raising \$10,000 to buy a 'cuddle bed' for the Bairnsdale Hospital. This type of bed enables loved ones to lie with their dying family member, to bring comfort to each other and to be more comfortable during those last days with family. If you are able, we encourage you to support this worthy cause.

A POEM - GIVE THIS SOME THOUGHT.....

And so, without having foreseen it,
all our urgencies,
the full agenda,
the scheduled activities,
the essential... we drop it.
And we enter a desert
where perhaps the truth awaits us
that we never have time for.

And Lent is beginning to be more so.

*Poem by José María Rodríguez Olaizola S.J. (original Spanish version, translation by the World CLC Secretariat)

FUNDRAISER FOR BURSARY FUND

You are invited to lunch on Saturday 25th July 2020. The lunch will be at the Black-Tie Function Centre, 90 Alfred St, Warragul, 12noon. The two-course lunch will cost \$50 and wine, beer and soft drinks will be available at bar prices. The event is open to men and women who want to support this venture. This event is proudly hosted by the Knights of the Southern Cross, Diocese of Sale and all proceeds will go to the Bursary Fund for the education of Sale Diocese Seminarians.

Tickets are available at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BIWRN>

40 HOUR VIGIL – HEALING THE HURTS

The 40 Hour Vigil has been cancelled BUT it has been suggested that during the 8th & 9th April you may still tie a ribbon on the church fence in solidarity for all abuse victims. Unfortunately, you will have to supply your own ribbon.

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

6th April: Start of Holy Week.

10th April: Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord.

12th April: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord.

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 **CRAFTSMANSHIP**

empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's goodness to others through artistic or creative work that beautifies and/or orders the physical world.

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 Clare and her charism of **SERVICE** – helping those affected by this time of social isolation; to Chris and her gift of **LEADERSHIP** – playing her part in keeping connected to parishioners during COVID-19; and to Fr Avi and his charism of **FAITH** – having courage to put his reflections on our web page. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

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.

REACHING OUT TO ALL

Over this past week we have tried desperately to send out bulk emails to all our parishioners who have given us their email address' (339 families to date). Our system tells us that we have been successful but we know that not everyone has received them. Please bear with us as we work through these problems. If you could let us know by email whether you have received an email from us or not (the email had an attachment regarding the End of Lent) that would be most appreciated.

For those who are unable to access the internet, we are planning to do a 'letter drop' to another 120 regular mass attendees, with the weekly bulletin and some 'Liturgies at Home' prepared by *Liturgy Brisbane*, for which we are most grateful. As we prepare for the letter drop, (which will happen each week until Mass resumes), if you know of someone who may like to receive a hard copy of the bulletin, please let us know. If you can help deliver 5 letters close to where you live, that too, would be most appreciated. Please call Pattie on 0423 232 682 email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com

SMILE:

What did the duck say when he'd finished shopping?
Put it on my bill, please!

Entrance Antiphon

The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches, went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: Hosanna in the highest.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 50: 4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to
those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against
insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2: 6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are,
and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to
accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him high and gave him the name
which is above all other names so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.

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

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 27: 11-54 (Short form)

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and
the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of
the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he
was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to
answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how
many charges they have brought against you?' But to the
governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any
of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a
prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was
at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas.
So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do
you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is
called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they
had handed him over.

Now as he was seated in the chair of judgment, his wife sent
him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have
been upset all day by a dream I had about him.'

The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded
the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the
execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and
asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release
for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate
said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called
Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he
asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the
louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was
making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent.
So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the
crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is
your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back,
'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released
Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged
and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the
Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him.
Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak,
and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this
on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make
fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the
Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck
him on the head with it. And when they had finished
making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed
him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.
On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene,
Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When
they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the
place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with
gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had
finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by
casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping
guard over him.

Above his head was placed the charge against him: it
read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same
time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right
and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and
said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in
three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son,
come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the
scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He
saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the
king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and
we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let
God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the
son of God.'" Even the robbers who were crucified with
him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land
until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried
out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!' that is, 'My
God, my God, why have you deserted me!' When some of
those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is
calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a
sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a
reed, gave it to him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them
'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again
crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

At that, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to
bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs
opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the
dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the
tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of
people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others
guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was
taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth
this was a son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.