



St Canice's, Lindenow

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: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A March 26, 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.



Fifth Sunday of Lent March 25-26



Project Compassion brings together Australian schools, Parishes and supporters to raise funds for people in vulnerable communities across the world. This year, we introduced you to the story of four inspiring people whose lives have been transformed with your generous support: Laxmi, Tereesa, Priscilla and Thu. Today, they are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations. Project Compassion is a demonstration of the faith, empathy, and generosity of our supporters. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia – without it, we could not do the vital work we do. Thank you for helping transform lives today and for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413



EASTER LITURGIES

Thursday April 6: 7.00pm at St Mary's, Bairnsdale

Friday April 7:

- **Stations of the Cross:**
9.30am at St Mary's, Bairnsdale;
11.00am at St Canice's, Lindenow
- **Passion Liturgy:**
3.00pm at St Mary's, Bairnsdale
3.00pm at St Mary's, Omeo

Saturday April 8:

- **Easter Vigil:** 6.00pm at St Mary's, Bairnsdale

Sunday April 9:

- **Easter Sunday:** 8.00am at St Patrick's, Paynesville
9.00am at St Francis', Benambra
9.30am at St Mary's, Bairnsdale;
11.00am at Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek.

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-Wednesday: 9.10am

Wed: 11.00am Funeral Prayers
Barry Healy

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 8.00am Nagle College Chapel
9.10am St Mary's PS
11.00am St Mary's Requiem Mass
Joe Minniti

Paynesville Wednesday Rosary 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

is available each:

Friday:
After 9.10am Mass

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

Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord, Year A April 1–2, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	M Saunders	M Schumann	J De Boer	P Elliott	
9.30am Sunday	G & K Cassidy	D Atkins	B Marshall	M Elliott	N Nash, B Payne, N Rooney

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: April 1 - G Cannizzaro 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.

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



CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY: Saturday April 1: 6.00pm and Sunday April 2: 9.30am

Readers Commentators etc as per Rosters.

CAN YOU HELP? We need an extra Reader for the reading of the Passion

Contact: Sandie Tilley 0412 954 133

PARISH 2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION: Tuesday April 4: 6.00pm Contact : Michael Flynn 5152 2942

HEALING THE HURTS 6 HOUR VIGIL: April 6: 9.00am to 3.00pm Contact Michelle 5152 2942

HOLY THURSDAY: April 6: 7.00pm

CAN YOU HELP? We need Altar Servers, people to carry the Symbols being used during the Triduum -Book of the Gospels, Message Stick, Candles, Basin/Water Jug & Towel, the Cross, five Paschal Candles and three Holy Oils in the Entrance Procession, Twelve people to have their feet washed, Reader, three for the Offertory Procession, Minister of the Eucharist, the Thurible and two people to strip the Altar. Contact: Chris Power 0418 148 657

GOOD FRIDAY: April 7: Stations of the Cross: 9.30am at St Mary's Bairnsdale; 11.00am at St Canice's Lindenow

Passion of the Lord 3.00pm at St Mary's Bairnsdale; 3.00pm at St Mary's Omeo

CAN YOU HELP? As a Reader, Minister of the Eucharist or Commentator Contact: Passion-Pattie Pruscino 0427 232 682

EASTER VIGIL: April 8: 6.00pm Contact: Michelle 5152 2942 or Sandie Tilley 0412 954 133

EASTER SUNDAY: April 9: 9.30am Readers, Commentators etc. as per weekend Rosters

East Gippsland Asylum Seeker Support Group invites you to join other locals

NEXT SUNDAY for a Silent Vigil **Palm Sunday April 2nd**

10.30am— 2.00pm St Mary's Church Bairnsdale
IT'S PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



RCIA 3rd SCRUTINY



Each Scrutiny is a step in preparing the Elect and Candidates for the celebration and initiation soon to come. The Scrutinies are God's way of taking a close, loving look. God does not scrutinise the Catechumens to find what's wrong, but to deliver them from the power of sin and Satan; to protect them against temptation; and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. This rite celebrates all that is beautiful, good, and true in each person and helps them carry out their decision to love God above all. Please keep our Elect, David, and Candidates, Troy and Brianna, in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.



Blessing of the Crosses Mass **Sunday April 2, 2023 at 9.30am** **St Mary's Church, Bairnsdale.**

You are invited to participate in this blessing, it is a wonderful way to renew our interior life by putting God first and Jesus at the centre of our life.

Please bring along any cross, crucifix, rosary beads or religious item to this Mass which marks the beginning of Christ's Passion, Holy Week our time of preparation for the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

Any enquiries, please contact Michelle at the Parish Centre on 5152 2942.

FOR OUR VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY

LỄ PHỤC SINH 2023

Cha Phao Lô Hiệp Nguyễn, linh mục đang phục vụ tại Lakes Entrance - East Gippsland, Victoria trân trọng kính mời anh chị em người Việt Nam đang sinh sống và làm việc tại Giáo Phận Sale và vùng Miền Đông Victoria tới tham dự buổi gặp mặt nhận dịp mừng lễ Chúa Phục Sinh tại nhà thờ St Mary Bairnsdale vào tối ngày lễ Phục Sinh 09/04/2023.

Chương trình gặp mặt:

5:00pm Giải Tội

6:00pm Thánh lễ

Sau thánh lễ sẽ gặp mặt và ăn tối tại Hội Trường giáo xứ

Rất hân hạnh được đón tiếp mọi người.

Kính Mời

Linh mục: Phao Lô Hiệp Nguyễn

2nd Rite of Reconciliation-6.00pm Tuesday April 4

All are invited to attend the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation as we prepare for Easter.



Readings:

Palm Sunday

April 1 -2, 2023, Year A

1st Reading: Isaiah: 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm: 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: John 26:14-27, 66

Collections:

March 18—19, 2023

Envelopes \$ 784.00

DD & Cards \$ 740.00

1st Collection \$ 578.15

2nd Collection \$ 717.45

Pay Wave \$ 250.00

Church Tours \$ 163.70

Healing the Hurts Vigil-9.00am-3.00pm Thursday April 6

The church will be open for anyone to come and spend some time in reflection as an act of charity for the victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. This event will also contribute to the building up of our community and its culture as a Child Safe Parish. Please consider adding your name to the roster at the front of the church. We need a minimum of one person to remain in the building for at least 30 minutes during this period of time.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS— MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.





SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We have 38 young people who are preparing for the next stage of their Baptismal Journey.

Please pray for these young people, their educators and their families, as they take that next step, when they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on:

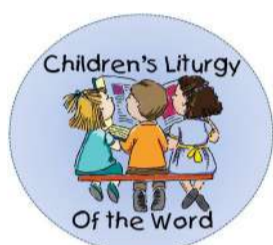
Tuesday March 28.

PRAYING THE ROSARY WITH OTHERS

St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale invites you to the online community to pray the Rosary, via Zoom, every Monday night at 7.00pm. 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. Why should the Rosary be part of your prayer life? Saint Padre Pio reminds us that it is the 'weapon for these times.' Email Michelle: stm.michelleg@gmail.com to receive a link to join us.

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.

- ◆ Can you remember a time when you went away from home for a few days or more?
- ◆ What was it like when you returned home? What did your family do?
- ◆ In today's gospel Jesus brought Lazarus back to life after he had been buried in a tomb. How would Lazarus' sisters Mary and Martha have felt?
- ◆ The Spirit of Jesus gives us life. How can we give life and hope to others?
- ◆ How can we be the light of the world to others?



Congratulations to Alice Norling and Thomas Stanley, who were married in St Mary's on Friday.



Morning Tea after Masses in Bairnsdale and Paynesville on Sunday April 2. Come along and join us.

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

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

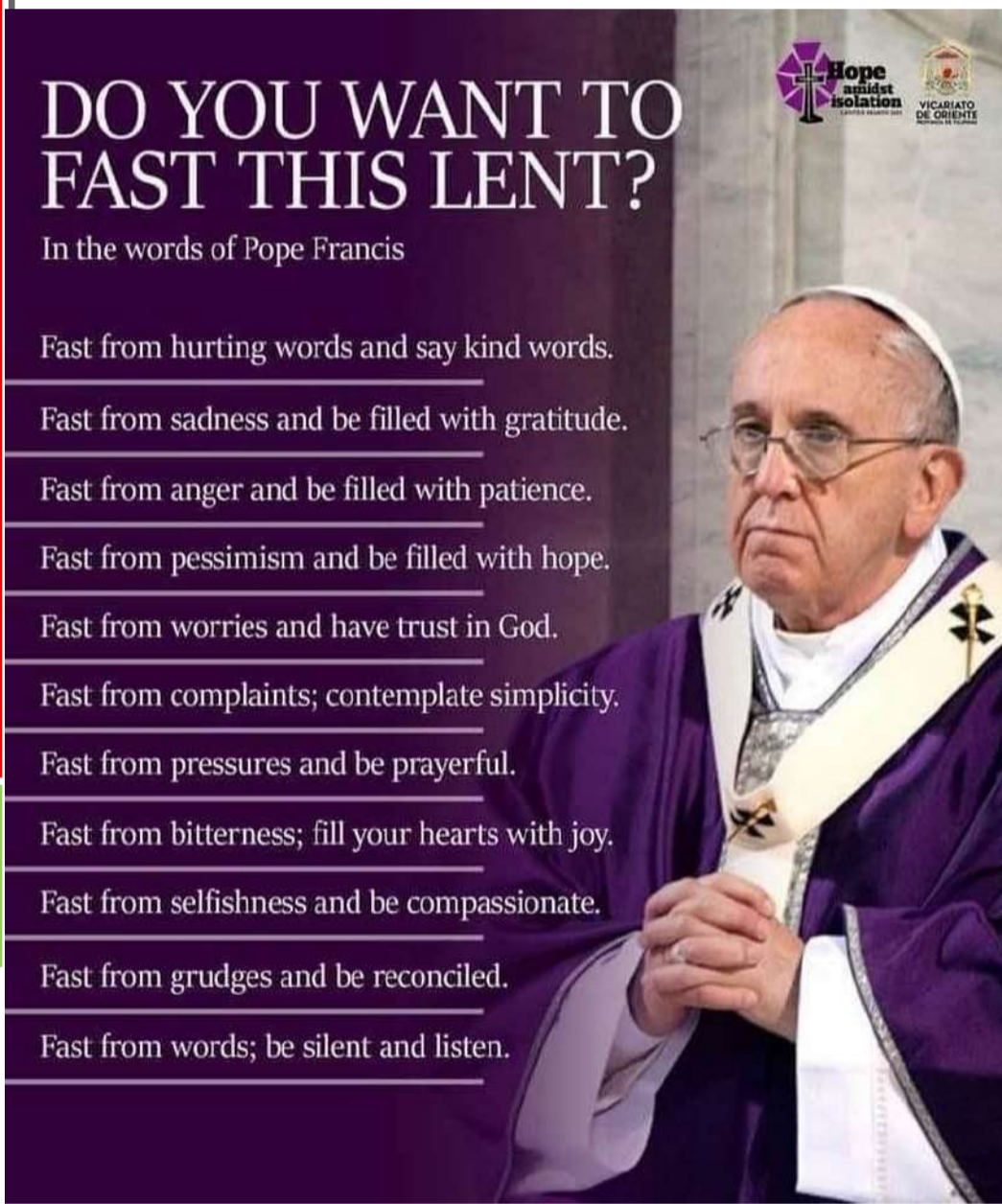
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Norma Websdale, Joe Minniti, Barry Healy, Celas Watkin, all victims of natural disasters, mental health, COVID-19, terrorist attacks, war, conflict, asylum seekers, family violence and poverty.

ALL SE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Michele Grumley, John Tilley, Robert Kilpatrick, John Shanahan, Frank Wardley, Betty Kirwan, Rosa Lamanna, Ron Hannaford, Brendan Earles, Dennis Prendergast, Francesca Lanteri, Paolo Lanteri, Lorna Gilchrist, Margaret Bills, Marguerite Leone, Joan Browne, Terry Boyd, Lorraine O'Brien, David Eldridge, Agnes Gibson, John Confait, Graeme Summerton, 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: Baby Ethan, Brian Hall, Brendan Kosmer (son of Hans and Trudy), Robyn Finlay, Larry Klobukowski, Darcy Sutton, John Birrell, Wade Matthews, John Saunders, Kathleen Robertson, Mary Johnson, 2John Atkins, Rick Harney, Fred Crea, Marie Ayres, 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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A, March 26, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

The Opening Prayer

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. 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 Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ear be attentive to the voice of my pleading. **R.**

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. **R.**

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

(Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) **R.**

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. **R.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 11:1-45

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. - It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied: 'Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.' He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas - known as the Twin - said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world. 'When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.