



St Francis of Assisi Benambra

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK & BENAMBRA

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.

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen
Presbytery: 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale
Phone: 5152 3106
Email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com

St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:
135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone: 5152 2942
Website: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net
Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C—September 18, 2022

We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai 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. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Weekend Mass Times

St Mary's Bairnsdale

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am

St Patrick's, Paynesville

Sunday: 8:00am

St Canice's, Lindenow

2nd & 4th Sunday monthly: 11am

Swifts Creek, Omeo & Benambra

August and September

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek

4th Saturday: 6:30pm

Immaculate Conception, Omeo

4th Sunday: 11:00am

at the Omeo Hospital

St Francis, Benambra

4th Sunday: 9:00am



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE



A STATEMENT FROM ARCHBISHOP TIMOTHY COSTELLOE SDB

The death of Queen Elizabeth II, after a long reign marked by extraordinary constancy, fidelity, courage and service, will bring great sadness to many people in Australia, including members of the Catholic community.

As the Queen enters into the great mystery of eternal life with the Lord, we will pray for the repose of her soul and for the support and comfort of her family, her nation and the wider community of the Commonwealth.

Queen Elizabeth was never reticent about acknowledging her Christian faith. Her annual Christmas message invariably focused on Jesus Christ as a model of humble and generous service. It was a model she strived to emulate throughout her long life. May she rest in peace. *September 9, 2022*

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday to Friday: 9.10am
Funeral Prayers for Frank Murphy
Monday 1.30pm

Paynesville
Wednesday Rosary: 10.00am

Reconciliation is available each

Friday: after 9:10am Mass

Saturday: 9:30am to 10:00am and
5:30pm to 5:50pm

NEW PRINCIPAL AT ST MARY'S

For those who missed the news last week, there was great excitement among the St Mary's Primary School community on Friday September 4 when the appointment of Lisa Parwata as Principal from the beginning of Term 4 was announced. Lisa has been an integral member of the staff for many years now, including being a fine Deputy Principal to Michelle Garbutt before Michelle and her family moved to Darwin. Lisa has been Acting Principal since then and was the outstanding candidate for the position, which she has genuinely felt drawn to, through prayer and discernment. Congratulations Lisa!

We will continue to pray for you and the school community.

Fr Michael

Roster for Masses – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 24-25, 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister	Offertory Procession
6:00pm Sat	M Schumann	C Shanahan	M Saunders	K Flannery	
9:30am Sun	J Coverdale	T Kosmar	L Urban	G Neeson	M Owen, H Sampson & P Brown Graham

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: October 1 — J & D Fallon **Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.**

Our Parish of The Immaculate Conception (also known as St Mary's) is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk.

Our Safeguarding Officer is Kath Cassidy who can be contacted via the Parish Centre 5152 2942; or Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for SEPTEMBER



For the abolition of the death penalty
 We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country

THE CAGLIERO PROJECT, SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region



We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January, 2023 to work with disadvantaged young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close October 31, 2022. Send us an inquiry: www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

PRAYING THE ROSARY IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

The East Gippsland Parish Community invites you to this Rosary prayer event, via Zoom, during the month of October, running from 7.00pm – 7.30pm, commencing Saturday October 1. The Rosary takes us on a spiritual journey along with Mary in contemplation with her son Jesus. This powerful prayer is the storehouse of countless blessings. If you would like to participate, email Michelle: stm.michelleg@gmail.com or ring St Mary's Parish Centre on 5152 2942 to leave your contact details. A link will be emailed to you for your participation. We are so excited for you to be part of something amazing and marvellous and to encounter Jesus by praying the Rosary with others.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Envelopes containing information relevant to our current Stewardship Program are ready for collection and distribution. Please pick up yours from the foyer at Mass this weekend. Our aim is to provide this information for every Catholic household of our Parish, which depends on us having accurate contact details. If your envelope isn't provided, please contact the Parish Office. The Stewardship Program gives us the opportunity to take stock of our progress since the last program in 2019 and set goals for the next three years. Your engagement is an expression of your belonging. Fr Michael

PLENARY COUNCIL

Extract from Bishop Greg Bennet's letter on the Plenary Council
 The Second Assembly ended with the endorsement of the Decrees which will move toward promulgation. They set a course for us to heal, to listen; to form hearts and minds in Christ; to welcome all and those on the peripheries; to accompany other Christians and those from other faiths and so much more. It is a beginning point for the entire Church in Australia as she seeks to embody what has emerged into pastoral initiatives so that we can become more mission orientated and more Christ-like. I encourage you to reflect on the Decrees found on our website: www.cdsale.org.au



REGIONAL MATTERS
Thursday 29 September,
5pm – refreshments,
5.30-7.00pm
at St Mary's
Parish Centre,
Bairnsdale
 Catholic Social Services Victoria invites you to attend its **Regional Matters** Bairnsdale Forum to hear from government and local

leaders about the strengths and challenges faced by the local community. This will be the first in a series of forums to be held around regional Victoria in the lead up to the 2022 Victorian Election. We hope you can join us. More information available at: <https://css.org.au/events/regional-matters-bairnsdale-forum/> or by calling 03 9287 5566. Catholic Social Service Victoria works with its members – 42 Catholic community service organisations and the Bishops of Victoria – to build a more just and compassionate society.

September 24-25, 2022

Readings: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C
 1st Reading: Amos 6:1, 4-7
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:6-10
 2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16
 Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Collections:

September 11, 2022

Envelopes	\$ 908.00
DD & Cards	\$ 315.00
1 st Collection	\$ 954.80
2 nd Collection	\$ 929.95

THE MASS SERIES

Archbishop Mark Coleridge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane The series can be found on YouTube>Archdiocese of Brisbane/playlist>The Mass Series **Liturgy of the Eucharist: Communion Rite-Lord's Prayer**

The Church has offered sacrifice to God and brought to Him gifts of bread and wine, which symbolising God touching these gifts with the power of the Holy Spirit, transfiguring them into the Body and Blood of Christ. We move into the Communion Rite, the sacrifice becomes the feast. The Lamb we have offered to God, He now hands back to us, as His Son. We pray the Lord's Prayer. We have no words or gifts of our own to bring. The words that we bring are words which Jesus Himself has given. 'Thy Kingdom come', so that the communion which we now share with God, will be a communion that embraces the whole world, which is fractured and fragmented, but a world still able to sit down with God. 'Deliver us Lord from every evil' acknowledging the truth that we celebrate this feast in the midst of that which is not the feast. That which is evil. We are always under pressure and there's always a threat that the feast will die. In the midst of this we ask God to give us His peace, save us from sin and distress as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour. We are focused on past, present and future. As we join this feast, we look to another banquet which will be the banquet of heaven at the end of time. The Messianic banquet – the Banquet of the Lamb as it's called in the New Testament.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM ROME

Bishop Greg has just completed the course for new Bishops in Rome. The course gathered 152 Bishops from around the world who had been ordained during the Covid pandemic 2019-2022; a further 180 will attend the second session this week.



The course provided the new Bishops the opportunity to engage with various dicasteries of the Holy See and to understand how they exist to support the mission of the Church. "It is clear" said Bishop Greg, "the call of Pope Francis for the Church to act in a synodal way is being embedded in the manner of every dicastery. There is clearly a process of renewal under way at every level which effects the vision and mission of the Second Vatican Council. The Church is listening more clearly to the joys, hopes, aspirations and anxieties of her people and this dialogue enhances her missionary stance to the world."

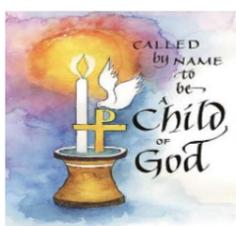
The week concluded with the Bishops having an audience with Pope Francis in the Clementine Hall within the Vatican. The Pope entered the hall aided by his walking stick and was greeted warmly by all. While his mobility is somewhat diminished, Bishop Greg suggested, "he is as sharp as ever." Pope Francis chose not to speak from a formal text, but rather wanted to dialogue with the Bishops; again modelling his synodal approach wishing to listen, dialogue and reflect together. "His capacity to draw upon scripture, personal experience, prayer, and pastoral stories enriched our time together. He encouraged us to pray deeply, to be close to the Lord, to one another, our clergy, our people and to seize every opportunity to bring Christ to others. He called us to be imaginative and creative just as we learn in the Acts of the Apostles - a missionary Church in a change of era requires faith, daring and respectful engagement with everyone." The scheduled one hour meeting continued for two hours concluding with an opportunity for every Bishop to greet Pope Francis. "Our week together has gathered us from around the globe. The daily gatherings for prayer, Eucharist, meetings and dialogue, meals and sharing, provided a wonderful opportunity for each of us as we continue with our episcopal ministry. We arrived as strangers and return home with new friendships in faith, mission, and fraternity"

Bishop Greg

We welcome into our Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism

**Leila Mallouk
Daughter of**

Agnieszka Busza & Achraf Mallouk



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Amanda Vowell (Chair), Wilma Collier, Marylin Elliott,
Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons,
Peter McMahan, Jacinta Da Costa**

Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Principals and Michael F.

Parish Directory: available at the Pastoral Centre.

St Mary's Primary School: 5152 3706

Nagle College: 5152 6122

Sacraments: To request information and registration forms email stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com

Baptisms: Call the Sacramental Coordinator to set a date. Baptisms are celebrated during or after Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Weddings: 6 months notice required, schedule dates with priest.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the Parish Centre.

Funerals: Please contact your preferred Funeral Director for arrangements.

Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:

Call Pattie Pruscino: 0427 232 682

Special Wedding Anniversaries: 6 months notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

St Vincent de Paul Conference/Assistance Centre:
5152 6687

St Mary's Op Shop: 5152 2088

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious
children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect
them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Anglican Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell



American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities.



Palms Australia

Embrace one of these [Mission opportunities abroad](#) and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961.

[Enquire online](#) or Ph: **0422 742 567** and [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Saturday September 24 at 11:30am** where you can talk with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now.

Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our [13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from October 16-28](#)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Marcie Hayles, Frank Murphy, Lenny Cavone, victims of natural disasters, mental health, COVID-19, terrorist attacks, war, conflict, asylum seekers, family violence and poverty.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Mary Field, Owen Gibbons, Jack Spirason, Glenda Moulton, Evan Dungey, Helen Gagalowicz, Chris McKenna, James Duggan, Mary Keady, Fr Ted Cooper SDB, and 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 REMEMBER THE SICK: Fred Crea, Philip Cerini, Marie Ayres (S-I-L of Pat Coloe), John Spirason, Paul Fitzgerald, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Maree Elbourne, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Brian Rowe.

Please remember all parishioners who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery. Those on the "sick list" will remain on it for one month. Please contact the Parish Centre to extend this time.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C September 18th 2022

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

The Opening Prayer

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the prophet Amos 8:4-7

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! May the name of the Lord be blessed both now and for evermore! **R.**

High above all nations is the Lord, above the heavens his glory. Who is like the Lord, our God, who has risen on high to his throne yet stoops from the heights to look down, to look down upon heaven and earth? **R.**

From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the dung heap he raises the poor to set him in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people. **R.**

A reading from the first letter to Timothy 2:1-8

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone - petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving - and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and - I am telling the truth and no lie - a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans. In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty." 'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light. 'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes:

Many people dream of being rich. Having a lot of money brings with it a certain amount of security and freedom to do many things that most people could not. Money, in and of itself, is neither good nor bad. If one is rich, that is fine. If one is poor, that is fine. From the perspective of God, the amount of money you have matters little.

Reflect, today, upon any struggle you have with being overly attached to money, or the lack thereof. God promises to provide for you in your need, so it's essential that you trust Him. And if your financial needs are more than met, be grateful and cultivate generosity as you seek to detach from money as a false source of happiness. Let your heart only be filled with the rich grace of God as its source of fulfillment and you will be rich in the truest sense.

My Catholic Life!

