



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

The Ascension of the Lord Year A, May 21, 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.



Lord Jesus, you became man and came to live among us. For love of us, you suffered and died for us. Because you are God, you conquered death and rose on the third day. Today you return to your Father and our Father, But you promised to remain with us till the end of time, And to send us the Holy Spirit. We rejoice and thank you, Lord Jesus. Come Holy Spirit, purify and transform us, Kindle within us the fire of your love. Amen.

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

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

Pentecost, Year A, May 27-28 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	K Flannery	J Peachey	C Shanahan	P Elliott	
9.30am Sunday	R David	G Neeson	Mizu Mendonca	D Fallon	N Nash, B Payne, N Rooney

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: May 27 - M Saunders **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.

Anyone can read the scriptures in public: only the believer can proclaim them.

THE ART OF PROCLAMATION

A workshop for readers in proclaiming the word of God

10.00 - 1.00pm

14 JUNE

St Mary's Parish,
Bairnsdale

2.00 - 4.30pm

17 JUNE

St Patrick's Parish,
Pakenham

Are you a reader or would you like to be a reader at Mass?

You are welcome to attend one of our two formation workshops. Learn more about your ministry as a reader and share some practical tips about proclaiming the word.



Presenters

Sophy Morley
Sr Rose Duffy (Pakenham)

Please register using QR code
or
Contact your Parish Office



*Yours is a share in the work of the Lord's spirit
who opens our hearts to God's holy word.
Fr Austin Fleming*

For more information contact Siji Dominic at 03 5614 5163 / email SijiDesale.catholic.org.au



This month we honour Blessed Mary as the Mother of Jesus and our Heavenly Mother.

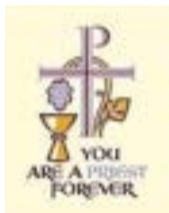
Why not pray the Rosary with our online Rosary Group?

Contact Michelle at the Parish Centre for a link to the Group.

5152 2942



Does anyone know what happened to the dozen white towels that were used for the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday? If you have them at your place please drop them in to the Parish Centre. Thank you



Happy Anniversary!
Fr Michael's Ordination
May 18, 2001



We Welcome into our Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism Beau William and Louis Thomas, sons of Carly and Damien Saunders

THANK YOU!

A big "Thank You" to all for your prayers for our son Brendan as he underwent major heart surgery. Your prayers, your support and genuine concern during the past few weeks is very much appreciated and certainly helped us through this anxious time. Brendan is now at home and doing well on his road to recovery. We thank God for his blessings. Trudy and Hans Kosmer



TRINITY FAMILIES APPEAL

Trinity Families is the charitable arm of the Catholic Diocese of Sale and provides funding through grants to other charities working to provide services and programs for families within the boundaries of the Diocese.

Please visit the website to learn more about Trinity Families: <http://trinityfamilies.org.au/>
Annual collection next weekend May 27-28

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS - MAY

For Church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.



READINGS

May 27-28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34
2nd Reading:
Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13
Gospel: John 20:19-23

COLLECTIONS:

May 13-14, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 1257.00
DD & Cards	\$ 255.00
1 st Collection	\$ 639.75
2 nd Collection	\$ 846.85
Pay Wave	\$ 70.00
Church Tours	\$ 33.00

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. A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

- Who do you know who has gone away and you don't see very often?
- How do you keep in touch?
- Jesus went back to his Father, but he is still with us.
- How do we keep in touch with Jesus?
- We show Jesus is with us by the way we live.
- How will you show others that Jesus is with you this week?



**50th MASS AND PROCESSION
IN HONOUR OF ST ANTHONY**

**SUNDAY JUNE 11, 2023,
11.00am**

ST MARY'S CHURCH BAIRNSDALE

Mass and celebration of St Anthony of Padua concelebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet, Frs F Bertagnolli SDB, Michael Willemsen and other priests at St Mary's.

A procession will take place after Mass, followed by

Benediction, blessing and distribution of bread and Holy Pictures. All are welcome to attend a social gathering in St Mary's Parish Centre following the event. Please bring a plate to share.

**50ª MESSA E PROCESSIONE IN ONORE DI S. ANTONIO
DOMENICA 11 GIUGNO 2023 ORE 11.00am**

CHIESA DI S. MARIA BAIRNSDALE

Messa e celebrazione di S. Antonio da Padova concelebtrate dai Vescovo Greg Bennet, dai Padri F Bertagnolli, Michael Willemsen e altri sacerdoti. Dopo la Messa si svolgerà una processione, seguita dalla benedizione, benedizione e distribuzione del pane e delle immagini. Tutti sono invitati a partecipare a un incontro sociale nel centro parrocchiale di St Mary dopo l'evento. Si prega di portare un piatto da condividere.

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

PARISH NEEDS

COVID has interrupted our lives as we know, and at this point in time we wish to reach out to a number of people who have generously served in our Parish Community over past years, and who now may appreciate our support. There are a few Parishioners already receiving communion in their homes. If you know of a Parishioner who is elderly/house bound, please contact Pattie: 0427 232 682 or Mary: 0427 525 962 so they can contact them and ask if they would like to receive a visit/communion on a regular basis. We are also inviting Parishioners, male and female, who would like the privilege of taking communion out, to please respond to this need. An Information/Training time will be advertised in future bulletins. Thanking you in anticipation.



**LAUDATO SI'
MOVEMENT**
Catholics for Our Common Home

Pope Francis invites Catholics to celebrate LAUDATO SI' WEEK 2023

A Vatican-sponsored initiative from May 21-28

Pope Francis invites Catholic communities around the world to participate

The week-long global event will mark the seventh anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation and care, uniting the world's 1.3 billion Catholics to listen and respond to the cry of God's creation.

Catholics will rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing Laudato Si' to life as we intensify our efforts through the Vatican's new Laudato Si' Action Platform, which is empowering Catholic institutions, communities, and families to fully implement Laudato Si'. To find out more please visit: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/parish-resource>.

Please take a Prayer Card home and pray the LAUDATO SI' Common Prayer each day during the week

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Frances Mastrocola, Lou Beltrame, Jack Dwyer, Charlie Hodge, Giuseppina (Josy) Favorito, 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: April Herrick, Domenico Capobianco, Leo Cahill, Lindsay Pepper, Nicodemo Tedeschi, June Bennett, Bernard Coloe, David Bull, Gerard Coloe, Lance Bills, Patricia Fisher, Caterina Calabro, Brendan Deery, Rick Lightowler, Noreen Godridge, 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: Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Stuart Murray (nephew of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, Baby Ethan, Brian Hall, Robyn Finlay, Brendan Kosmer, Darcy Sutton, 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.

The Ascension of the Lord May 20-21, 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

The Opening Prayer

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope.

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 1: 1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R.**

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 1: 17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 28: 16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture notes: **Answering the Call to be Disciple Makers**

We believe that Jesus is with us always, even though he has ascended into heaven. This is a comforting thought that reminds us of his continued presence and love for us. The Gospel reading from Matthew also reminds us of our responsibility to make disciples. This task may seem daunting, but Jesus has given us the tools and the example to follow in his footsteps.

To be a disciple maker is more than just quoting Scripture or sharing knowledge about the faith. It involves a deep love for others that is willing to sacrifice for their well-being. Jesus showed us this love by giving up his life on the cross for our salvation. We are called to follow his example by putting the needs of others before our own desires.

Making disciples requires us to step out of our comfort zones and engage with those who may have different beliefs or backgrounds. It is an act of love that seeks to bring others closer to God and share the joy of the Gospel with them. This is not always an easy task, but it is one that is filled with grace and blessings.