



St Francis of Assisi,
Benambra

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

East Region – Diocese of Sale

BAIRNSDALE, PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, OMEO, SWIFTS CREEK & 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
Presbytery: 23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale
Phone: 5152 3106
Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com

St Mary's 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)

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C—August 7, 2022

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.

Weekend Mass Times

St Mary's Bairnsdale

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am

St Patrick's, Paynesville

Sunday: 8:00am

St Canice's, Lindenow

2nd & 4th Sunday monthly: 11am

Swifts Creek, Omeo & Benambra

August and October

Sacred Heart, Swifts Creek

4th Saturday: 6:30pm

Immaculate Conception, Omeo

4th Sunday: 11:00am

at the Omeo Hospital

St Francis, Benambra

4th Sunday: 9:00am

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday: St Mary MacKillop 9:10am

Tuesday & Friday: 9:10am

Wednesday

& Thursday: NO MASS

Paynesville

Wednesday Rosary 10am

Reconciliation is available each

Friday: after 9:10am Mass

Saturday: 9:30am to 10:00am and

5:30pm to 5:50pm



Catholic Care Appeal—August 6-7

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring support for people when they are at their most broken. Below is an account of how some of our donations are being used.

CatholicCare Victoria Bushfire Recovery Program in Far East Gippsland

The Bushfire Recovery team in East Gippsland is made up of an experienced Family Counsellor, Aaron and a Community Development Officer, Madelaine who happens to have a passion creativity and colour. Aaron and Madelaine provide colour and creativity workshops and offer communities, connection over a coffee, and counselling to assist with many and varied needs. We travel right across the East Gippsland region, where the effects of the severe 2019-20 bushfires are still felt by many. The CatholicCare Victoria 4WD vehicle is set up with an espresso coffee machine, fridge and generator to allow us to reach communities, no matter how remote they are. The vehicle was fitted locally here in Bairnsdale and local businesses were active sponsors of the program from the outset.

Aaron and Madelaine connect with, and offer care to families, individuals and groups of all ages and situations, including children. The long-lasting stressors of the bushfires, compounded by the previous 10 years of drought and then COVID, means that the need for this service is greater than ever. Ours is a free service for participants and any residents of East Gippsland are eligible to benefit. The program is fully funded by CatholicCare Victoria thanks to generous philanthropic sponsorship, allowing us to provide a quality service using quality art materials, locally sourced. The colour therapy program encourages people to reconnect with their joy, sometimes releasing pain, and importantly, reconnecting with each other in a loving and supportive group setting. We also see that the colour therapy sessions can lead people to reach out for both short term or longer-term counselling support, or sometimes referring others.

Aaron may be contacted on 0400 783 342 and Madelaine on 0409 135 624

You can donate using the appeal envelope available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

Roster for Masses – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 13-14, 2022

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	G Dooley	J De Boer	S Gibson	C Shanahan
9:30am Sun	A Chila	T Kosmer	S Tilley	J Delany

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: August 20 — C Marriot-Smith **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; or Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions —JULY

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.



National Vocations Awareness Week 2022

National Vocations Awareness Week is celebrated each year across a week that includes the August 8 feast day of Australia's first saint: St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The week runs this year from August 7-14. Please continue to pray to the Lord of the harvest, to send labourers to his harvest in our Diocese.



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

**St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage.
October 18-29, 2022.**

**If you are interested in taking part in the Pilgrimage, look up the details on St Mary's Facebook page or the Website:
www.stmarysbairnsdale.net**

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop's Feast Day is celebrated on 8th August each year. Below you will find a prayer in her honour. Being our first Australian Saint we know she is with us as we journey together.

Mary Mackillop Prayer

Ever-generous God,
You inspired St Mary MacKillop
to live her life faithful
to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and constant in bringing hope
and encouragement
to those who were disheartened, lonely, or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence
and joining with St Mary MacKillop, we ask that
you grant our request....(name your request).
We ask that our faith and hope
be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too,
like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage,
trust, and openness.
Ever-generous God, hear our prayer.
We ask this through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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THE MASS SERIES

Archbishop Mark Coleridge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

The series can be found on YouTube>Archdiocese of Brisbane/
playlist>The Mass Series

Liturgy of the Eucharist-Preface

Once the priest has set the bread and wine apart for the sacrifice and said the prayer over those gifts asking the power of God to come upon them, we begin what is the most sacred moment in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The Eucharistic Prayer. Or, as we used to call it, the Canon. We say it is right to give thanks to God because everything comes from God as gift. And it is what we mean when we say just that it gets right relationship right. The whole point of sacrifice in the Bible was to acknowledge God as the giver of all gifts. We were simply returning to God what we had received from Him as a recognition that He owned everything, and we owned nothing. So, the same thing happens in the Mass. That's why we say it is right and just that we give God thanks and praise because He is the giver of all gifts, and all the gifts are gathered up in the bread and wine now set upon the altar. Then we have what's called the Preface, which is really the beginning the Eucharistic Prayer, and it recalls some of the things God has done. This again is deeply biblical because the Bible talks about a God who acts – in a sense the Bible is the story of what God does. Having told the story, we gather up our prayer. The Preface issues into the Prayer of the Angels when we say: "Holy, Holy, Holy", words taken from the Bible. They are the song of the Angels, so the Church, having acknowledged that it is right and just to give thanks and told the story of what God has done, joins the chorus of the Angels in singing of the infinite holiness of God whose glory fills all heaven and earth. The song of the Angels really opens the door to the Eucharistic Prayer that follows.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM BEGINS SOON

Continuing the 3 yearly cycle for Stewardship Programs in the Parishes of our Diocese, the Finance Committee will be overseeing the 2022 Program, beginning in late August. The program provides the opportunity for us to take stock of our progress since 2019 and set goals for the next three years.

We begin, as usual, by updating our Parish database using the census cards provided. Please fill one out for your household, even if there has been no change for you since 2019. If you use email, be sure to include that address. When completed, please place your card on a collection plate at the usual times. Or, drop it in at the Parish centre during office hours. Thank-you!

Readings: August 13-14, '22

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:

Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 39: 2-4, 18

2nd Reading:

Hebrews 12: 1-4

Gospel: Luke 12: 49-53

Collections: July 31, 2022

Envelopes	\$ 1,020.00
DD & Cards	\$ 2,250.00
1 st Collection	\$ 704.70
2 nd Collection	\$ 848.15

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

At Baptism we begin our journey of faith. We are welcomed into the Church and receive from Christ the gift of His everlasting love.

This weekend 33 Candidates wish to continue this journey by preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

As they continue their faith journey please keep these candidates, their families and their educators in your prayers.

They will receive the sacrament on 11th and 12th of September.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Amanda Vowell (Chair), Wilma Collier, Marylin Elliott,
Madelaine Schumann, Narelle Gibbons,
Peter McMahan, Jacinta Da Costa

Ex-officio members: Fr Michael, Principals and Michael F.

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

CATECHIST FORMATION DAY

'Women in the New Testament':
Rev Francis Otobo

'The Art of Christmas' -

Icons and Images: Dr Sr Rose Duffy

Venue: St Jarlath's Hall Yarragon

Date: Tuesday September 6, 2022

Time: 9.00am-3.30pm

Cost: \$10.00 per person

RSVP to BarbaraD@sale.catholic.org.au



Thank you very much Uncle Frank with all St. Mary's community groups. I'm very grateful and appreciate with all your supporting, helping and looking after me as a family it is very-very great. When I was in a troubled with the situation it was

very painful. Very appreciated 🙏 all this things that you have done well for me. Everyone spent much time with me sometimes everyone loose some of your activities because of my problem. on behalf of my family I'm very sorry. Now I will

look after my self to get better and better... ❤️ ❤️ ❤️ ❤️ I

have nothing to say only my prayers 🙏 always be with you.

God bless you All 🙏 ❤️ ❤️ . Thank you very much

for 🎁 Gift Certificates I have received it yesterday from St. Mary's community groups. I'm Very-very appreciated it very much ❤️ , *Ambrosio Asqueli*

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.**

Anglican Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell



EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

The Catholic Charity *Aid to the Church in Need* is conducting an emergency appeal to support the Church in Ukraine. Funds are being sent to clergy and religious orders who are on the ground assisting the Ukrainian people.

To donate, please visit: www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine
or phone: 1800 101 201.

MORNING TEA



Join us for a cuppa after Mass this Sunday, August 7. This is a lovely chance to gather and get to know each other a little better.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Dianne Holden, Brian Websdale, Victoria Shaw, 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: Antonio Lupo Di Palma, Henk Postma, John McKenna, Frank Nugent, Norma East, Hans Schwab, Max O'Connell, Katie Sten, Frank Power, Marie Wade, Adam Gilhooley, Bill Macnamara, Annuziata & Giuseppe Di Palma, Nicolina Tedeschi, Trevor Sharp, Tess Gillies 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: Ray Adamson, Denise Roberts, Marie Ayres (S-I-L of Pat Coloe), Kath Gillies, Michael Counsel, John Spirason, Tricia & Alan Cooke, Paul Fitzgerald, Fr Pax Scarf OFM, Bin Li (husband of Liah), Bob Marshall, Shirley Gilmore (Mary Rowe's sister), Vin Ayres (brother of Pat Coloe), Mark & Elizabeth Rashleigh, Maree Elbourne, Ella Ford (NZ), Craig Counsel, Margaret O'Reilly, Ambrosio (Tony) Da Cunha - Asqueli, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Jim Quigley, Arthur & Denise Roberts, Damian Greaves, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Linton Smith, Marcie Hayles, Brian Rowe, Vic Smythe.

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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year C August 7th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

The Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised.
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 book of Wisdom (18:6-9)

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;/ for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,/ the people he has chosen as his own. **R.**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,/ on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,/ to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord./ The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,/ as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (11:1-2, 8-12)

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:35-40)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Jerusalem Bible ©Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

Jesus was well aware of the uncertainty of life. His parable stresses the fact that death can come at any moment. It isn't that God tries to catch us unawares like a thief in the night. That would be unthinkable. Death, not God, is the thief that robs us of life.

This unexpectedness can be a grace. It forces us to be prepared at all times. However, this uncertainty shouldn't prevent us from enjoying life in the present. Quite the opposite. When we become aware of the fragility of our existence, we realise that each moment is precious.

I'm sure that all of us would like to end life with our plans carried out and our work completed. But we don't know if we'll have that chance. What we do have is an opportunity to be faithful to our responsibilities and commitments on a daily basis.

We might remember the lovely words of Mother Teresa: "We are not called to be successful, only to be faithful."

Flor McCarthy SDB 'New Sunday & Holy Day Homilies