



Omeo —  
Immaculate Conception Church

# 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.

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

#### 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B, 7th February 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.

<b>Weekend Mass Times</b> Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 9.30am <b>St Patrick's, Paynesville</b> Sunday: 8am <b>St Canice's, Lindenow</b> Sunday: 11am	<b>Monday:</b> 9:10am <b>Tuesday:</b> 9.10am <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:10am <b>OPAL Aged Care:</b> 10:30am <b>Thursday:</b> 9:10am <b>Friday:</b> 9:10am	<b>ST MARY'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP</b> Are meeting again on Monday evenings. The group meets in the Resource Room of the Parish Centre, enter by the Nicholson Street entrance. Doors open at 7:15pm. Everyone is most welcome. For more information contact Maureen Saunders 0428 522 344.
---	---	--



#### LENTEN SMALL GROUPS.....ONLY TEN DAYS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF LENT. YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN A GROUP .....BUT WHY?

Small groups are a rewarding and important part of the life of the Church.

**Friendships are strengthened**, or new friendships developed via small groups. Hearing opinions and thoughts from others helps **broaden and strengthen our own beliefs**, a **deeper understanding of Scripture** is often gained and we can rediscover a sense of **God's presence** in our lives.

**New leaders can emerge** from small groups as we gain confidence in our relationship with Christ.

**Expressions of interest please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre PH 5152 2942**

#### Roster for Masses 13th and 14th Feb 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	J De Boer	B Calabro	S Gibson	
9:30am Sun	M Owen	P Pruscino	M Elliott	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.*

**Allocation of Funds from the Parish Welfare Account 2019-2020**

The following were accepted as worthy recipients to receive \$500 each for the 2019-2020 financial year allocation from the Parish Welfare Fund.

**Local Needs:** St Vincent de Paul Conference ( Bairnsdale) Christmas hampers.  
East Gippsland Rotary Clubs Regeneration Project - Bushfire recovery.  
Seniors Care Police/Ministers Fellowship Project - Christmas hampers.

**National :** Headspace Bairnsdale  
Mary MacKillop Today  
Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project  
Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, Melbourne

**International Needs:**  
St Elizabeth Hospital Hyderabad, Pakistan  
Good Friday Holy Land Collection

**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.***



***MEDITATIONS ON THE ROSARY FOR PARISH RENEWAL***

In the Catholic Tradition the Communion of Saints does not just mean the present community of the baptised here and now but refers to all who have gone before us and are "in Christ". They are models, teachers and intercessors.

Our Blessed Mother is the primordial model of what it means to follow Jesus. She is the one who teaches us to "do whatever he tells you," (John 2:5) and she is the intercessor par excellence. For this reason, all parishioners in the East Region of our Diocese are invited to seek her intercession for the missionary renewal of our Parishes by the frequent praying of the Mysteries of the Rosary. Join us via Zoom **Wednesday night's at 7pm** for 30 minutes or you may pick up a hard copy (from St Mary's Parish Centre) of the Mystery and Intention to pray in your own time. Please contact either Pattie or Michelle at the Parish Centre – 5152 2942.



Pope Francis instituted a 'World day for Grandparents and the Elderly', to be celebrated every year on the 4th Sunday in Ordinary time. He has called on society to cherish the elderly as a source of wisdom and experience.

**CASH COUNT**  
**31st January:**

Envelopes	\$1,318.00
DD & Cards	\$1,530.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$ 550.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 301.00

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Year B, 14/2/2021**

**Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46**

**Psalms 31: 1-2; 5;11**

**1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1**

**Mark 1: 40-45**

***LITURGY MEETING***

With Lent beginning Wednesday 17th February, our 1st Liturgy Meeting will be held on

**Tuesday 9th February at 2pm.** We will meet in the Resource Room of the Parish Centre.

All team members are asked to attend.

Anyone else who may be interested in liturgy are also welcome to attend.



**Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**

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. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service.



**FEBRUARY**

**Universal intention - Violence against women**

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



**Aid to the Church in Need**  
**ACN AUSTRALIA**

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia:*  
*Job Vacancies - Are you looking for flexible ongoing part time work? Will you share the stories of suffering Christians? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of **Diocesan Outreach Assistants** who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Australia. For more details visit [www.aidtochurch.org/work](http://www.aidtochurch.org/work)*

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are available from the Parish Centre for \$12.

**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:** 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](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.  
**Funerals:** Please contact your preferred Funeral Director for arrangements. **Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the Parish Centre.  
**Communion to the Housebound /Aged Care:** Call Pattie Pruscino 51522942 or 0427 232 682  
**Special Wedding Anniversaries:** 6 months’ notice is needed to organise a Papal Blessing for parishioners.

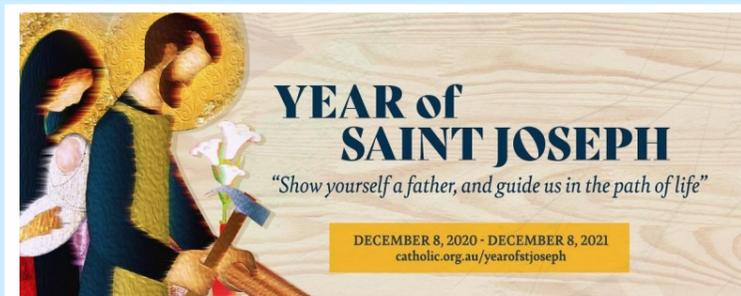
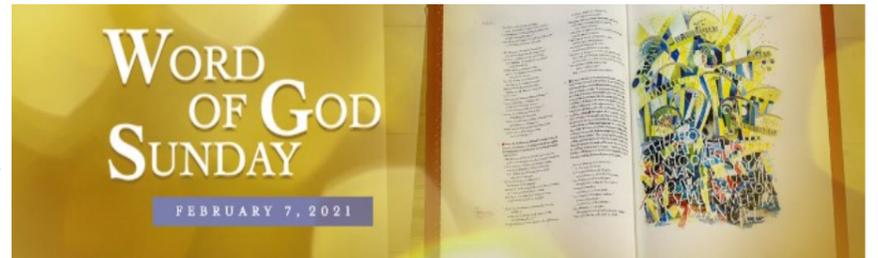
The Church in Australia celebrates the **Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 7 in 2021.**

Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God.

Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access

resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions

on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings or go to Podcast ‘The Revolution of Tenderness’. Professor Mary Coloe and Dr Emmanuel Nathan will explore passages of Scripture that are quoted in Catholic Social Teaching documents. For further information go to <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/01/18/the-word-of-god-catholic-social-teaching/> There are copies of Pope Francis’ homily for **SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD** available from the church or Parish Centre.



**YEAR of ST JOSEPH**

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

In his Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>

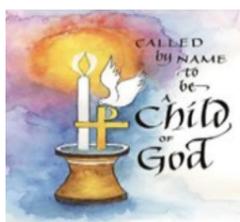
Feast Days of St Joseph: Friday 19 March - Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 1 May - Memorial of St Joseph the Worker

Resources: Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Year of St Joseph <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

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

**Carmen Katerina Golonski**



**Daughter of Gillian Grimsted**

**THE GIVING TREE**

The Bairnsdale Conference of St Vincent de Paul offer a big **THANK YOU** to parishioners for their continued support of the Giving Tree during Advent. They are very grateful for receiving over \$1000 of food donations, \$770 worth of toys and \$1100 in cash donations. A special thank you to the Paynesville parishioners for their efforts in helping to support those in difficult situations.

‘There, but for the grace of God, go I’.  
God bless each and every one of you.

**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*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Baby Lisiate Tuliakiono (great grand child of Aunty Marion Pearce), Chris Wyld (cousin to Maureen Saunders), Barry Darmody, victims of mental health issues; of Covid-19; victims of terrorist attacks, war and conflict and asylum seekers, and victims of family violence and poverty.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time...** Joseph Zagami, Varghese Pottampuzhayil, Genoveffa Calvi, Giosue Calvi, Alan Bills, Filomena Maglione, Sofia Mazzei, Noe Zoppe, Bill Keyte, Jim Murphy, Roger McCombe, Noel Bills, Norm Bowers, John Flannery, Catherine Cullen, Patricia Farquhar, 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:**

Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), Angie McKail, Victoria Shaw, Tricia & Alan Cooke, Damian Greaves, Mary Kirsner, Jim Quigley, Paul McFarlane, Craig Counsel, Linton Smith, Elizabeth Stehmann, John Butler, Arthur Elbourne, Roma Greig, Andre Buxton, Rick Jones, Marcie Hayles, Lorraine O’Brien, Alan Wilson, Vic & Thelma Smythe, Trish & Karl Henderson, Brian Rowe, John Pruscino, John Graves, Julie Frew, John Buck.

**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 Ordinary Time, Year B**

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

### **A Reading from the prophet Job (7: 1-4, 6-7)**

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R.** Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. **R.**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. he fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **R.**

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured.

The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**

### **A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (9: 16-19, 22-23)**

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. **Alleluia!**

### **A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (1: 29-39)**

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Jerusalem Bible* © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

### **Scripture Notes**

In the Old testament suffering was seen as a punishment from God for sin. Jesus did not accept this. God does not do evil.

God does good. What we see in the Gospel is not so much an answer to the question of 'why suffering?', but as Jesus' response to actual suffering, which was a very practical one. We see Jesus surrounded by throngs of physically and mentally sick people. He gives himself to each of them, making himself totally vulnerable before the wounded and sick.

Suffering is a lonely condition. Jesus was not sentimental about suffering and he did not preach resignation as we often do.

He had compassion on sufferers and made them well. His care of the suffering became an opportunity to show what God is like, revealing God's compassion in the face of human suffering. The suffering of others is an opportunity for us too. We may not be able to cure, but it is always within our power to care, which is a very healing thing. It is no easy thing because it means that instead of relieving someone's pain, we have to be prepared to share it.

Jesus also takes 'timeout' to pray. He was surrounded by those suffering and clamouring for him. He was in danger of being consumed. 'Early in the morning, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place to pray'. Jesus prayed out of a sense of duty but also out of need. Activity can become a disease so that one doesn't have a moment to oneself. Only by paying careful attention to our own physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs can we remain joyful givers.

The most beneficial prayer of all is to just be in the presence of God, without saying or doing anything.

We need to learn from Jesus how to combine action and contemplation.

Flor McCarthy SDB

# 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: [stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbairnsdale@gmail.com) Safeguarding Officer: Kath Cassidy



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE