



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 Joseph Abutu

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday Year B, April 21, 2024

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.



Good Shepherd Sunday Special Collection TODAY

to support the

Seminarian Bursary Fund.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:11-18

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: 9.10am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Anzac Day Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday to Friday: 8.00am

St Patrick's Paynesville

Wednesday: Rosary 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

Friday: After 9.10am Mass
Saturday: 9.30am to 10.00am

ROSARY VIA ZOOM

Monday: 7.00pm
Contact the Parish Centre for a link

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

Masses held on the 4th weekend of each month.

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek:	4th Saturday: 6.30pm
Immaculate Conception, Omeo:	4th Sunday: 9.00am
St Francis', Benambra:	4th Sunday: 11.00am

5th Sunday of Easter, Year B, April 28, 2024

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	J De Boer	C Marriot-Smith	J Peachey	P Elliot	
9.30am Sunday	D Atkins	G Neeson	T Kosmer	H Sampson	M Owen, C and S Tilley
Cleaning: Fortnight ending: May 5 - S Gibson		Please find a replacement if you are 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 Helen Van Den Einden who can be contacted through the Parish Centre: 5152 2942. Alternatively contact Bairnsdale Police: 5150 2600 or Towards Healing: 1800 816 030.

Alpha Retreat

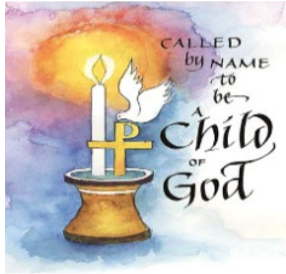


The Retreat occurs around week 7 of the **Alpha Program** and we were blessed with glorious weather and a great weekend together at Camp Coolamatong on the Banksia Peninsula.

The retreat was very well attended by our Alpha team and guests, and we enjoyed great hospitality, food and fellowship the Alpha way. It was a chance to take our prayer life deeper and to strengthen and grow our relationship with God as we filled up with His love and joy. It was a blessed time of prayer, music, reflection, and grace, in a beautiful natural farm retreat setting.

This series concludes on April 26 and we are planning to commence the next one before the end of the year. We will keep you posted and warmly invite you all to consider joining the Alpha journey for faith, fun, food and fellowship.

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday April 24, due to staff availability and Thursday April 25 for Anzac Day



We welcome into our Parish family through the Sacrament of Baptism

Vada Jean

son of Megan Froud



50th Wedding Anniversaries!

Congratulations to
Leo and Maureen Saunders
Monday April 15
Geoff and Kath Cassidy
Friday April 19.

Vale Bev Broome

Bev was a stalwart of St Mary's Parish and very generously gave of her time whenever the occasion required. She will be sadly missed but lovingly remembered. Dearest Bev, Rest In Peace with your God.



Childrens 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. Beginning points for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

- ♦ Can you think of some people who have the job of protecting or looking after people?
- ♦ What would they need to be like or need to know to do their jobs well?
- ♦ Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd who cares for his sheep.
- ♦ Who are the sheep Jesus cares for?
- ♦ We are his flock. How can we be a good flock?
- ♦ We give thanks for God's love and care for us and pray that we can show God's love to others.

Fr Brendan Hogan's

25th Anniversary of Ordination

An invitation to attend

Afternoon Tea at 2.00pm Sunday April 21

In the Marist Sion College Hall,

165 Burke Street Warragul.

Contact Dee: 0413 515 201

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS: APRIL

For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination they experience in different parts of the world.



A Message from Pope Francis on the Bondi Junction stabbings

In a telegram to Archbishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney, Cardinal Secretary of State

Pietro Parolin conveyed Pope Francis' deep sadness over the violent attack at a local shopping centre in Sydney, Australia.

The Pope assured his spiritual support for all affected, offering prayers for the deceased, the injured, and the first responders. He invoked divine blessings of consolation and strength upon the nation.

Prayer for Peace

As the fever of the day calms towards twilight may all that is strained in us come to ease.

We pray for all who have suffered violence today, may an unexpected serenity surprise them.

For those who risk their lives each day for peace, may their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.

That those who make riches from violence and war might hear in their dreams the cry of the lost.

That we might see through the fear of each other a new vision to heal our fatal attraction to aggression.

That those who enjoy the privilege of peace might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters.

That the wolf might lie down with the lamb, that our swords be beaten into ploughshares and no hurt or harm

be done anywhere on the holy mountain.

'Benedictus' A book of Blessings by John O'Donohue

READINGS: 5th Sunday of Easter April 28-29, 2024

1st Reading: Acts 9:26-31

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 21:26-28,30-32

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel: John 15:1-8

COLLECTIONS: April 13-14, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 918.00
DD and Cards	\$ 540.00
1 st Collection	\$ 1056.80
2 nd Collection	\$ 829.05
Pay Wave	\$ 240.00



TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. PROVERBS 3:5

GLOW is now meeting on
the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.

**MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN
1st NATIONAL CONFERENCE:
Saturday April 27.**

Come and experience 'Mothers who Pray for their Children' at the Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne.

Join us for insightful talks from keynote speakers such as Archbishop Peter Comensoli, Fr Rob Galea and our Foundress Angela Abdo who will be coming straight from Brazil.

There will also be live music, stalls, and the opportunity to experience prayer and Adoration with mothers from the movement.

This is a fully catered, full day event.

Tickets available at:

www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1148763

Anyone with a mother's heart is welcome to attend this awesome event. Any enquiries please contact

Mary on 0417 391 298 or visit our website:

<http://motherswhoprayerfortheirchildren.com/>



2 pairs of glasses have been found in the Church. If they are yours, they may be collected from the Parish Centre.



Anzac Day, April 25

God Bless those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us; our returned service personnel and those who currently serve.

We are forever in your debt.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Geoff Neeson (Chair), Madelaine Schumann,
Leonie Urban

Ex-officio members: Fr Joseph, 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 2nd and 3rd weekends 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: 3 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

Rotary



Club of Mitchell River
(Bairnsdale)

CENTENARY HOUSE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

DATE: Wednesday April 24, 2024

TIME: 7.00am to 10.30am

LOCATION: St Mary's Parish Centre, Bairnsdale

COST: \$20.00 per head – Includes Home Cooked or Continental breakfast and multiple competition entries.

Gippsland Rotary Centenary House is a community-based not-for-profit accommodation facility, for patients and their families who are attending the **Gippsland Cancer Care Centre** at **Latrobe Regional Hospital**.

The philosophy is to provide affordable, comfortable, supportive, and secure accommodation so that the stress of travelling and treatment is minimised.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Victims of the Sydney stabbings, victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, Family Violence, Asylum Seekers and all others who have passed away.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Rita Buteyn, Guise Duong Van Ho, Barry Brindle, Bob Carrick, Peter Ross, Paola 'Pauline' Calabro, Domenico Schiafone, Pat Bills, Vicki Hall, Ray Cook, Peter Duggan, John McMahon, Veronica Saunders, Lucy de Moel, Michael Humphries, Chris Sroczynski and Priests, Religious Sisters and Brothers 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: Mary Harrison, Anita De Jesus, Russell Wilson, Benny Garro, Gabrielle Carrasco (great-niece of Chris and Sandie Tilley), Terry Smyth, Pat Coloe, Bill Tilley, Dennis Collins, Bob Marshall, Kathleen Robertson, Margaret O'Reilly, and Arthur Elbourne.

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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024 Good Shepherd Sunday

Entrance Antiphon

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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

Responsorial Psalm 117:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **R.**

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **R.**

A reading from the First Letter of St John 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

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 10:11-18

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Reflection

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the good shepherd and the sheep.

This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity. As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and Son.

The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father. In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship, (John probably understands this as the eventual inclusion of the gentiles in the Christian community). Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

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