



St Mary's Bairnsdale

# THE PARISH OF BAIRNSDALE AND OMEO

## Eastern Region – Diocese of Sale

### PAYNESVILLE, LINDENOW, 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 Jayakody Francis  
**Presbytery:**  
23 Pyke Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 3106

**St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
135 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale Phone 5152 2942  
Email: [stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stmarysbairnsdale.net](http://www.stmarysbairnsdale.net)  
Facebook: [St Mary's Church Bairnsdale](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchBairnsdale)

### 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A—11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai 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 and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



#### OUTDOOR MASSES FOR UP TO 10 PEOPLE

We invite you to the unique experience of sharing the Eucharist  
in our beautiful Presbytery gardens.

**Phone booking is essential.**

St Mary's, Bairnsdale **9:10am** Weekdays  
**at 23 Pyke St Bairnsdale**

Sunday Masses will offered in the high country, on the regular monthly basis.

#### HEALING THE HURTS

##### Statement from the Administrator for the Diocese of Sale, Fr Peter Slater, re WCB and findings of Justice Keogh

I acknowledge the harm caused by clergy to victims of child abuse in the Catholic Church over many years. There is no defence for that behaviour. The Catholic Church has been working assiduously to ensure such abuses do not occur today, or at any time in the future.

On behalf of the Diocese of Sale and all clergy and staff working here, I offer our support, prayers and willingness to work together for the best outcomes for the survivors of abuse.

The Diocese of Sale is committed to working with survivors and their families to redress the harm, with practical as well as pastoral means.

As Justice Keogh's findings are currently being reviewed, it would not be appropriate to comment further on a process that still has legal ramifications.



#### WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Central to the mission of the Immaculate Conception Parish (known as St Mary's Parish) is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and vulnerable persons and providing them with a safe, supportive, and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally, and socially.  
If you wish to speak with someone phone: Kath 5152 2942;  
Police 5150 2600; or Towards Healing 1800 816 030.



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

*Aid to the Church in Need*

(ACN), arranges Mass stipends to be sent to poor priest overseas.

In many regions, the Christian faithful are so poor they cannot

support their priests and so Mass stipends are often a priests only means of material support. Have a Mass offered for your family today and the money from your offering will be sent to a poor priest overseas who will offer up the Mass for your intentions.

To arrange Mass offerings please visit-

[www.aidtochurch.org/mass-offerings-for-poor-priests](http://www.aidtochurch.org/mass-offerings-for-poor-priests) or call **1800 101 201** during business

hours: 8am-5pm, AEST.



#### Rosary for the month of October

It is never too late to join/participate. If you can connect to Zoom email [stm.michelleg@gmail.com](mailto:stm.michelleg@gmail.com) or phone the Parish Centre 5152 2942 and we will send you the link. If you are unable to connect with Zoom, that is ok too, at 7pm each evening offer up

the Mystery of the day knowing others are praying with you and for you. Hard copies of the Rosary and Intentions are available at the Parish Centre.

Look up this clip [https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyeKkYnJnKA)

[v=TyeKkYnJnKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyeKkYnJnKA) it is Pope Francis' intention for the month of October and something we can offer up also.

### Speaking up

*"If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a slave of Christ"*

Galatians 1:10

Years later, I still vividly recall a moment when a co-worker made a derogatory remark about a minority race. To be honest, I was a new employee at the company and found the situation so uncomfortable that I wanted to ignore the remark. However, I knew in my heart that I had to make it clear that I didn't share his opinion. It was an intimidating experience, but the peace I felt after I spoke up was worth the small price of momentary uneasiness. The need for approval and the impulse to avoid conflict at all costs are temptations that many of us struggle with daily. Knowing when to speak and when to remain silent has been a lifelong learning process. I have learned that the line between self-righteous indignation and an authentic movement of the spirit is sometimes difficult to recognise. Prayer, self-knowledge and a healthy dose of humility continue to be reliable guides for me to follow.

Terri Mifek ( from Living Faith).



### New Encyclical

Pope Francis himself introduced his new encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti'.

He said yesterday, "I was in Assisi to sign the new Encyclical on fraternity and social friendship. I offered it to God on the tomb of St Francis."

"The signs of the times show how clearly that human fraternity and the care of creation form the sole way towards integral development and peace as already indicated by the saintly Popes John XXIII and Paul VI and John Paul II. May St Francis accompany the journey of fraternity in the church, between believers of all religions and between all people."

<https://www.vaticannews.va>

"Pope Francis offers a vision for real and lasting change by calling on us to build community at all levels: personal, societal and global, where walls of fear and distrust are replaced by a 'culture of encounter', and our solidarity with others restores human dignity."

Christine Allen CAFOD

### Integral Ecology in the Spirituality of Catholic Social Teaching Who are We Before God and in Creation?

"The spirituality of *Laudato Si'* reminds us that while we have responsibilities, we are not in charge. We are God's creatures, called to live in communion with the rest of God's creation, without which we cannot survive, let alone thrive"

Dr Sandie Cornish, Publications and Research Officer. Office for Social Justice.

To read the presentation by Dr Sandie Cornish at the at the [Catholic Earthcare Convocation 2020](#) on 3 Sept 2020 go to <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2020/09/04/who-are-we-before-god-and-in-creation/>



**Please continue to pray for the Plenary Council.**  
**Due to the current situation the process is on "hold".**



### Prayer for the 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.**

### STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM –

There are 5 ways to fulfil your commitment.

1. Bank your contributions into this account—  
**BSB: 083-879 ACCOUNT: 48919 4022**  
**ACCOUNT NAME: St Marys Parish Bairnsdale/ Omeo**  
**Ref: Your Name and Envelope number and mark 1st or 2nd Collection.**
2. or, go into your bank with this information and they will do it for you.
3. or, send cheques to St Mary's Parish, 23 Pyke Street, Bairnsdale, Vic, 3875
4. or, drop off at the Parish Centre Tuesday to Friday between 10am-3pm.
5. or, keep your envelopes with your commitments, saving them until we return to Sunday services.

*Our Parish finances have been affected during this pandemic and we will make necessary adjustments to manage the challenges it presents.*

*Please call Paul Heaton-Harris 0418 377 076 if you have any questions. **THANK YOU** for your support.*

During the week some of us listened to Rev Dr Austin Cooper OMI talk about 'Spiritual Thoughts During a Pandemic'. The one thing I took out of it was that I have time now to appreciate a sunrise, a beautiful blossom, the ants making a trail to a food source and back home. So, take time this week to sit, appreciate the wonders in & of life and with that realise how great is our God. Pattie

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Paul Leonti, Victims of mental health issues, Victims of Covid-19, Victims of terrorist attacks, war and conflict, asylum seekers, Victims of family violence and Victims of poverty.

**ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES occur at this time...** Daphne Mckersie, Daphne Moore, Joan Shanahan, Helen Bons, Ria Reefman, Joseph Raudino, Nerine Schiwy, Thomas Keyte, David Minchin, Jeanne Jones, Danny Cook, Mary Douglas, Barbara Eldridge, Molly Smullen, Marie Traynor, Nicholas Dooley, Laurie Hodgkisson, Valentina Baleisa, 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:** Arthur Elbourne, Linton Smith, Sr Barbara Brown-Graham FCJ, Roma Greig, Andre Buxton, Vic & Thelma Smythe, Alan Wilson, Trish & Karl Henderson, Brian Rowe, Robert Coleman, Lorraine O'Brien, Dennis (Danny) Phelan, Elaine Ariens, Rick Jones, Margaret Nugent, Marcie Hayles, John Pruscino, John Graves, Julie Frew, John Buck, Peter Grimsted.

**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.**

**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, Marylin 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 check with priest before setting dates & times.

**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.

**Parish Business Manager :**

Paul Heaton Harris

**Pastoral Care:**

Pattie Pruscino

**Sacramental Coordinator:**

Michelle Grimsted

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Kath Cassidy

**Pastoral Centre:** 5152 2942

**Presbytery:** 5152 3106

**St Marys' Primary School:** 5152 3706

**Principal:** Michelle Garbutt

**Newsletter:**

[www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmbairns.catholic.edu.au)

**Nagle College:** 5152 6122

**Principal:** Neville Powles

**Newsletter:** [www.nagle.vic.edu.au](http://www.nagle.vic.edu.au)

**St Mary's Op Shop:** 5152 2088

This year's **World Mental Health Day, on 10 October**, comes at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The past months have brought many challenges: for health-care workers; for students; for workers whose livelihoods are threatened; for the vast number of people caught in poverty or in fragile humanitarian settings with extremely limited protection from COVID-19; and for people with mental health conditions, many experiencing even greater social isolation than before. And this is to say nothing of managing the grief of losing a loved one, sometimes without being able to say goodbye."

The economic consequences of the pandemic are already being felt, as companies let staff go in an effort to save their businesses, or indeed shut down completely. Given past experience of emergencies, it is expected that the need for mental health and psychosocial support will substantially increase in the coming months and years. Investment in mental health programmes at the national and international levels, which have already suffered from years of chronic underfunding, is now more important than it has ever been. This is why the goal of this year's World Mental Health Day campaign is increased investment in mental health. **PLEASE LEND YOUR VOICE TO THIS CAMPAIGN**



### **CALLED AND GIFTED**

*The Charism of  
**HOSPITALITY***

*empowers a  
Christian to be a gener-  
ous channel of God's love  
by warmly  
welcoming and caring for  
those in need of food,  
shelter, and friendship.*

**Is this your gift ?**

**Some possible expressions:** hospitality committee/usher, work with the homeless/poor, RCIA/ returning Catholics, organising conferences/retreats.

**In our Community:** Our Parish is blessed with many people who share their gifts/charisms within our Church and wider community. We give thanks to 'backyard veggie growers' and their charism of **GIVING** – sharing their yield with others; and to Val and her gift of **FAITH**—by seeing her flame of faith burning others are reminded of how much of a flicker is their own faith. We thank them for sharing their gifts with us and our community and ultimately we thank God who has given them.

**Patron saint for the charism of Hospitality:** Dorothy Day (1897—1980) Orthodox in her faith and radical in her politics, Dorothy was one of the most remarkable women of the twentieth century. A journalist and committed Communist, Dorothy entered the Catholic Church after the birth of her only child. Possessed of a great love for the Catholic faith, Dorothy founded the Catholic Worker Movement, which still offers personal, sacrificial hospitality to the homeless and abandoned while passionately advocating social justice and opposing war. Cardinal O'Connor of New York has begun the cause of Dorothy's canonization.

**Scripture References:** Genesis 18: 1-8; Acts 16: 14,15; Luke 17: 19-31

**Christians WHO PAINT—Free Art Classes:** Find Your Happy Place and healing through art and colour with Madelaine. Beginners and experienced artists are all welcome to join in and share the fun on Zoom **Wed 2-4pm** and **Fridays 2-4pm** Contact Maddy by email: [yourcolours52@gmail.com](mailto:yourcolours52@gmail.com)



**Sunday Readings are available on AUDIO  
via email.**

**Contact the Parish Centre if you are interested.**



If you would like to receive the  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
you may ring the Presbytery on 51523106 to  
speak with one of the priests to make an  
arrangement.

#### **Readings for 29th Sunday , Year A 17/10/2020**

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6  
Psalm 95: 1, 3-5, 7-10  
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5  
Matthew 22: 15-21

#### **Week ending 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Envelopes \$1,083.00  
D/D & Cards \$2,720.00  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 50.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 210.00

#### **World Mission Sunday, 18th October 2020**

2020 has hit hard in parishes across Victoria and particularly in Melbourne. We have all been on a learning curve to utilise virtual/digital platforms to reach out to those in our community. This has meant a seismic change to the nature of parish life and weekly worship.

At Catholic Mission, we have honoured our commitments to our partners in Cambodia, Myanmar, India and Ghana. We have two options for people support Catholic Mission using:

- Mobile phone: one only needs to send the word "**GIVE**" to the number: 0488 854 436. This prompts an immediate reply which provides a link to a platform to make a donation. OR
- [www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/see-our-work-in-action/wmm20-cambodia-appeal](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/see-our-work-in-action/wmm20-cambodia-appeal)

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah** (25:6-10)

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name, If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians** (4:12-14, 19-20)

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew** (22:1-10)

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited," he said, "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

The Gospel of the Lord.

© Copyright Liturgy Brisbane

**Scripture Note:**

'There's that letter I should write, but I'm not in the mood at the moment.

There's that sick person I should visit, but right now there's that programme I want to watch.

I know I need to pray but I just don't seem to be able to find the time for it.

I know I should be kinder to X, but I just can't summon up the will to make the effort.

I know that dishonesty is wrong, but everyone does it, and what I do is minor, compared to what others are up to.

I know I could do my job better, but why should I break my back when others aren't pulling their weight.

I know I shouldn't drink too much, but I'm under a lot of pressure these days. '

Each of us could draw up quite a list of things we know in our hearts that we should do or not do.

The excuses that kept the invited guests from the wedding, weren't all bad, in fact they were mostly good.

But that is precisely what makes them so dangerous. We don't see them as posing a threat.

The greatest danger facing us is not that we might abandon God and turn to evil, but rather that we might just ignore his invitation.

Ignoring God's invitation is the worst form of refusal. It implies indifference, and indifferent people are the hardest to convert.

We are invited as individuals but also as a community and challenges us to give up our isolationism, exclusivism and self-sufficiency.

To accept means to admit our need, and willingness to receive from others, to share with others, to associate with others and to collaborate with others.

Flor McCarthy SDB