

St Mary's, Bairnsdale

# 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.

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Michael Willemsen	<b>St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:</b>	
<b>Assistant Priests:</b>	Fr Avinash George Fr Hiep Van Nguyen	135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale	Phone 5152 2942
<b>Presbytery:</b>	23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale	Email: <a href="mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com">stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com</a>	
	Phone 5152 3106	Website: <a href="http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net">www.stmarysbairnsdale.net</a>	
		Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StMaryChurchBairnsdale">St Mary's Church Bairnsdale</a>	

### 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 22nd August, 2021

Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate Mass.

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

Sunday: 11:00am

#### Weekday Masses for 16th-20th August

**Monday:** 9:10am - St Mary's

**Tuesday:** 9:10am - St Mary's

**Wednesday:** 9:10am - St Mary's

**Thursday:** 9:10am - St Mary's

**Friday:** 9:10am - St Mary's

##### Monday to Friday @ St Mary's

**Morning Prayers:** 8:45am

**Rosary:** after 9:10am Mass

**Paynesville:** Rosary 10am Wednesday

**RECONCILIATION** is available on **Friday** following 9:10am Mass and **Saturday**

9:30am - 10:00am and  
5:30pm to 5:50pm



Australia prays

### NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THE CHURCHES TOGETHER 22nd AUGUST 2021



*But you O Lord, are a God full of compassion and gracious longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth. Psalm 86:15*

Across all our services on Sunday 22nd August, Australian Churches are invited to pray for our local, national and global communities experiencing great need and distress caused by Covid-19. For anyone wanting to go deeper and commit additional time or individual participation:

for more information visit: <http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au/LordHaveMercy/>

#### God of all healing

**who called the light to shine in the darkness at creation  
and in whose eternal light there is no darkness at all,**

**be yourself a light of hope**

**to those who dwell in the darkness.**

**be a support to the fearful,**

**a listener to the lonely,**

**a purpose to those in despair,**

**that amongst the confusions and struggles of this world**

**they would find the path that leads to the fullness of life, and joy, and peace,**

**In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

And we are all devastated by the images and news emerging from Afghanistan and the turmoil which now exists. We join our prayers with those whose lives are beset by violence, oppression, fear and such uncertainty. May leaders of nations work for peace, restoration of order, healing divisions and the common safety of all women, men and children.

### Roster for Masses 28th–29th August 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	C Marriot-Smith	J Peachey	K Flannery	T Flannery
9:30am Sun	S Dean	H Van Den Einden	A Vowell	J Delany
<b>Cleaning:</b> Fortnight ending 21st August:	M Saunders	<b>Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.</b>		

#### WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

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.

**The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**  
**(Apostleship of Prayer) AUGUST**

**Intention for evangelisation - The Church**

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



We have 38 candidates preparing, over the next few weeks from our community, to deepen and take more responsibility of their faith in readiness to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on Saturday 11th September. Let us keep them, their families and educators in our prayers as they journey together.

Are you searching for a relationship with God? Do you want to learn more about the Catholic way of life? Are you interested in becoming a Catholic Christian? If so, you're invited to **Come & See** in our Parish, August 2021. For more information, please contact Michelle Grimsted on **0409 006 051**.



**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS**

The Spring edition of this magazine is now out. It is celebrating 200 years of Catholic education. As usual it is a great read. There are many articles about education in our schools - what is it that draws people to our schools? Pick up a copy and ENJOY.



is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Because of the generosity of our parish community, CatholicCare Victoria can continue to ensure that vulnerable individuals and families in our communities have the opportunity to live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need and offering a compassionate hand of support.

For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) OR Madelaine & Aaron (our local connections) can be contacted: 0409 135 624 or 0400 783 342 Email: [madelaine.schumann@ccam.org.au](mailto:madelaine.schumann@ccam.org.au) OR [Aaron.armenopoulos@ccam.org.au](mailto:Aaron.armenopoulos@ccam.org.au)

**Readings:**

**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time,**  
**Year B, 29/8/21**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Psalm: 14: 2-5

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**Collections for**

**Week ending 15/8/21**

Envelopes \$ 2,071.00

DD & Cards \$ 1,165.00

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 453.75

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 720.10

Special Collection \$ 528.50

CatholicCare

**Prayer for Plenary Council 2020**

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people

in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

***Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.***

***St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.***



**FAN THE FLAME**

Towards Plenary Assembly One

October 2021

**The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.'**

*John 6:60-69*

Through appropriate faith formation, God can shape us into deepening our spirituality within the life of the Church, engaging with scripture, encountering God in worship and prayerfully developing our living relationship with Jesus Christ.

*(Prayerful and Eucharistic – Discernment Paper p. 5)*

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/)

**Plenary Council Agenda:** The agenda is made up of 16 questions covering the six topics that came out of the listening and discernment process. Five questions are provided for the 1st topic **Conversion**.

- How might we better accompany one another on the journey of personal and communal conversion which mission in Australia requires?
- How might we heal the wounds of abuse, coming to see through the eyes of those who have been abused?
- How might the Church in Australia open in new ways to Indigenous ways of being Christian in spirituality, theology, liturgy, and missionary discipleship? How might we learn from the First Nations peoples?
- How might the Church in Australia meet the needs of the most vulnerable, go to the peripheries, be missionary in places that may be overlooked or left behind in contemporary Australia? How might we partner with others (Christians, people of other faiths, neighbourhood community groups, government) to do this?
- How might the Church in Australia respond to the call to 'ecological conversion'? How can we express and promote a commitment to an 'integral ecology of life' in all its dimensions, with particular attention to the more vulnerable people and environments in our country and region?

We are all encouraged to pray about the Plenary agenda items in the lead up to the Plenary and you are welcome to share results of your prayer with Plenary members found below.

Bishop Greg [bishop@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:bishop@sale.catholic.org.au)

Fr Peter Slater [pslater@sale.catholic.org.au](mailto:pslater@sale.catholic.org.au)

Fr Denis O'Bryan, St Thomas the Apostle Parish, Clyde North;

Lize Privitera [lize.privitera@plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](mailto:lize.privitera@plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au);

Katherine Jelavic [katherine.jelavic@plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](mailto:katherine.jelavic@plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

Explore the Plenary Council Agenda and other resources at

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. Please submit items to the Parish Centre by 10.00am Tuesday the week before. **Members:** Michael Flynn and Angela McKail (Co- Chairpersons) Angelo D'Amore, Rita Bowers, Marilyn Elliott and Wilma Collier. Ex-officio members: priests, principals and Pattie. **A Parish Directory:** is available at the Pastoral Centre.

**Sacraments:** Information & registration forms available at [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 or 3rd Sunday's of each month. **Weddings:** 6 months' notice required, schedule dates with priest. **Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the Parish Centre.

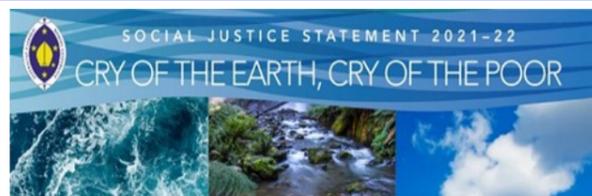
**Funerals:** Please contact your preferred Funeral Director for arrangements.

**Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:** Call Pattie Pruscino 5152 2942 or 0427 232 682

**Special Wedding Anniversaries:** 6 months' notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

**St Mary's Primary School:** 5152 3706 **Nagle College:** 5152 6122

**St Vincent de Paul Conference/Centre:** 5152 6687 **St Mary's Op Shop:** 5152 2088



This statement affirms that “we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour”. It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. The Social Justice Statement 2021-22 provides theological foundations to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and

excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life. In the Statement, the Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action. The Statement especially encourages Catholic families, communities and organisations to: listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*; and plan their next steps towards the *Laudato Si' Goals*. You can download and read the Social Justice Statement 2021-22 and share it with your family, friends and communities. <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>

“We are being called to a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and living” *Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, Social Justice Statement 2021—22*



**Listen to First Peoples:** Identify and implement ways you, your family and your community will listen to the First Peoples. “When it comes to human knowledge of the lands and waters now known as Australia, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are our first teachers.” *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*

**Reflect on Theological Foundations:** Consider how the *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor* will shape your action to care for creations. “This year we offer some theological foundations for a genuinely Christian response to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor: creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; wonder and beauty...and the need for conversion and change of life.” Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Introduction to *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*

#### ST MARY'S SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

“Jesus makes it clear that what corrupts a person does not come from outside but from within. If hearts are shaped by the compassion and generosity of God, they will hear the cries of the afflicted, and act. The heart here is seen as the core of human will and desire. Real disciples do God's will when they heal and protect those who suffer, despite any worldly cost or false standard. Jesus is the fulfilment of the true law that others have distorted by their greed. In taking more than we need in any sphere of life, balance is disturbed and something or someone is harmed or deprived. God desires all to have enough to live free and full lives. How do you bring God's Kingdom to birth in the world?” Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



The Parish has put aside 2.5% of Planned Giving receipts for local, national, and international needs. Your suggestions are warmly invited for this year's disbursement of accumulated funds. Please leave your written suggestions at the Parish Centre by 3rd September. These suggestions will be discussed at a subsequent meeting and a list of recipients will be drawn up for the Parish Priest's approval.

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Joyce (Jean) Rankin, Thelma Smythe, Norma Pepper, Chris Hutchins, Trevor Sharp, victims of: mental health issues; Covid-19; terrorist attacks, war and conflict; asylum seekers; family violence and poverty.

#### **ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time...**

Carmela & Giuseppe Cannizzaro, Shirley Stoddart, Neil Wigg, Leo Bills, Mark Morgan, Francesca & Francesca Aloisio, Geoff Downie, Jan Feltham (Ross), Nicolina & Pasquale Tedeschi, Penny Hood, Rita Spirason, Maureen Terrill, Freda Carrick, Frank Gregson, Marjorie Dore, Hank Janson, Peter Vanzin, Alma Turzan, Anne Farrell, Dinah Howe, Mary Collins and the 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 ALSO REMEMBER THE SICK:**

Pat Walsh, Tony Hutchins, Mark Rashleigh, Marsha Worseldine, Arthur Elbourne, Arthur Roberts, Margaret O'Reilly, Maree Elbourne, Paul Hawker, Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Ella Ford (NZ), Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Victoria Shaw, Damian Greaves, Jim Quigley, Craig Counsel, Roma Greig, Linton Smith, Andre Buxton, Marcie Hayles, Brian Rowe, Vic Smythe, John Pruscino, Julie Frew.

***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.**

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, 22nd August

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

### **A reading from the book of Joshua** (24:1-2, 15-18)

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

### **Responsorial Psalm**

#### **R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;

in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. **R.**

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. **R.**

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him.

He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. **R.**

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed.

The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **R.**

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians** (5:21-32)

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

#### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John** (6:60-69)

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

*Jerusalem Bible* © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

### **Scripture Notes**

When God created us, he gave us freedom, the power to choose to do good or evil. But with freedom comes responsibility and there are the consequences of not choosing wisely. Cults and gangs are mostly led, by people who want to control others. Jesus forced no one to follow him. After life, freedom is the greatest thing we have; the only thing which has moral value, and which helps us to grow, is what is done freely. Virtue is when we have a choice to do good or evil, and we freely choose to do good. In the first reading Joshua put a choice before the people just after they entered the promised land, to serve the true God of their ancestors or the false gods of their neighbours. Similarly, in the Gospel, Jesus gave his disciples a choice, to stay with him or leave. The same choice is put before each one of us. We need to make the faith our own, finding meaning in it through personal experience if it is to come alive for us. Our presence in the parish community is a sign of that choice, and our involvement in parish life is a further sign. But we also have to be clear what that word faith involves. It is a belief in and commitment to the person of Jesus. His teachings give us a compass that will not lie to us. To follow Christ is to be free. When we live as God intended us to do, we are free.

*Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies*