



Sacred Heart,
Swifts Creek

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK AND 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.
Empower our community to activate their gifts to build a better world. To strengthen and grow our faith.

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen

Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Hughes

Presbytery: 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale

Phone: 5152 3106

Parish Pastoral Centre: 135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale

Phone: 5152 2942

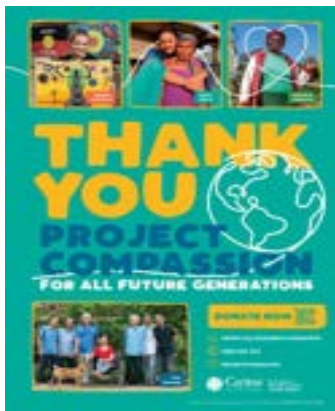
Website: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net

Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

Email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year A, April 16, 2023

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.



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better

tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**



You can still donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



TO THE END. Filmed over four years of hope for, and crisis in, our environment.

The online screening will take place via Zoom on: **April 19, from 6:00pm-8:30pm**

Bookings are essential at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CGKSV>

Remember this event is free. There will be plenty of time for discussion after the film.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Mary's, Bairnsdale:	Saturday: 6.00pm
	Sunday: 9.30am
St Patrick's, Paynesville:	Sunday: 8.00am
St Canice's, Lindenow:	Sunday: 11.00am
Swifts Creek, Omeo and Benambra	
Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek:	4th Saturday: 6.30pm
Immaculate Conception, Omeo:	4th Sunday: 9.00am
St Francis', Benambra:	4th Sunday: 11.00am

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
NO MASSES
Sale Clergy Retreat
Friday: 1.30pm
Funeral Mass for John Saunders
Paynesville
Wednesday: Rosary 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

Friday:
After 9.10am Mass
Saturday:
9.30am to 10.00am
5.30pm to 5.50pm

3rd Sunday of Easter, Year A, April 22-23, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	G Dooley	M Saunders	D Reefman	K Flannery	
9.30am Sunday	T Kosmer	A Chila	L Urban	G Neeson	M Owen, P Brown-Graham, H Sampson

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: April 29 - P Pruscino **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 through the Parish Centre: 5152 2942.

Alternatively contact Bairnsdale Police: 5150 2600 or Towards Healing: 1800 816 030.

You are warmly invited to attend

The Blessing and Dedication

of



St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Clyde North

on

Sunday April 23, 2023

We will be honoured by the presence of

His Excellency Charles Balvo, Apostolic Nuncio to Australia

and Most Rev Gregory Bennet, Bishop of Sale who will preside at the Concelebrated Ritual Mass of

Dedication of the Church and Altar

beginning at St Peter's College Clyde North Campus

(55 MacKillop Way, Clyde North) **at 1.00pm**

and walking in procession to enter the new Church

(5 Fiorelli Boulevard, Cranbourne East) **at 2:00pm**

Reception with light refreshments to follow

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS - APRIL **For a culture of peace and non violence**

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



Worksheets Available for Collection

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please collect a worksheet for your child to help them deepen their understanding of the Word during celebration of the Mass.

- ◆ **In today's gospel what people did Jesus appear to?**
- ◆ **Where were the disciples?**
- ◆ **How did they feel when they saw Jesus?**
- ◆ **Who did not believe it was Jesus?**
- ◆ **Why did Thomas stop doubting?**
- ◆ **When can you sense Jesus is with you, even though you do not see him?**
- ◆ **How can we recognise Jesus in other people?**

Readings:

3rd Sunday of Easter Year A **April 22-23, 2023**

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-23

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Collections:

April 8-9, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 917.00
DD & Cards	\$ 1055.00
1 st Collection	\$ 1322.20
2 nd Collection	\$ 1037.20
Pay Wave	\$ 120.00
Church Tours	\$ 82.20
Special Collection:	\$ 3884.10

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

St Mary's Parish is preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion to be celebrated in June 2023.

Children in Grade 4 and above, who have already received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, are invited to enrol in the program **now**.

Enrolments close April 21, 2023.

To discuss this further, please contact Michelle Grimsted at the Parish Centre on 5152 2942 or via email stm.michelleg@gmail.com

Blessings always, Michelle - Sacramental Coordinator



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons, Jacinta Da Costa,
Geoff Neeson, Leonie Urban
Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Fr Mark
School Principals and Michael Flynn

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

We welcome into the St Mary's family through the Sacrament of Baptism

*Georgie Grace
daughter of Sarah and Brock Smith*

*Luíza Maria
daughter of Joana De Sa Araujo and
Juharjono Andre*



Come and See

A call to the priesthood

A stirring in your heart for God?
what this might mean for you?

Could Jesus be inviting you to share in his ministry as a Priest?

Date: Sunday, April 30th 2023

Venue: Chapter House,
St Mary's Cathedral, Sale

Time: 2:30-4:00 pm



An Opportunity

Meet our priests to discuss their Ministry
Prayer and contemplation

PAPAL APPOINTMENT FOR BISHOP GREG

On March 23 Bishop Greg Bennet received a further appointment as a Member of the Dicastery for the Clergy from His Holiness, Pope Francis. The Dicastery for Clergy is responsible for overseeing matters regarding diocesan Priests and Deacons (those not belonging to religious orders) and seminaries. The Dicastery focuses its efforts on the ongoing formation of clergy by providing guidance to Bishops in their ongoing care, formation and education of clergy. The Dicastery provides the oversight by the Holy See in the training of candidates for Holy Orders in seminaries throughout the world by norms which establish and guide seminary formation to ensure seminarians receive a solid human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation in preparation for ordination.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Marie Ayres, Sr Marie O'Kelly, John Saunders, Jack Shaw, all 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: Stephen "Michael" Dwyer, Arthur Gilchrist, Ray Cook, Peter Duggan, John McMahon, Veronica Saunders, Lucy de Moel, Michael Humphries, Chris Sroczynski, Rita Buteyn, 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: Maria Sticca, Baby Ethan, Brian Hall, Robyn Finlay, Brendan Kosmer (son of Hans and Trudy), Darcy Sutton, John Birrell, Wade Matthews, Kathleen Robertson, Mary Johnson, John Atkins, Rick Harney, Fred Crea, John Spirason, Shirley Gilmore, Vin Ayres, Maree Elbourne, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Brian Rowe, Alan Casanelia.

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.

Divine Mercy Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year A, April 16, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

The Opening Prayer

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the Paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed.

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 Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **R.**

I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song;

he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again: 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into his side, I refuse to believe.'

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me, happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked, and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes:

In the messages contained within St Faustina's Diary, Jesus revealed to us that this Sunday, the eighth and final day of the Octave of Easter, is a day like no other. Though grace and mercy are continuously poured out from Heaven upon us, Jesus is very clear that today is unique. Today, "a whole ocean of graces" is poured forth upon souls who approach the font of His mercy. Sit with that image for a time. "A whole ocean of graces." Reflect, today, upon this ocean being poured forth upon you. How much of this mercy are you able to receive right now in your life? As you humbly admit your limited openness to God's grace, know that God patiently waits for you, dwelling in His fullness deep within you, waiting for you to make the journey to Him. Commit yourself to this journey by prayer, fasting, penance, the reading of Scripture, the celebration of the Sacraments and spiritual reading. There is an ocean of the fullness of life waiting for you. Dive in and allow His mercy to deepen your capacity to receive Him most fully.

Our Catholic Life