



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](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)

Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

Email: [stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com)

#### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, August 13, 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.



### *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Tuesday August 15**

**Mass, Rosary, and Benediction in  
St Mary's at 5.30pm,  
celebrated by Fr Rob McCulloch.  
9.10am celebrated by Fr Mark.**

#### WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST MARY'S

Monday: 9.10am  
Tuesday: Assumption of Mary 9.10am  
Requiem Mass Joyce Pruscino 11.30am  
Assumption of Mary 5.30pm  
Wednesday: **NO MASS**  
Thursday: 9.10am  
Friday: **St Mary's PS (Yr 4's) 9.10am**

**St Patrick's, 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

#### 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, August 19 – 20, 2023

MASS	WELCOMER	COMMENTATOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY PROCESSION
6.00pm Saturday	G Dooley	K Flannery	M Saunders	B O'Kelly	M Owen, G & K Cassidy
9.30am Sunday	M Owen	P Pruscino	H Van den Einden	P Pruscino	

Cleaning: Fortnight ending: August 19 - P Pruscino 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.**

Alpha Corner



## Alpha FAITH, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, and FUN

Dear Lord God, Our Loving Father,

Thank you for bringing the Alpha ministry to our community.

May Alpha continue to grow and spread the message of your holy love throughout our town.

Thank you for bringing our guests, hosts and helpers and speaking into their hearts with your love.

Thank you for all those supporting this ministry in our Parish and we pray your continued protection, blessings and guidance of the Alpha journey at St Mary's.

We pray in the blessed name of your son, Sweet Jesus



This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength and resilience, empowering them to reach their full potential. Your compassionate generosity will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing unemployment and homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing grief and trauma. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your compassion and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available, the QR Code, online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or by calling (03) 9287 5513.

All gifts of \$2.00 and above are tax deductible.

**Special Collection this weekend August 12-13.**

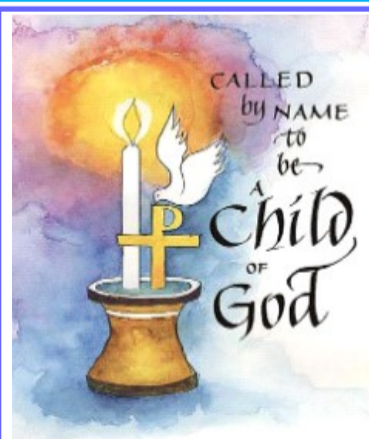
To see the valuable work CatholicCare does locally visit:

<https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/directory/services/bushfire-community-recovery-service>

Fr Michael is on Annual Leave, and we welcome Fr Rob McCulloch to St Mary's.

Fr Rob will be celebrating Mass at St Canice's, Lindenow on August 13 and 20.

We pray that Fr Michael will be able to relax, reflect and enjoy his time away and return refreshed and reinvigorated.



**We welcome into our Parish family this weekend**

*Chelsea*

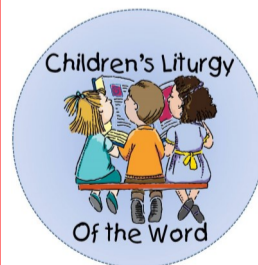
**daughter of Michelle Ryan and Nathan Condon**

**and**

*Amaya*

**daughter of Jenny and Ashley Kai**

### 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:

- ◆ Where were Jesus and his friends in today's Gospel?
- ◆ What did his friends do when they saw Jesus walking on water?
- ◆ What did Jesus say to them?
- ◆ Why did Peter begin to sink when he got out of the boat?
- ◆ What did Jesus do?
- ◆ Jesus comes to help us when we find things hard.
- ◆ What are some of the things that you need Jesus to help with?

We pray that we might believe in Jesus, even in the hard times.

#### READINGS:

**August 19-20, 2023**

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:**

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

**Gospel:** Matthew 15:21-28

#### COLLECTIONS:

**August 5-6, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 976.00

DD & Cards \$ 1500.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 617.60

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 694.20

Pay Wave \$ 50.00





## **INVITATION TO A JOURNEY OF FAITH**

**What:** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

**When:** Tuesday August 15, 2023

**Venue:** Resource Room at St. Mary's Parish Centre  
135 Nicholson Street, Bairnsdale

**Time:** 7.00pm – 8.30pm

### **Who is RCIA for?**

Persons interested in being initiated or completing initiation into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Persons who were baptised in a Christian Church and want to be received into the Catholic Church.

St Mary's RCIA Coordinator: Michelle Grimsted  
stm.michelleg@gmail.com or 5152 2942



### **St Mary's Youth Group**

**Saturday August 19.**

**5.00pm Youth Group in the Parish Hall  
and 6.00pm Mass for Children's Choir and  
Liturgy of the Word.**

**For more information contact**

**Fr. Mark or Michelle Grimsted 5152 2942**

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP**

Our next meeting is 2.00pm Thursday August 17  
in the Parish Centre.

The topic for this meeting is a discussion of the  
'Voice Referendum' as a social justice issue.

Members of the Parish are welcome to attend.

### **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](mailto: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

### **POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS**

#### **AUGUST**

#### **For World Youth Day**



We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young  
people to live and witness the Gospel  
in their own lives.

### **POSITION VACANT**

**St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale Omeo**

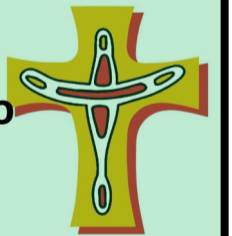
**Bookkeeper / Office Manager**

Experience in MYOB an advantage.

Supportive Team Environment. Family Friendly.

Part time – 22.5 hrs (Negotiable)

Call the Parish Office for a Position Description  
or further information: 5152 2942



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Joyce Pruscino, Bill Gray, Madeleine Evans (nee Murphy), Domenico 'Dom' Spiller,  
and all victims of natural disasters, COVID-19, terrorism, war, conflict, poverty, all our Asylum Seekers, and those living with Family  
Violence and mental health.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Katie Stenn, Josie Redenbach, Craig Toomey, Ronnie Bruce, John McKenna,  
Antonio Lupo-Di Palma, Henk Postma, Frank Nugent, Norma East, Hans Schwab, Max O'Connell, 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:** Sue Minchin, Fran Adamson, Elaine Cook, Peter Hayden, John Hayles, Denise Roberts, Jan Baxter,  
Maree Lesley Cowell, Hudson Schwab, Adrian Coulter, Josephine Box, Deidree Tickner, Kathleen Robertson, Stuart Murray (nephew  
of Frank Brown-Graham), Maria Sticca, baby Ethan, Robyn Finlay, Rick Harney, John Spirason, Margaret O'Reilly, Arthur Elbourne,  
Carmen Golonski (Grimsted).

**Please remember all Parishioners who are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery.**

**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.

**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 first book of the Kings 19: 9, 11-13**

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**Responsorial Psalm 96:1-2, 5-6, 9**

**R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 9: 1-5**

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14: 22-33**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

*Jerusalem Bible ©Liturgy Brisbane*

**Scripture notes:**

The disciples are terrified by the storm. Jesus reassures them and their faith strengthens. Matthew stresses that the power to overcome their fear comes from Jesus himself; Peter recovers enough to want to share in Jesus' power over the water; Jesus is willing to share his power, but Peter's faith fails - he begins to sink. Jesus once again rescues him, so we learn that faith is a partnership with the Lord and ourselves. Faith is God's gift; but it requires our freely given response. Even though we depend on God for the gift of faith, we have to be ready to play our part which requires our trust, openness and being prepared to meet our God without preconditions set by us. In the first reading, Elijah expects to find God appearing in the wind, earthquake or fire, but he actually appears in the tiny whispering sound. How often do we think that God isn't listening? In the second reading, the Jews expect a different kind of God; we need to learn to let God be God. We are made in his image and likeness. In the third reading, we are asked to keep our eyes on Jesus, to receive his power in the difficult times. The readings are like a yellow caution light, directing us to slow down and look around as we might be missing opportunities to hear God speak to us in new and unexpected ways listening for that small, still voice. *From Diocese of St Frances de la Salle NA*