



St Marys Bairnsdale

**BAIRNSDALE – OMEO**  
**East Region – Diocese of Sale**



St Patricks Paynesville

**OUR VISION**

**We are a welcoming community where the word of God,  
through the message of Jesus Christ is made known and lived.**

**OUR MISSION**

**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.**

**PARISH CONTACTS**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Willemsen  
**Assistant Priests:** Fr Avinash George  
Fr Jayakody Francis  
**Bairnsdale Presbytery:**  
23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

**St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942  
Email: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com)  
Internet: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)  
Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME, Year A – 8/9 August 2020**

*Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.*

We 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.

**NO SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASS**

Sadly, due to the reintroduction of COVID restrictions we are **unable to offer Mass** in the Parish, so keep up to date with the Church Bulletin and the News.

As you can see we are revamping our bulletin. We would love to hear your feedback. We want to know the positive thoughts and any useful ideas to improve it. During this second COVID-19 'lock down' period we have an opportunity to work on this, so please let us know your thoughts.



**LORD...**

May your love and light shine in and through me today,  
In a way that no mask can hide.  
May my eyes dance with the laughter and joy replacing  
my hidden smile.  
May my actions of care and concern  
Speak louder than my muffled voice  
ever could  
May the generosity of my heart  
Radiate out through who I am  
And how I respond to the world around me  
So that others may not see my mask  
But your image shining out  
Moving in and through me today.  
Amen

Br Michael Herry fms

***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.***

**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

## **Please pray for**

### **OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Graham Boucher, Tess Gillies, Adam Gilhooley, Sr Cathy Dean RSJ, Vivienne Windsor-Marshall (Terry Flannery's sister), Grace Capraro, Richard Evans, Margaret Flynn (Michael's mother), Gerald Liccione (Maureen Newcomen's brother), Patrick James (Bev Duffy's grandfather), Marie McKenna (mother of Bish. Michael).

### **ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time:**

Craig Toomey, Michael Trybus, Penny Hood, Rita Spirason Antonio Lupo Di Palma, Henk Postma, John McKenna, Norma East, Frank Nugent, Hans Schwab, Katie Stenn, Josie Redenbach, and the priests who have worked in the Diocese.

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

### **PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:**

Andre Buxton, Amy Hood, Josie Anderson, Rosa Lanteri, Ena Morris, Margaret Nugent, Ebony Corr, Luke Roberts, Monique Lewis, Joshua Kelly, Alan Cooke, Rick Jones, Val Jamieson, Marcie Hayles, John Pruscino, John Graves, Julie Frew, Cathy Tickle, Mary Johnson, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Jacek Dutkiewicz, Pat Doe, Tahlia De Felice, Nicholas Browne, Carmel Kenyon, Matthew Brunt, Yvonne Roy, Fr Carl Schafer ofm, Guy Newman, Jane Rowlands, Peter Grimsted, Bernadette Wolters, Joan Wriggel, Paul Hamilton, Arthur Elbourne, Billy Sant, John Buck, Mark Kelly, Pauline Northway (nee Mason), Holly Box, James Warren, Michael Counsel, Trish Henderson, Paul McFarlane, Brian Rowe, Coral Prendergast, Joyce Harrington, Shannon Helmers, Tammy Ewing, Rose Gallagher, Elizabeth Knight, Gerry McDonald, Tracey Moffatt, Tyson Chapman, Anne Armstrong, Ray & Fran Adamson, Julie Ann Milnes-James, Elizabeth Stehmann.

*Please remember all parishioners who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery.*

*Please let the Parish Centre know if you wish to add or remove names of persons from the sick list.*

### **CatholicCare PHONE COUNSELLING SERVICE AVAILABLE**

Therese Kearney from CatholicCare is available by phone on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for anyone who might need someone to talk to. Please take advantage of this offer, for anyone in need. Telephone Therese on 0400 783 342. This is a free service and is one of many services that CatholicCare provide in our Diocese.

### **CatholicCare APPEAL**

This appeal was to have taken place this weekend. You can donate online at [www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal) or call (03) 9287 5513. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible. It is times like this that they are needed and for us to support them financially, if at all possible.

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Over the past 20 years, St Mary's Parish has put aside 2.5% of Planned Giving receipts for local, national, and international needs. Your suggestions are warmly invited for this year's disbursement of accumulated funds. Please leave your written suggestions at the Parish Centre by 4th September.

*"Our challenge is to accompany people from the margins into a journey towards the fullness of life and love. We are meant to be in the coalface, in the messiness of it all and at the same time in fidelity to the Gospel... Like Christ in his ministry among the sick and the lost, we are called to meet God in the most unlikely people and places. We too, must be in that frontier space."*

### **Collections for week ending 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**

Envelopes	\$ 1,298.00
D/D & Cards	\$ 2,420.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$ 270.75
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 0.00



*"The papers (reports of the 6 themes) are the fruits of communal discernment."* says Archbishop

Costelloe, the Plenary Council President.

*"They both invite and challenge us to continue to 'listen to what the Spirit is saying' and 'I hope that people will read and reflect on the paper with open minds and open hearts and will be stirred by the Holy Spirit to be agents of mission and evangelisation."* Below is the electronic link to the discernment papers if you want to access them <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/?s=discernment+papers> OR hard copies are available from the Parish Centre. We continue to pray for the success of the Plenary Council 2020.

### **40 WAYS TO FOSTER PRAYER IN YOUR HOME:**

13) *Pray for our Government leaders, our Church leaders, Parish clergy and Ministers.*

### **CALLED AND GIFTED**



*The Charism of  
**MERCY***

*empowers a Christian to channel God's love through practical actions of compassion that relieve the distress of those who suffer and help them experience God's love.*

*Is this your gift?*

### **Examples of Mercy:**

Medical professionals, prison ministry, social work, Eucharistic minister to the sick, pastoral work, social justice activist, missionary, voluntary chore services, working with the poor or homeless.

### **In our Parish:**

Our Parish is blessed with many people who share their gifts/charisms within our Church and wider community. We give thanks to our Annette and her charism of **HOSPITALITY** – by keeping in touch with parishioners by phone, especially the sick ones; and to Fr Francis and his **MISSIONARY** charism – coming to Australia and into our Diocese to help us out for a couple of years. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank GOD who has given them.

### **Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)**

Born into a devout Catholic family in Albania, Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu entered the Irish Sisters of Loretto at 18. Where she was given the name Teresa. She was sent to Calcutta, India, in 1929 where she served as a school teacher for many years. While on retreat in September of 1946, Teresa received a "call within a call" to work among the poorest of the poor. In 1950, she founded the Missionaries of Charity, dedicated entirely to whole-hearted and free service to the poorest of the poor.

### **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

*Readings for 16/08/2020*

### **20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, Year A**

1st Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

2nd Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

## **19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.  
Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

### **A reading from the first book of the Kings: 19 9, 11-13**

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**Scripture Note:** *During the reign of Ahab in Israel, Elijah took on the task of combating the Baal worship fostered by queen Jezebel however, he adopted a very militant even bloodthirsty approach. On the run for his life he takes refuge in a cave there he is taught that the tactics that he has been adopting are not God's tactics. God's ways are not man's ways God's approach is not a violent one symbolised by the mighty wind and earthquakes), rather it is a gentle one (symbolised by the breeze).* Flor Mc Carthy SDB

### **Responsorial Psalm 84: 9-14**

**R.** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say/ a voice that speaks of peace./ His help is near for those who fear Him/ and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;/ justice and peace have embraced. /Faithfulness shall spring from the earth/ and justice look down from heaven. **R**

The Lord will make us prosper/ and our earth shall yield its fruit./ Justice shall march before him/ and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 9: 1-5**

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**Scripture Note:** *St Paul tells of the sorrow and anguish he suffers because his fellow Jews refused to accept Christ as the Messiah. His pain is not unlike what is experienced by those who become separated from family and friends over issues of Faith and Religion.* Flor McCarthy SDB

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14: 22-33**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

**Scripture Note:** *If taken literally, the Gospel story has little or no relevance for us. Taken symbolically, however, it has great relevance for us and that seems to be how Matthew meant it to be taken. It does represent something that really did happen to the apostle. The small boat represents the infant church. The wind and the waves represent the persecutions let loose on it. Matthew tells this story to demonstrate the kind of faith that followers of Jesus must develop if they are to weather the storms that are an inevitable part of Christian life. Some people think that if we have sufficient faith life will be all plain sailing. It doesn't happen like that.*

*Faith doesn't shield us from the hard knocks of life and death. There can be situations where we feel weak and powerless. At such times we have to cry out to the Lord for help like the Apostles and Peter did. If we do, the Lord will up hold us. Faith doesn't save us from trials and tribulations. What it does is give the strength to cope with them. Faith assures us that we are not alone in our trials. God is with us, and his power is available to us. This story shows us the power of faith.* Flor McCarthy SDB

**Parish Pastoral Council:** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. Please submit items to the Parish Centre by 10.00am Tuesday the week before.

**Members:** Angela McKail, Michael Flynn – co-chairpersons, Angelo D'Amore, Rita Bowers, Marylin Elliott and Wilma Collier.

**A Parish Directory:** is available at the Pastoral Centre.

**Sacraments:** Information and registration forms available at:

[stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@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 organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

**Parish Business Manager:** Paul Heaton-Harris

**Parish Sacramental Coordinator:** Michelle Grimsted

**Pastoral Coordinator:** Pattie Pruscino

**Child Safeguarding Officer:** Kath Cassidy Ph: 5152 2942

**St Mary's Primary:** Phone 5152 3706

Principal: Michelle Garbutt

Newsletter: [www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au)

**Nagle College:** Phone 5152 6122

Principal: Neville Powles

Newsletter: [www.nagle.vic.edu.au](http://www.nagle.vic.edu.au)

**St Mary's Op Shop:** Phone 5152 2088

### **CHURCHES CLOSED AGAIN**

Sadly, due to the restrictions taking effect from August 6 throughout Victoria, we've had to close our churches again. The Parish Centre will also close and staff will work from home as much as they effectively can. Sunday newsletters will still be produced and distributed electronically by email and physically by volunteers out exercising. Although, we are blessed to have been spared active cases of COVID-19, we've all been asked to stay at home - with a few exceptions, including essential shopping, medical treatment and caregiving.

Living out our respective vocations, the love of Christ impels us to focus on what we CAN do, knowing very clearly what we CAN'T do. We CAN reach out in charity towards our neighbour, especially the disadvantaged and vulnerable, in whom we can see the face of Christ. A phone call, an act of caregiving. Pray and discern: the Lord will reveal himself to you. And, his command to love as he has loved you.

Acts of charity are happening in our Vinnies Conference, our Op Shop and within our families. It is the glory of God being revealed and his Kingdom being made manifest here on Earth. On behalf of Fr Francis and Fr Avinash, I sincerely thank all our parishioners who participated in a collective act of charity: the Novena leading up to the Feast of St John Vianney, the Patron Saint of priests. Your prayers are a great consolation for us and an inspiration to give more of ourselves as an expression of faithfully living out the tremendous gift of our priestly vocation. Thank-you Mario for your gift; Jenny for the jelly slice and Hans for the bread. And, the many cards and notes of appreciation, too. We will continue to offer the memorial sacrifice that is the Mass for you all and your intentions. Sincerely in Christ, Fr Michael

### **Cathy Dean (RSJ) RIP**

Cathy was born in Bairnsdale, the third of seven children, 5 girls and 2 boys. Her parents were Eileen & Lance Dean. She attended both primary and secondary school in Bairnsdale and was taught by the Presentation Sisters. On leaving Nagle College, she trained as a Mothercraft Nurse at St Joseph's Babies Home in Broadmeadows. She worked briefly at St Vincent's Private and later at the East Gippsland Hospital in Bairnsdale. Cathy was a lay Missionary with the Pallotine Fathers in Tardan for two years as a House Mother to 5 -9-year-old Aboriginal girls. When she left Western Australia, she worked in the library at Nagle College before entering the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Following Novitiate in Sydney, Cathy returned to Victoria to the Broadmeadows community and studied a Diploma of Ministry at the national Pastoral Institute. Cathy lived in Altona, Werribee, Ouyen, Swan Hill, Sea Lake & Cranbourne working either in Parish or in Pastoral Care. Further study gave her a CPE qualification and a Bachelor of Social Science (Pastoral Studies) before she was missioned to Peru. In Peru Cathy spent much of her time living and working with women of the Pubelo in Pitumarca, a small community in the Andes. Together they learnt knitting and weaving and were able to improve the quality of their lives with self-development, skills, and leadership training. On her return to Australia Cathy touched many lives through her ministries at Mary MacKillop Aged Care, Hawthorn East, Footscray, Koo Wee Rup/Pakenham and Numurkah/ Shepparton. Cathy was a member of the 2019 Chapter Planning Team and a Chapter delegate. She moved back to Hawthorn East in early 2020 to take up her ministry as an elected member of the Vic-Tas Regional Leadership Team.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY** We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 August. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today'. The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020).