



St Canice's - Lindenow

# 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

**Assistant Priests:** Fr Avinash George

Fr Edwin Ogbuka

**Presbytery:**

23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

**St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:**

135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942

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

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

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

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B, 2nd MAY, 2021

Welcome to all who have joined us as we 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

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am

**St Patrick's, Paynesville**

Sunday: 8am

**St Canice's, Lindenow**

Sunday: 11am

#### Weekday Masses for 3rd to 7th May

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

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

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

**BUPA Aged Care:** 10:30am

**Thursday:** 9:10am - Year 1 -

St Marys Primary School

**Friday:** 8am Nagle College Chapel

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.

**SATURDAY**

9:30am - 10:00am and

5:30pm to 5:50pm



#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

candidates are making their commitment at Masses this weekend as they begin to prepare to receive this Sacrament. Their photos have been placed in the Church ..... please keep these children and their families in your prayers. Due to Covid restrictions last year, we have both Years 4 and 5 preparing for the sacrament.

#### Sobriety Practise

To practice sufficiency and moderation, renounce what is superfluous and resist the consumerist mentality.

"Sobriety ... is the ability to renounce what is superfluous and to resist the dominant consumerist mentality.

Sobriety is prudence, simplicity, straightforwardness, balance and temperance.

Sobriety is seeing the world through God's eyes and from the side of the poor, sobriety is a style of life, which points to the primacy of others as a hierarchical principle and is shown in a life of concerns and service towards others. The sober person is consistent and straightforward in all things because he or she can reduce, recover, recycle, repair and live a life of moderation.'

(Pope Francis 2015)

**Reduce the number of items purchased. Clothes, electronics, homewares. Reduce our consumerism.**



#### Roster for Masses 8th & 9th May 2021

	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Special Minister
6:00pm Sat	M Saunders	C Power	J De Boer	M Saunders
9:30am Sun	M Owen	T Kosmer	G Neeson	K Bennett

**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.

**WANTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a program running over a number of months, exploring different aspects of Church life - what are the Sacraments, what role does Mary play, why does the priest wear the robes that he does, what relevance do Gospel stories have for us today? Anyone wishing to find out more please contact the Parish Centre on 5152 2942.

**NEW 'PLANNED GIVING' ENVELOPES**

Please pick up your new set of envelopes for the 'Stewardship Program' in the church foyer. Periodically the numbering system is updated, so many of you will have been assigned new numbers. Please discard any OLD envelopes, THANK YOU.

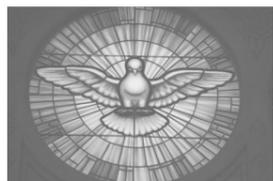


A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: ACN distributes over one million Bibles and religious books thanks to the help of our benefactors every year. Jesus commanded - "Go out into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all creation." ACN takes this command seriously by spreading the faith through these Children's Bibles. Often in poor countries, the Children's Bible is the first book that children receive in their own language and frequently, it is the only picture book that they will ever hold. Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/bibles](http://www.aidtochurch.org/bibles)



**NATIONAL COUNT IN THE MONTH OF MAY**

A national count of Mass attenders is taken every 5 years and the time has come again. At each weekend Mass for the first 4 weeks of May, we will be 'counting heads'. The count will happen at the time of the first collection.



**AN UPCOMING 'LIFE IN THE SPIRIT' SEMINAR**

The Diocesan Service of Communion of the Charismatic Renewal 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. Looking forward with great excitement to catching up with you all (Fr Francis).

Seminars will be held in a central location in the Diocese as follows:

**Venue:** St Ita's, Drouin **Time:** 10.30 am each day.

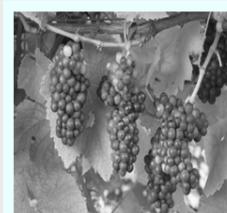
**Dates:** Saturday, 22 May, New Life in God's Spirit

Saturday, 19 June, Community in the Lord;

Commissioning Mass with Bishop Greg

The other seminars will be organised on Prayer Group/Parish levels. Details to follow. General enquiries please contact: John Duiker (Cranbourne, Diocesan Moderator); Anushka (Berwick, Diocesan Secretary), Julie Powell (Prayer Group leader, Warragul/Drouin), Fr Francis Otobo (Chaplain).

"May our Diocesan Life in the Spirit Seminar be an opportunity for us to fan into a flame the gift of God anew (1 Tim 1:6) and renew the gift of our baptism which calls us forth in missionary service." (Bishop Greg Bennet, Sale Diocese).



**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.***

**ST MARY'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

meet on Monday evenings in the Resource Room at the Parish Centre, entry Nicholson Street. Doors open at 7:15pm. Everyone welcome. For more information contact: Maureen Saunders 0428 522 344.

**The sheep follow him, because they recognise his voice.**

John 10:4

Today, I need to strive to hear and recognise Jesus' voice above the daily clamour. Even in this noisy, sometimes unsettling world, our Lord is that constant familiar voice of the Shepherd calling – calling us to recognise and follow. It is he who leads us through the cacophony. *Lord, please help us to always recognise your voice and follow where you lead.*

*Kathleen Swartz Mcquaig / Living Faith*



**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**

**An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.**

Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing!

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. The next residential weekend is on **21 -23 May 2021 in Wantirna South** (Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

**Collections for Week ending 18th April:**

Envelopes \$ 881.00  
DD & Cards \$ 270.00  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 730.35  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 764.40

**Readings for 6th Sunday of Easter**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48  
**Psalm:** Ps 97: 1-4  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1John 4: 11-16  
**Gospel:** John 15: 9-17



**MORNING TEA**

It is so good to be back, to have a cuppa with friends and a face-to-face conversation. Come over to the **Parish Centre** after **9:30am Mass today**. The morning tea is on us and is a Parish Pastoral Council initiative.

**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



### CAN YOU HELP? CHURCH CLEANING

The last 18 months, with church renovations and Covid restrictions, regular cleaning has not been occurring. The task is now quicker and easier as we have a large 'duster' broom which is light and manageable for many. Many hands make light work and, with no vacuuming, it can become a prayerful time. If you could give an 'hour' it would be most appreciated. See Pattie or phone 5152 2942.

### LOSS AND GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be **6<sup>th</sup> May - 5pm at the Parish Centre.** Entry via the door facing onto Nicholson Street. For more information please contact Pattie at the Parish Centre - 5152 2942.



### WEEKLY ROSARY

Weekly Rosary is continuing each Wednesday at 7pm. This happens via Zoom so you will require the link - please contact Michelle for this information. We would love you to join us. At this time we are offering up our prayers for Parish Renewal - that God will surround us with courage and wisdom to accept new possibilities as we offer the gifts He has given each of us through baptism.

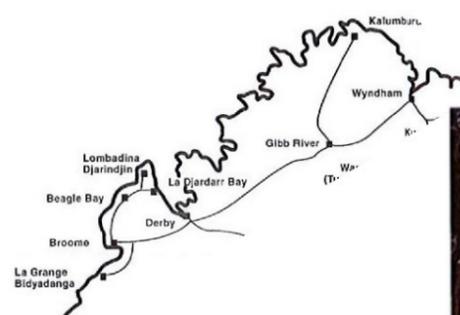


## **VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED KALUMBURU MISSION North Kimberley Region Diocese of Broome Western Australia**

We need volunteers for a life experience at the remote community of Kalumburu located in the northern region of the Kimberley in Western Australia. This region is home to some of Australia's oldest indigenous communities and picturesque landscapes. Volunteers play an important role in helping our Parishes continue an active presence amongst the local people, both in Broome and remote indigenous communities like Kalumburu.

Your role as a volunteer will include running the General Store with some assistance from local community members, handy-man maintenance and gardening as required and associated light machinery use and truck and fork-lift driving if you have the required licence. This is an opportunity to contribute and apply your range of acquired skills to the Kalumburu Mission and we would love to hear from you whether as couples or singles.

For further information contact: Diocese of Broome Chancery  
**T: 08 9192 1060** or by email [secretary@broomedioocese.org](mailto:secretary@broomedioocese.org)



### **CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

Series of short sessions: online via Zoom  
**ENGAGING YOUR FAITH**

Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$20 per Session, running 11th to 31st May. Booking, payment & more

Information: [www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/](http://www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/)



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

Universal intention - The world of finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

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

Margaret Bull, Barbara Conquest, 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...**

Sean Dooley, Lance Bills, David Bull, Patricia Fisher, Felicia Bagnato, Eleanor Parry-Jones, Fortunato & Francesca Desio, Teresa Saulle, baby John Brooks, Norman Dore, Joe Gwizdek, Maria Capobianco, Pam Hammond, Rick Marshall, Michael McMahon, Rita & Phil Luby, 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:**

Mary Johnson, Maree Elbourne, Mateusz Iwanowicz, Paul Hawker, Mark Kelly, Bev Miller (mother of Val Bersey), Ella Ford (NZ), Andrew Kenworthy, Carmen Golonski (Grimsted), 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, Marcie Hayles, John Buck, Alan Wilson, Brian Rowe, Vic & Thelma Smythe, 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. Please contact the Parish Centre to extend this time.

## **5th Sunday of Easter 2nd May 2021, Year B**

### **Entrance Antiphon**

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles** (9:26-31)

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

#### **R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R.**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' **R**

### **A reading from the first letter of St John** (3:18-24)

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

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

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John** (15:1-8)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away- he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

*Jerusalem Bible* © Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

### **Scripture Notes**

In the second reading John tells us what we have to do in order to be at rights with God. Active charity is what distinguishes true Christians from those who are such in name only. The allegory of the vine and branches in the gospel stresses the unity that exists between the vine, (Christ) and the branches, (his disciples), and that they need each other to be fruitful.

**Jesus wrote no books. He left no buildings or monuments.  
He built a community – this was his monument.**

The vine is a profound illustration of unity, closeness and interdependence. We need Christ, (the vine) but the vine also needs the branches, (us) to produce the fruit. Vines need to be pruned each year to bear fruit, otherwise only leaves will grow. Jesus asked us to be fruitful, not successful. Success is a worldly term that comes from strength and control. Fruitfulness, on the other hand, comes from weakness and vulnerability and frequently goes unrecognised and unrewarded. A sick person may not be able to do anything but could still be a fruitful member of the community. The bond that exists between us and the love and care we show for one another is what makes us truly fruitful. Many ask, why should I go to church. Surely religion is about my personal relationship with God? From early times, following Jesus was never just a private, personal matter. Christians came together to profess their faith in Jesus Christ, to witness to his resurrection, and to live by his teachings. We are Christ's witnesses. The witness of an individual is powerful, but the witness of a community is more powerful still.

*Flor McCarthy SDB -New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies. Year B*