



St Mary's Bairnsdale

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

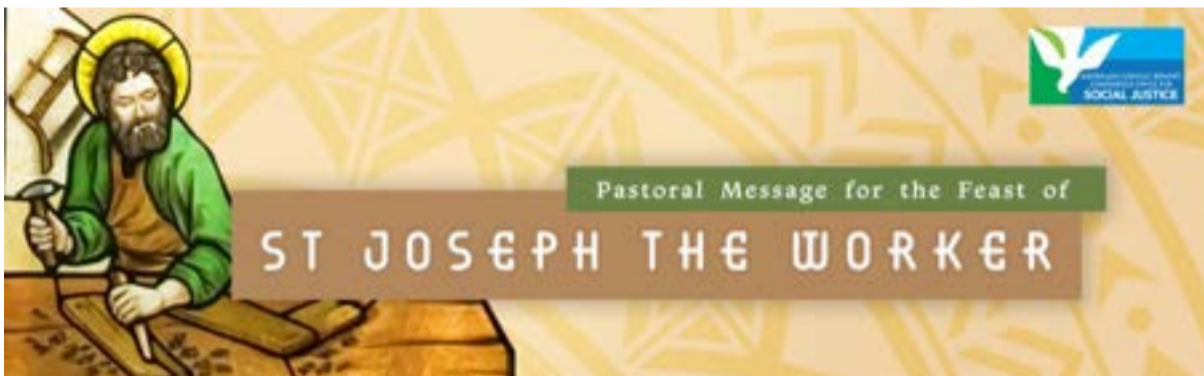
Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

Email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com

4th Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, Year A, April 30, 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.

The Feast of St Joseph the Worker and International Workers Day-May1



On May 1 the Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St Joseph the Worker. Each year the Australian Catholic Bishops take this opportunity to reflect on issues concerning the world of work. Their letters have addressed unemployment, underemployment, insecure and casualised work, the meaning of work, the quest for decent work and much more. They have developed a body of teaching on work.

Furthermore, their annual Pastoral Letters for this occasion offer a uniquely Australian contribution to Catholic Social Teaching.

Jesus Christ was a worker – a carpenter – whose teachings and parables evoked again and again the lives of the people among whom he had come to live. He spoke the language of farm workers, fishermen, builders, shepherd and all men and women who toiled at work and in the home for the care of their children and families. *Bishop Christopher Saunders, Forward, Catholic Social Justice*

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: 9.10am
Wednesday: 9.10am
Thursday: 9.10am
Friday: 9.10am

Paynesville

Wednesday: Rosary 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

Friday:
After 9.10am Mass

Saturday:
9.30am to 10.00am
5.30pm to 5.50pm

5th Sunday of Easter, Year A, May 6-7, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	M Saunders	K Flannery	B O'Kelly	J Peachey	
9.30am Sunday	M Owen	D Fallon	H Van Den Einden	P Pruscino	G and K Cassidy, J Coverdale

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: May 13 - K Cassidy 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.

NEXT SUNDAY

Morning Tea after 9.30am Mass at
St Mary's, Bairnsdale
and after 8.00am Mass at
St Patrick's, Paynesville
Come and join us



Please accept my thanks for the recent donation of \$500 from the Parish Social Justice Committee to help St Elizabeth Hospital in Hyderabad provide relief assistance after the recent floods in the region. Our Mobile Medical Outreach was providing to the forgotten where no one else wanted to go because it was "too far and too wet." St Elizabeth Hospital continued to respond to the Malaria and Dengue Fever post-flood crisis by using your donation to buy mosquito nets.

Fr Robert McCulloch



Heartfelt thanks to all those who prayed for me during my recent acute illness, especially the Charismatic Prayer Group. I felt sustained during the process and uplifted by your prayers.

With gratitude and great affection.

John Birrell.

The Loss and Grief Group will be meeting in the Parish Centre

Thursday May 4 at 5.00pm

If you are dealing with a recent loss or are still grieving please consider joining us.

The group is confidential and very supportive.

For more, contact Michael on 5152 2942.



Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or go to www.palms.org.au



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY-STORIES WORTH SHARING

<https://nce.catholic.org.au/the-bridge/the-bridge/raising-faithful-children-and-encouraging-vocations-in-the-family>



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



Corpus Christi College and
Catholic Theological College

Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal

Support the training of Priests for tomorrow's Church

Special Collection at Masses **THIS WEEKEND** April 29-30

Your tax-deductible donation will support the costs of Corpus Christi College Seminarians.

<https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/>



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.

- ◆ Whose voice do you know without being told who it is?
- ◆ How can you tell?
- ◆ Jesus speaks to us in many ways.
- ◆ How can we tell the voice of Jesus?
- ◆ Jesus says that he will always care for us.
- ◆ Let us pray that we may know and love Jesus more closely.

Readings:

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 6-7, 2023

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12

Collections:

April 22-23, 2023

Envelopes \$ 907.00

DD & Cards \$ 1095.00

1st Collection \$ 692.90

2nd Collection \$ 675.95

Pay Wave \$ 180.00

Special Collection \$ 419.50

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



PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday May 2, 7.00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall

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

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.

Come and See

A call to the priesthood

Date: Sunday, April 30th 2023
Venue: Chapter House,
St Mary's Cathedral, Sale
Time: 2:30-4:00 pm

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?



TODAY IS THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS. GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY.

Pope Francis tells us: There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.

**Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends.
May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or Priesthood.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Damien Gilhooley, Poala 'Pauline' Calabro, 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: Kerry Terranova, Monica Ainsworth, Cliff Betts, Lena Betts, Glen Dungey, Des Shanahan, Felicia Bagnato, Fortunato Desio, Francesca Desio, Teresa Saulle, Baby John Robert Brooks, Norman Dore, Joe Gwizdek, Maria Capobianco, Pam Hammond Guise Duong Van Ho, Barry Brindle, Bob Carrick, Domenico Schiafone, Peter Ross, Pat Bills, Vicki Hall, Don Ward, 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: Stuart Murray (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, Baby Ethan, Brian Hall, Robyn Finlay, Brendan Kosmer (son of Hans and Trudy), Darcy Sutton, Wade Matthews, Mary Johnson, John Atkins, Rick Harney, Fred Crea, John Spirason, 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.

4th Sunday of Easter, Year A, April 29-30, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

The Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. 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 2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 2: 20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 10: 1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes:

The readings for the 4th Sunday of Easter Year A invite us to reflect on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd who cares for his flock. This image reminds us that Jesus is intimately involved in our lives, and that he knows us and loves us individually. It also reminds us that we are called to follow him, and to trust in his guidance and protection. The Good Shepherd offers us protection from those who would lead us astray. He guides us to the gates of heaven. But we must hear his voice and follow. This involves repentance and a commitment to do what he asks. And we will probably encounter some suffering along the way. We are invited to reflect on the promise of eternal life, which is a key aspect of this Sunday's readings. As believers, we have the hope of sharing in the resurrection of Christ, and of being united with him forever. This hope gives us strength and courage to face the challenges of life, knowing that we are not alone and that our ultimate destination is with Christ in heaven. We are strengthened for this task through baptism and by the Holy Spirit. Our community also supports us. And we can find comfort in our Good Shepherd who suffered for us.

Young Catholics