



St Canice's, Lindenow

THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

Eastern 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	St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:	
Assistant Priests:	Fr Avinash George Fr Edwin Ogbuka	135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942	
Presbytery:	23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106	Email: stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com	
		Website: www.stmarysbairnsdale.net	
		Facebook: St Mary's Church Bairnsdale	

5th SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR B, 21st March 2021

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.

Reconciliation

Friday following 9:10am Mass
Saturday 9:30am—10am and
5:30pm—5:50pm.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 9.30am
St Patrick's, Paynesville
Sunday: 8am
St Canice's, Lindenow
Sunday: 11am

Weekday Masses @ St Mary's

Monday: 9:10am
Tuesday: 9:10am
Wednesday: 9:10am
Thursday: 9.10 am St Mary's Primary School
1:30pm *Requiem Mass - Mrs Lorraine O'Brien*
5.30 pm *followed by Stations of the Cross.*
Friday: 8.00am at Nagle College
9.10 am *followed by Stations of the Cross.*

HOLY WEKTIMETABLE

TUESDAY 30th March

Parish Reconciliation 6:00PM

THURSDAY 1st April

ST MARY'S 7:00PM

FRIDAY 2nd April

ST MARY'S Stations of the Cross 9:30AM

ST CANICE'S, Lindenow Stations of the Cross 11:00AM

ST MARY'S Passion Liturgy 3:00PM

SATURDAY 3rd April

ST MARY'S Easter Vigil 7:00PM

SUNDAY 4th April

ST PATRICK'S, Paynesville 8:00AM

ST MARY'S, Bairnsdale 9:30AM

ST CANICE'S, Lindenow 11:00AM



Halima is raising her two children in a refugee camp in Bangladesh while caring for her mother, who has a disability. Widowed at 21, Halima fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and arrived at the camp with nothing. Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, helped Halima out with a shelter, cooking equipment, hygiene and sanitation training. She took on the role of community trainer herself, organising the cleaning of washrooms, wells and toilets. Halima aspired to 'Be More'. She is proud that she is now able to earn a small income while maintaining the health of her family and the cleanliness of the camp community.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



Roster for Masses 27th & 28th March 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	G Dooley	Mary Saunders	B Calabro	T Flannery
9:30am Sun	C Tilley	D Atkins	P Brown Graham	M Owen

Please find a replacement if unable to fill your spot.

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.



**CENTENARY HOUSE
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST
WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH**

7am—10:30am

HOWITT PARK BOWLS CLUB,
McEACHARN STREET, EAST BAIRNSDALE

CASH COUNT

Weekend 14th March:

Envelopes	\$ 1,013.00
DD & Cards	\$ 230.00
1 st Collection	\$ 490.00
2 nd Collection	\$ 353.00

**Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord**

Year B, 28/3/2021

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 21

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1 - 15:47



Catholic women are being invited to participate in an online national consultation on March 27th, with the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry. The consultation invites women to articulate and celebrate their contribution and vision

for the mission of the Catholic Church in Australia. Bishop Michael Morrissey said he is looking forward to hearing from Catholic women from across the country. "The thoughts, the voices and the actions of women within the Catholic Church are absolutely central to our life and mission, and the national consultation invites a sharing and listening that will benefit the whole Church," he said. "All the bishops have women acting in senior roles within their dioceses; this conversation provides another forum for broader national conversation." Consultation Details:

Date: Saturday 27 March Time: 2pm-4pm AEDT

Platform: Zoom Read more and register

at <https://nce.catholic.org.au/catholicwomen>



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

is an international movement. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer.



**March: Intention for evangelisation -
Sacrament of reconciliation.**

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

**The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation
will be celebrated on Tuesday,
30th March, 6.00pm at St Mary's, Bairnsdale**

"However dark things are, goodness always re-emerges and spreads, each day in our world beauty is born anew"

- Pope Francis



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.**

Becoming ecologically virtuous

Laudato si was written by Pope Francis in 2015 to outline the Catholic Church's position on the climate crisis. In 2016 Fr Joshrum Kureethadam wrote an article that proposed seven ecological virtues that he said all people should aim to heal the environment and to live a life that has minimal impact on the planet. We need to care for God's creation because it is on loan to us, until we pass it to future generations.

Care

To share the responsibility to care for our common home and reflect God's own tender love for the world.



**Care for creation by our actions
pick-up litter on our daily walk.
Use renewable energies.**

Give thanks to God's gifts that provide for us and sustain us. Learn

40 HOUR VIGIL - HEALING THE HURTS

Beginning at 6am on Wednesday 31st March we are again offering a time of prayer and reflection to show our compassion and support for the children, women and men, abused by those in whom they had placed their trust. While at the Church we will reflect on their stories that were not believed for so long. All will be invited to pray and reflect, light a candle or simply sit quietly in solidarity for a while, to show our sorrow for what has been done to them. We are asking for people to commit to attending for 1 or 2 hours. Sheets can be found in the foyers of our churches where you can 'sign up' to support this very important initiative.

Life in the Spirit Seminar—SAVE THE DATES

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Sale Diocese is conducting a Diocese wide Renewal Seminar for everyone in the Diocese of Sale. This follows the advice of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who encourages all Catholics (and all Christians) to embrace this spiritual renewal program. Bishop Greg has blessed this initiative. It will be an exciting moment with the Holy Spirit, please do not miss this opportunity. 3 seminars will be held in a central location in the Diocese as follows:

Venue: St Ita, Drouin

Dates: Saturday, 17 April, God's promise of the Holy Spirit

Saturday, 22 May, New Life in God's Spirit

Saturday, 19 June, Community in the Lord; Commissioning Mass
with Bishop Greg.

Time: 10.30 am each day. More information is to come.

**OUR DREAM HAS BECOME
A REALITY!**



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

We have opened a new Assistance Centre at 92 MacLeod St in Bairnsdale. Within this Centre we have a facility where homeless people can have a shower and do their washing. Whilst we can't provide a home, at least we can maintain their self-respect and dignity. St Teresa of Avila writes:
Christ has no body but yours; No hands, no feet on earth but yours You are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world, Yours are the hands which Christ Blesses the world.
So, we're asking you to be those hands, those feet, those eyes. Any time you can spare would be of help.

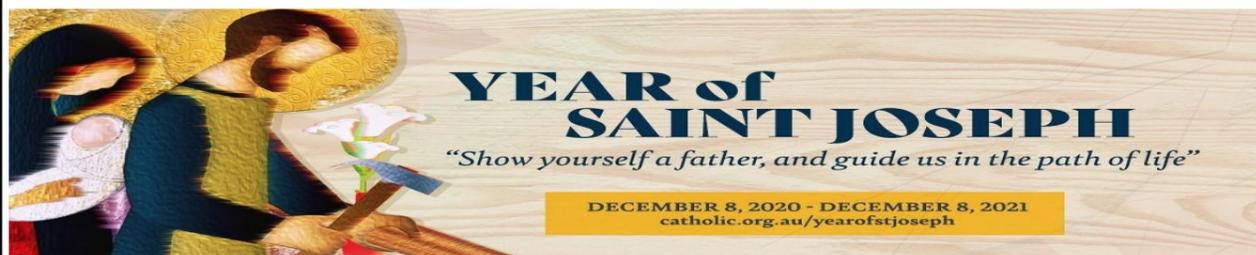
Please phone: Cath - 0448 525 462;
Jo - 0409 530 423; Trish - 0408 320 169

A RETURN TO TWO COLLECTIONS

Beginning this weekend, we will resume the two collections at St Mary's, as we did pre-Covid: first collection for the Parish and second collection for the Presbytery. The latter is meant to cover priest's stipends and household expenses. While those in planned giving have continued to be faithful and others have been generous, one of the many consequences of COVID restrictions has been a significant decline in Parish income, especially the second collection, resulting in the income for church costs having to cover the clergy costs as well, which then puts pressure on the budget for church expenses. Now that restrictions have eased, collectors will present the baskets to people within reach. The baskets will not be offered for passing around. We still want to do this in a COVID-safe way. This will start this weekend. Please be prepared to assist with the collection, because doing it this way will require twice as many collectors. Thank you all for your generous support, in so many ways.

Fr Michael

Parish Pastoral Council: meets 2nd Thursday of the month. Please submit items to the Parish Centre by 10.00am Tuesday the week before. **Members:** Angela McKail & Michael Flynn: 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
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.



This year the Church all over the world celebrates 2021 as the Year of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church.

St Joseph was born in Bethlehem, a descendant of King David. He lived in Nazareth, where he worked as a carpenter. He was betrothed to Mary.

How did St Joseph respond to his astonishing call to be the foster father of Jesus and spouse of Mary?

What does this mean for father figures in today’s world?

St Joseph teaches us much about the roles of being a loving husband and father.

Listening — Find silence and stillness everyday so we can hear from the sacred that resides in us.

Obedience/Action — Reject the pervading passivity of our culture and accept responsibility.

Selflessness — Live for others — this will change us and the world. **Humility** — Be prepared to serve, love, provide and protect.

Courage — Find ways to be calm in the chaos and stress of life. God is with us.

Last Friday, 19th March, was the Feast of St Joseph, and being the Year of Saint Joseph, you are encouraged to collect a Book Mark to celebrated these occasions.

Prayer to St Joseph
*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
 Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 To you God entrusted his only Son;
 in you Mary placed her trust;
 with you Christ became man.
 Blessed Joseph, to us too,
 show yourself a father
 and guide us in the path of life.
 Obtain for us grace,
 mercy, and courage,
 and defend us from every evil.
 Amen. By Pope Francis*



FAMILY COUNSELLOR, BUSHFIRE RECOVERY - CatholicCare Victoria

Full-time or Part-time, fixed-term position until March 2023.

East Gippsland The Bushfire Response team was established to support, address and provide paths of assistance to people affected by grief and trauma within the bushfire affected regions in East Gippsland. The Bushfire Response program will provide an outreach mobile service to the community, with a particular focus on remote townships using a CatholicCare vehicle where Community Development activities, material assistance and referrals can be made from. This role will travel to Churches, Community groups, Sporting Groups, Schools, Festivals and Markets to support the community on a rostered and regular basis. Applicants are required to have a degree in Psychology, Counselling or Social Work with a proven track record in grief, loss or trauma counselling and relationship counselling to be considered for this role. **Applications close:** Sunday, 21 March 2021 For further details Visit “Careers” on the CatholicCare Victoria Website www.ccam.org.au or on the Diocesan Website Job Board www.cdsale.org.au/job-vacancies



Congratulations and continued blessings for **Luigi Ciaglia** who turns 90 this weekend.



A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to the YME students at Nagle College for making over 500 Palm leaf crosses for all the parishes of East Gippsland in readiness for Palm Sunday. YME involves students within a faith community, expressing and understanding who they are as members of Nagle College in relationship with God.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lorraine O’Brien, Christine Harrop (nee Websdale), Lillian Paez (Mother of Irish & m-i-l of Michael O’Kelly), Fr. Tom O’Connell, Maureen Matthews (Julie’s Mum), victims of mental health issues; of Covid-19; terrorist attacks, war and conflict, asylum seekers, of family violence and poverty.

ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time... Frank Wardley, Betty Kirwan, Rosa Lamanna, Dennis (Drake) Prendergast, Ron Hannaford, Francesca Lanteri, Lorna Gilchrist, Mary Sova, Margaret Bills, Marguerite Leone, Joan Browne, Terry Boyd, David Eldridge, Agnes Gibson, John Confait, Graeme Summerton, John Tilley, Robert (Camm) Kilpatrick, Dino Baccaga, John Shanahan, 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: Mateusz Iwanowicz, Paul Hawker, Mark Kelly, Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Ella Ford (NZ), Luke Withers (grandson of Sandie & Chris Tilley), Andrew Kenworthy, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Angie McKail, Victoria Shaw, Mary Kirsner, Elizabeth Stehmann, Tricia & Alan Cooke, Damian Greaves, Jim Quigley, Craig Counsel, Roma Greig, Linton Smith, John Butler, Arthur Elbourne, Andre Buxton, Rick Jones, Marcie Hayles, John Buck, Alan Wilson, Vic & Thelma Smythe, Brian Rowe, Trish & Karl Henderson, 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, if you would like to keep someone on the list after this time, please contact the Parish Centre.

5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

Entrance Antiphon:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (31:31-34)

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.

O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me,

that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **R.**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (5:7-9)

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (12:20-30)

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. 'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Jerusalem Bible © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

Scripture Notes:

In the first reading Jeremiah tells a shattered people that their past sins will be forgiven and forgotten, through the death of Jesus. In the second reading we have Jesus' agonised prayer and obedience to the Father. In the Gospel, Jesus does not pray for deliverance from the hour of trial and death, as the 'hour' is the whole purpose of his life. His parable of the grain of wheat which has to die in order to bear fruit, there is a sense that we have to die to self if we are to live fully and fruitfully. Jesus' agony in the garden gives comfort and hope to us in our low moments. We do not need to hide our weakness and fear. Like Jesus, if we turn to God in heartfelt prayer, we too like Jesus, will find the strength to face our low moments. 'A person without fear is no hero; the person who overcomes fear is.' (Solzhenitsyn).

Courage is not never feeling afraid; it is feeling afraid and going on in spite of it. Jesus' 'hour' was one of supreme self-giving in which he made a complete sacrifice of himself. A worldly point of view would perceive this hour a failure, of shame and humiliation. But by raising him from the dead Jesus turned it into an hour of triumph for Jesus and an hour of grace for us.

Similarly, our lowest moments can prove to be turning points. Moments of great worldly success soon fade and leave us feeling empty inside.

Moments of darkness, weakness and failure can prove to be times of great change and growth. In the end good triumphs; God has the last word.

Flor McCarthy SDB New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We commit to making our Church a safe place for children and young people and protecting them from harm.



You are special and will always be welcome in our Church.



What you think and feel is important to us.

We will make sure our leaders and helpers understand their responsibilities to keep you safe.



We respect you just the way you are.



If you feel unsafe or are worried about someone else's safety, we will listen and take this seriously.



We will help you to be safe. This means that if you are being hurt or are in danger of being hurt, we will speak to the Police or another person who can help you.



St Marys Parish Bairnsdale Omeo

Confidential help is always available. Ph 5152 2942

Email: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com Safeguarding Officer: Kath Cassidy



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE