



Immaculate Conception,
Omeo

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

Palm Sunday Year A, April 2, 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.

MORNING TEA AFTER MASS TODAY AT ST MARY'S BAIRNSDALE AND ST PATRICK'S PAYNESVILLE



Sixth Sunday of Lent (Palm Sunday) April 1-2

Every day, more than 200 million

children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry, and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water. In recent years, COVID-19 has also devastated vulnerable communities already living in poverty, with the health and economic impacts to reverberate for years to come. It's through the generous support of people like you that we are able to continue to help lift vulnerable communities out of poverty – support that is needed now more than ever. **Thank you** for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present, and future. **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: 9.10am

Tuesday: 11.00am Chrism Mass

Sale Cathedral

6.00pm 2nd Rite Reconciliation

Wednesday: 9.10am

1.30pm Funeral Prayers Liz Dwyer

Holy Thursday: 7.00pm

Good Friday: 3.00pm

Paynesville: 10.00am Wednesday Rosary

2nd RITE OF

[RECONCILIATION: 6.00pm](#)

[TUESDAY APRIL 4](#)

[RECONCILIATION](#)

Friday: After 9.10am Mass

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.00am

5.30pm to 5.50pm

[Healing the Hurts Vigil](#)

[Thursday: 9.00am-3.00pm](#)

Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord, Year A April 8-9, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	J Peachey	B O'Kelly	J De Boer	M Saunders	
9.30am Sunday	R David	P Brown– Graham	M Mendonca	J Fallon	B & A Capobianco, H Van Den Einden

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: April 15 - B Mahony **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

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 Grimsted 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 Grimsted 5152 2942 or Sandie Tilley 0412 954 133

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

MUSIC: Playing a musical instrument and/or singing. Contact: Josie Boland 0439 023 633



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

TODAY

for a Silent Vigil

Palm Sunday April 2nd

10.30am— 12.30pm St Mary's Church Bairnsdale

IT'S PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The Loss and Grief Group meets this Thursday, April 6 at 6.00pm in the Parish Centre. If you are experiencing any type of loss or grief, please consider joining us.

You will be most welcome.

Contact Michael for more information:
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

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— 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



Blessing of the Crosses

9.30am Mass St Mary's



2nd Rite of Reconciliation

6.00pm Tuesday April 4

All are invited to attend the

2nd Rite of Reconciliation as we prepare for Easter.

It is a communal confession.

We gather as a community and listen to the word of God.

The homily emphasises our need for repentance and the infinite mercy of our loving and forgiving God.



Readings:

Sunday of the Resurrection

April 8-9

1st Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Collections:

March 25-26, 2023

Envelopes \$ 885.00

DD & Cards \$ 95.00

1st Collection \$ 735.35

2nd Collection \$ 935.80

Pay Wave \$ 120.00

Church Tours \$ 288.50

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 **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

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.

- **Who are the people who love you?**
- **What special things do they do for you?**

- **Jesus suffered and died because he loved us.**
- **How can we show God's love to others?**
- **Today is the beginning of a special week of celebrations.**
- **How can we participate in Holy Week?**



Thank you to parents, carers and teachers for all your support during this time of preparation as our children grow towards Christian maturity. On Tuesday, 38 Candidates celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation and experienced God's forgiveness and healing love.

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.

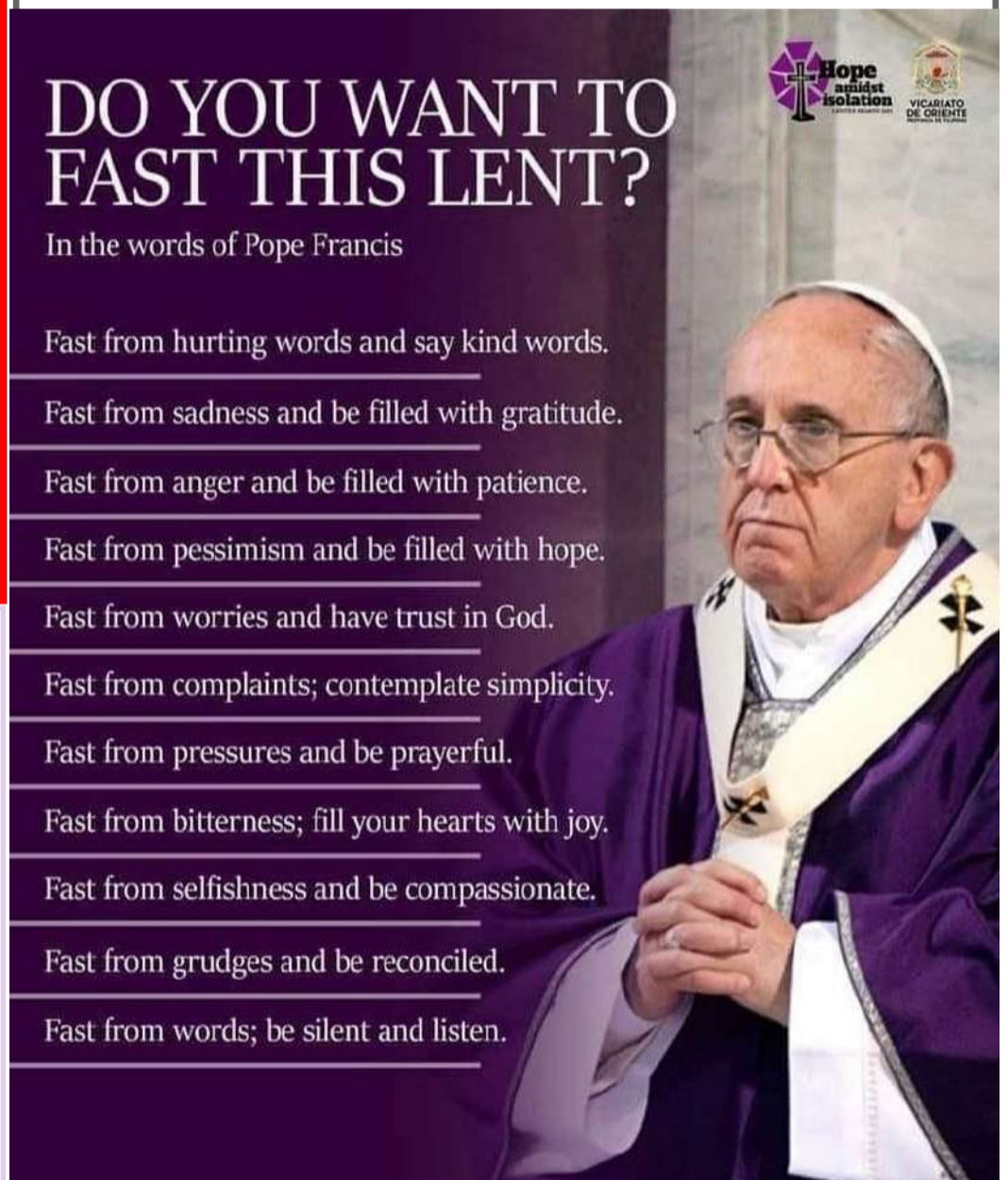
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

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: Liz Dwyer, Irene Dennison, Peter Dean, 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 WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Joan Merritt, Mary Sova, Carmel Brown, Edna Cottrell, William Field, Sam Monk, John Saunders, Vera Saunders, Patricia Miles, Matt Coco, Angelo D'Amelio, Gaetano Calabro 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, 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, Brendan Kosmer (son of Hans and Trudy), Robyn Finlay, Larry Klobukowski, Darcy Sutton, John Birrell, Wade Matthews, John Saunders, Kathleen Robertson, Mary Johnson, John 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.

Palm Sunday Year A, April 2, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

The Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips; they toss their heads.

'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend. **R.**

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me.

They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled.

'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons. **R.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, Death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore, God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!_

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Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

Scripture notes:

The people who put Jesus to death were not uniquely an evil bunch, acting out of the vilest possible motives. They belonged to the same human family that we do, and in each of them we all glimpse something of ourselves, our failings and our need for grace.

The Pharisees: were austere religious men who devoted their energy to doing good and studying God's Law. But they were convinced of their own rightness, and history shows that such people are capable of appalling evil.

Caiaphas: was perhaps thinking about how easily people get led astray by false messiahs. The Church condemned heretics to burn at the stake, thinking it was serving God!

Pilate: was maybe concerned with preserving law and order at a time of great unrest, and keeping his job. He feared trouble might occur if he didn't appease the religious leaders. Most of us know what is right but don't always have the courage to do it.

Judas: who was likely a disillusioned man but who ultimately couldn't live with the killing of an innocent man. Many people today have no such problem and we don't have to look far into the world today to see those people.

Peter: who was weak and cowardly and anyone of us would have done the same. Peter shed tears over his denials, do we?

The soldiers: simply carrying out orders? As the Nazi leaders did at the Nuremberg trials. We too blame others for our sins, refusing to accept responsibility for our cowardly acts and evasions.

The crowd: It was a highly emotional occasion and they got carried away! How often do we take refuge in the crowd? 'Everyone is doing it?'

Jesus: the central person in this event. He shows us that the only way to overcome evil is by good.

Dark evil exists in us all. The Passion helps us to confront the evil that is within us. It also helps us to deal with pain, rejection, failure and death as well as finding healing for the wounds inflicted on us by others. *New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies Flor McCarthy SDB*