



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.

5th SUNDAY of LENT, Year C – April 7th, 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: 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. 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
Tues: 9:10am Mass
Wed: 9:10am Mass
10:00am 'Stations of the Cross' at St Patrick's, Paynesville.
10:30am Mass at OPAL/Harnham Aged Care
6:00pm Parish 2nd Rite Reconciliation.
Thurs: 9:10am Mass
6:00pm Mass followed by 'Stations of the Cross'
Fri: 9:10am Mass followed by 'Stations of the Cross'

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

PARISH RECONCILIATION

We are encouraged to attend the Parish 2nd Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 10th April at 6pm. "Already on Ash Wednesday we have heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the good news.*" Lent is a time that "all the faithful have an opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts."
(Rite of Penance, 13)

NEXT WEEKEND 13th & 14th April 2019

ROSTERS	Commentator	Proclaimer	Procession of Gospel/Gifts	Special Ministers
6:00pm	B O'Kelly	K Flannery	M Calabro	B O'Kelly, T & K Flannery
9:30am	G Burton	M Grimsted	Maree Elbourne & friend	M Owen, J Delany & S Dean
CHURCH CLEANING: 1st - 15th April: G & K Cassidy				

Please pray for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jerome Baldwin, Joyce Wigzell (mother of Margaret Naughtin), Cameron Kilpatrick, Maryanne Esmonde.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:

Lucy De Moel, Fr Michael Nolan, Fr Wilfred Alexander, John Ireland, Peter Duggan, Dennis (Drake) Prendergast, Fr Patrick Quigley, Fr William Regan, Fr Gerard Toner.

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

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:

Matthew Brunt, Jane Rowlands, Cathy Tickle, Joan Wriggel, Pat Coloe, Ray Adamson, Daphne Moore, Pat Doe, Trevor Steer, Margaret Wood (Paula B-G’s sister), Julie Frew, Bernard McCarthy (Jose’s brother), Holly Box, Amy Hood, Billy Sant, Patricia Dean (Paula O’Neill’s mum), Bill Cole, Yvonne Roy, Sue Bayley, Pauline Northway (nee Mason), Daryl Evans, Gerard Templer (brother of Trudy Kosmer), John Graves, Brenda Lyons, Jean Coleman, John Buck, Ena Morris, Kerry Larkin, Joyce Harrington, Di Dunlop, Serge D’Angelo, Mark Kelly, Brian Rowe, Gerry McDonald, Guy Newman, Terry Pendergast, Victoria Haeusler, James Warren, Anne Armstrong, Trish Freebairn, Tracey Moffatt, Paul McFarlane, Peter Grimsted, Elisha Weekes (g-daughter of Maree & Wayne Stagg), Julie Ann Milnes-James, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Tammy Ewing, Shannon Helmers, 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.

40 HOUR VIGIL – HEALING THE HURTS

At 6:00am on Wednesday 17th April, we will begin this year’s prayer vigil at St Mary’s, Bairnsdale. Bishop Pat will preside at 7:00am Mass. The 40 hours of prayer and silent reflection are to show our compassion and support for the children, women and men, abused by those in whom they had placed their trust. While at the Church we will reflect on their stories that were not believed for so long. All will be invited to pray and reflect, light a candle or simply sit quietly in solidarity for a while, to show our sorrow for what has been done to them. Father Michael invites parishioners and all the people of East Gippsland, to come to the Church anytime during the 40 hours to show that the whole community shares their sorrow. All are welcome to commit to attending by filling in the timesheets available in the foyer. For further information, contact the Parish Centre.

HEALING THE HURTS

Recent publicity regarding sexual assaults within the Catholic Church will have stirred up painful memories for many people. Expressions of interest are sought from community members who have experienced childhood or adult abuse and would be interested in forming a group to support each other. The group will be facilitated by Dr Margaret Uebergang, a qualified psychologist, specialising in such issues. The group will provide a safe forum in which these matters can be discussed openly, confidentially, and in a supportive environment. It is envisaged the group will be open to the wider community, not just to parishioners of the Catholic Church. Expressions of interest can be made by phoning (03) 51531533 and giving a Christian name only, with a telephone number.

Collections for week ending 31st March 2019

Envelopes	\$ 1,489.00
Direct Debits & Cards	\$ 1,700.00
1 st Collection	\$ 500.80
2 nd Collection	\$ 786.40
Church Tours	\$ 504.80



**PARISH RETREAT
29 April – 25 May**

You don’t need any special qualifications. All you need is the desire to open yourself to God and the generosity to take some practical steps to find time for prayer. Where you are now is where God is waiting for you.

Find a poster on the Notice boards at Bairnsdale, Paynesville and Lindenow churches or go to the Parish website. www.stmarysbairnsdale.net For more details please phone Pattie Pruscino 5152 2942 or Chris Power 0418 148 657

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 UPDATE

by Lana Turvey-Collins, National Facilitator

It covered almost 10 months and culminated in a flurry of late submissions, but the Listening and Dialogue phase of the Plenary Council has yielded a remarkable foundation from which the people of God can move forward. Late last week, the National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPRI) completed the statistical analysis and reported that more than 17,500 submissions had been lodged -- thousands of which represented groups. In all, more than 222,000 people either made an individual submission or participated in a group discussion that culminated in a submission.

The NCPRI will continue its quantitative and qualitative analysis of the stories that people have shared over the coming weeks. From that analysis, which will include prayer and discernment, national themes for discernment will emerge and be announced in June. Reports will be published on each of the themes and allow ongoing involvement for the large numbers of people who participated during the Listening and Dialogue phase.

Right now, the Plenary Council facilitation team is working on the advertisements, job descriptions, terms of reference and other supporting collateral for the Working Groups – the collaborative teams of people who will draft the papers in response to the Listening and Dialogue submissions. Those papers will become the foundation for the Plenary Council agenda.

Stay tuned [by subscribing to *Plenary Post* at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au] for more information on the Working Groups. In the meantime, celebrate the achievement of over 222,000 people having been a part of the process until now and think about the kind of Church we are becoming through the encounter of Christ in one another.

PALM SUNDAY

– SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEEKING ASYLUM

On Palm Sunday 14th April there will be a silent vigil to support refugees and those seeking asylum in Australia. It will be “silent” under the banners of “Say Yes to Refugees”. It will take place between 11am to 1pm at Howitt Park South near the rowing sheds. This is East Gippsland’s response to the gatherings in the capital cities.

‘I was a stranger and you welcomed me.’

For information contact Paula Brown Graham 0428 561 904

We wish continued good health, happiness and blessings on **Marylin & Norm Elliott** who celebrated 60 years of marriage last weekend. We sincerely thank you for your involvement in St Mary’s Parish over many years.





Salma featured in Project Compassion 2013. At the time she was pregnant with her first child, sick and terribly frightened. In distress, she sought the help of a midwife trained by Caritas' Safe Motherhood Program. Six years on, she's now a healthy mother of two strong, happy children. Salma is committed to giving her children the education they need to provide them with the future she hoped for. **Help reduce infant mortality rates in countries like Bangladesh and provide hope to pregnant women in remote communities for happy and healthy families.**

FASTING IN LENT 2019

Three Benefits of Living with Less

Our Home Becomes a Haven: When we have fewer things we don't have to expend so much time and energy organising and maintaining them. There's less stress and less chaos.

There is More Room to Love God and Others: Material things are not bad in and of themselves. However, we are called to love God ABOVE all things. Having or desiring too many things can distract us from our relationship with our God and our family. When we live with less, we have...more freedom to ponder and listen to God; more time to pray; the ability to focus on improving our relationships.

We Practise the Virtue of Holy Detachment: When we learn to detach from the things of this world, we also learn to practice holy detachment in other areas of life: from worrying about what we cannot control; from other people's opinions of us; from forming unfounded opinions about others; from our own self-will...so that we can embrace our Lord's Holy will more fully in our lives.

SLAVERY – FREE CHOCOLATE

Last month, while speaking about modern slavery Pope Francis said that, faced with the tragic reality of modern slavery, "no one can wash their hands of it, without being in some way, an accomplice to this crime against humanity".

Thinking of buying Easter eggs? Use your money justly – please.

What Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI, Coles and a wide selection at Haighs and OXFAM shops; Chocolatier also produces FAIRTRADE Easter chocolate.

Action: Tell three people about the importance of buying only slavery-free chocolate this Easter and beyond. Try some and tell them how good it tastes. Join this global fight against modern slavery.



GIPPSLAND ROTARY CENTENARY HOUSE

Annual Fundraising Breakfast

DATE: Wednesday April 10th **TIME:** 7am – 10:30am **WHERE:** St John's Church Hall, Francis Street, Bairnsdale **COST:** \$15 per head – home cooked or continental breakfast. Raffles on the day.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 7th Apr: Morning Tea in memory of Maryanne Esmonde
- 8th Apr: Proclaimers Group 1:30pm @ Parish Centre.
- 10th Apr: Parish 2nd Rite Reconciliation @ 6pm.
- 10th Apr: Music practise for Easter 7pm St Mary's Church.
- 14th Apr: Farewell Morning Tea for Fr Xavier 10:30am
- 14th Apr: 11am – 1pm support of Refugees & Asylum Seekers.
- 16th Apr: Chrism Mass, Sale Cathedral 11am.
- 29th Apr – 25th May: Parish Retreat.
- 16th Jun: Pilgrimage of Icon and Candle at Bairnsdale.

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
CELIBACY
empowers a Christian to be most fulfilled and spiritually fruitful by remaining unmarried and celibate for the sake of Christ.
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 Angie and her gift of **ADMINISTRATION** –for sharing her knowledge 'Country' to achieve good things: to Eddie and his charism of **HELPS** – supporting his wife to do good works; and to Trish and her gift of **GIVING** – one of many who support those who find themselves in hard situations and nowhere to turn. 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 next **Proclaimers' Enrichment session is Monday, 8th April 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. Bring along a friend. To find out more please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre.

READERS FOR THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Donrita has generously offered to help and support all Proclaimers who will do readings over the Easter Triduum. If you can offer your services as a reader, please let Pattie know at the Parish Centre.

**MUSIC MATTERS –
Calling all Singers!**



Calling all folks who'd like to help lead the singing for Good Friday and Easter Sunday Morning at St Mary's. We are hoping for peoples of all ages to join in a diversity of song with the parish. It doesn't matter how long ago you last sang...we need you!

Rehearsals: **Wednesdays April 10 & 17 at 7pm at St Mary's Church.** Please contact in advance: Donrita Reefman on 0411 702068 or donrita@iprimus.com.au.

FAREWELL FR XAVIER PINTO C.Ss.R. (Redemptorist Priest)

Bishop Pat has advised Fr Xavier that he will be moving to Pakenham following Mass on Easter Sunday. I think you will all agree he has been a most welcome and valuable addition to our Parish these last 10 months (5 funerals in 7 days). We will miss him but acknowledge that to use his 'gifts' he has to move on. A morning tea will be held following Palm Sunday Mass @ 9:30am. Please bring a plate to share.



Congratulations and many blessings to
**Tori Shanahan and
Tom Neeson**
who married this weekend
at St Canice's.

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.

5th Sunday of Lent, Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 43: 16-21

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:
No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 3: 8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith.

All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 8: 1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL FOCUS – Restoring Honour

When the accused woman is brought before Jesus for judgment he neither looks at the woman nor at the accusers. He bends down and writes in the dirt. When the accusers melt away, Jesus (still kneeling on the ground) looks up at the woman to speak to her. She has probably never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, as much as anything else, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life.

Readings for 14/04/2019
Palm Sunday, Year C
1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7
Psalm: Ps 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24
2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11
Gospel: Luke 22: 14- 23: 56