



Benambra: St Francis of Assisi

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	St Mary's Parish Pastoral Centre:	
Assistant Priests:	Fr Avinash George Fr Jayakody Francis	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	

CHRIST the KING, Year A, 22nd NOVEMBER 2020

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.



Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia who have been devastated by unprecedented flooding after Typhoon Vamco hit the region - only weeks after being hit by Super Typhoon Goni, the strongest storm this year. Severe flooding has submerged towns up to 12 metres deep across the Cagayan region of the Philippines, **leaving tens of thousands of families trapped without electricity, clean water or road access.** Across the region,

homes have been destroyed and livelihoods lost with **hundreds of thousands of people fleeing to evacuation centres, where the risks of spreading COVID-19 are high.** With your help, and with our church and NGO partners on the ground, we can provide vital support to those affected by this and other disasters as part of our Asia Emergency Appeal. **Donate today at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.**

MASS BACK IN THE CHURCH
BOOKING ESSENTIAL - 20 PERSON LIMIT
PLEASE RING PARISH CENTRE TO BOOK
Monday to Friday 10am-3pm

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

Monday: 9:10am
Tuesday: 9:10am
Wednesday: 9:10am
Thursday: 9:10am
Friday: 9:10am



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

28 young people will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation over 2 Masses (due to Covid) this Thursday & Friday evening at St Mary's Church.

We ask that you keep them and their families in your prayers.

Mother Teresa

"Many today are starving for ordinary bread. But there is another kind of hunger the hunger to be wanted, to be loved, to be recognised. Nakedness too is not just the want of clothes, but also about loss of dignity, purity and self-respect. Homelessness is not just the want of a house: there is the homelessness of being rejected, of being unwanted in a throwaway society. The biggest disease in the world today is the feeling of being unwanted and uncared for. The greatest evil in the world is a lack of love. The terrible indifference towards one's neighbour. Lord, warm our cold hearts with your grace, So that we your disciples may produce fruits of love. "

TOWARDS THE MISSION FIELDS IN DARWIN.

With the intentions of gaining a different pastoral experience and my personal preference, from the month of December this year I will be attached to the Diocese of Darwin. From the time I arrive in Darwin I will be priest in residence on Melville Island with two parishes namely Pirlangimpy and Milikapity which are First Nation communities. I am confident that with grace and blessings from God and my pastoral experiences of thirty eight years as a priest, I will be able to immerse myself with the mission work there.

I wish to thank the parish communities here in Bairnsdale, the staff at the Pastoral Centre and the Presbytery, along with the priests, Frs. Michael and Avinash, and Bernie for their extended support and solidarity.

My prayers will be with you all and I am certain that you will remember me in your prayers. May God bless . Fr. Francis

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.

ADVENT STUDIES: "Hammer on Anvil"

Advent as the sound of hammer on anvil gives us a way to think and talk about the season of Advent as a time of transformation, a time of being made fit for the purpose of living between the time of Jesus' birth and the time of the coming of the kingdom of God in all its fullness.

This series of 4 studies will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm by zoom and Thursdays at 12:30pm (12:00 for a BYO lunch) in the meeting room at the Uniting Church or at the manse next door (dependent on COVID restrictions). Apart from the first session which will include an introduction (and may go a little longer) each session will go for about an hour including discussion and sharing.

1. Waiting: Luke 1:5-24 24th and 26th November
2. Accepting: Luke 1:24-38 1st and 3rd December
3. Anticipating: Luke 1:39-56 8th and 10th December
4. Journeying: Luke 2 :1-6 15th and 17th December

Contact Rosalie 0497164087 or

email: Rosalie_john@bigpond.com for more details, to book in, and for the zoom link. All are welcome.

Reaching Beyond 2020

People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable



solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://www.palms.org.au) will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on Assignment. See www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email palms@palms.org.au

Advent Daily Reflection Book ADORE

The books have arrived and can be picked up at the Parish Centre (a gold coin donation, if possible). You can follow the book at home OR you can join a group – an opportunity to share your thoughts, cares and concerns in a caring non-judgemental environment. At this stage we are happy to offer a gathering at 10am Thursdays during Advent. If this time doesn't suit, please phone 5152 2942 and we can make suitable arrangements. 'Zoom' is also available.

EPISCOPAL ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF BISHOP-ELECT GREGORY BENNET AS TENTH BISHOP OF SALE

I am delighted to confirm that Bishop-elect Greg Bennet will be ordained Tenth Bishop of Sale on **Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 11am at St Mary's Cathedral Sale.**

The ordination and installation will respect the restrictions as prescribed by the State of Victoria. An assessment based on the restrictions as proposed from 23 November will see St Mary's Cathedral Sale able to hold 70 people. While we would have clearly liked to offer welcome and hospitality to everyone, we will be restricted to the Apostolic Nuncio, Principal Consecrator and Co-Consecrating Bishops, Bishops of the Victorian Province, the College of Consultors and clergy required for the liturgy. Other liturgical ministries, COVID officers, restricted Diocesan representatives & Cathedral staff, and those required for the live streaming will form part of the 70 participants. We hope you will join us via live-streaming as we ordain and welcome our new bishop.

<https://tinyurl.com/Cathedral-YouTube-channel>

Rev Fr Peter Slater, Diocesan Administrator

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Clark, Jozef Majka, Matt Verde, Barbara Sievers, Gabrielle Moylan, 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...

Fr Tim McInnes, Robert Rhodes, Gioconda Capobianco, Barry Rowe, Rick Bourke, Sue D'Amelio, Damien Johnson, Helen McBride, Graham Rowe, Pasquale Pruscino, Pat Pruscino, Antonio Pruscino, Giuseppe Di Palma, Jim Dwyer, Alex Bain, Sarah Traynor, Lupo D'Aloia, 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: Fr. Frank Young, Elizabeth Stehmann, John & Sue Butler, 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, Rick Jones, Marcie Hayles, 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.

KOGO

"Knit One Give One" is a Melbourne based group which distributes hand knitted woollen items to many people in need all over Australia. Parishioners are invited to knit such items as beanies (especially ones in the colours of the aboriginal flag), scarves, gloves, babies & children's wear as well as squares that can be sewn together to make blankets. Please use 8 ply wool with 4mm needles - these squares will measure approx. 17cm x 17cm. We now have a new contact person in Sale so please bring in your knitted squares etc to the Parish Centre and we can deliver them. A great way to help those who have found themselves requiring assistance.



WANTED: ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR
Telephone Michael 51525707

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.

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.

Wishing to obtain a Bible?

The Word of God— NRSV and Good News Bibles are available at St Mary's Parish Centre. Call in and see Pattie...

THE HEART OF LIFE AS A CATHOLIC

"FOLLOWING JESUS (CCC, 519-521) - LIKE THE FIRST DISCIPLES, WE MAY STRUGGLE AS WE START TO TRY TO FOLLOW JESUS. WE MAY BE SCARED. WE MAY NOT KNOW HOW TO START. WE RESIST LETTING GOD ENTER CERTAIN AREAS OF OUR LIVES. WHERE CAN WE FIND THE COURAGE, THE LOVE, THE WISDOM, THE POWER TO FOLLOW JESUS AS A DISCIPLE? FROM EXACTLY THE SAME SOURCE AS THE FIRST CHRISTIANS— FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT."

SHERRY WEDDELL www.catherineofsiennainstitute.org

It is with a heavy heart that we learn that Rod, husband of Anglican Rector Brenda, died on Tuesday from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. This comes after Rod's mother passed away just 13 days ago. Please uphold Brenda and her family and the congregation at St Johns as they walk through these days together.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND CHRISTMAS CARDS

These are now available from the Parish Centre. The calendars are now \$12 each. The Christmas cards come in 2 sizes (and from different suppliers). A packet of 8 cost \$4 and a packet of 12 is \$10. Just some extra information—the sale of the 'packet of 12' helps support 'Aid to the Church in Need.' Another easy and simple way to help our 'neighbour' in trouble.

ATTENTION ALL:

For this month Masses will be offered at Omeo, Swifts Creek & Benambra on the 5th weekend instead of the usual 4th weekend. This means that there will be NO 11am Mass at Bairnsdale on the 29th November.

MONTH OF NOVEMBER

During the month of November we remember those loved ones who have gone before us. Call into the Parish Centre where you can pick up your paper cross, write the names of loved ones passed and pin the cross onto the large wooden cross found in the church.



1st Sunday of Advent, Year B 29/11/2020

Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1, 3-8
Psalm 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Mark 13: 33-37

Week ending 15th November

Envelopes	\$ 1,922.00
D/D & Cards	\$ 840.00
1 st Collection	\$ 495.00
2 nd Collection	\$ 70.00

FRATELLI TUTTI

Pope Francis's Social Encyclical.

(Just google Fratelli Tutti)

It's aims are to promote a universal aspiration towards fraternity and social friendship amid the global Covid 19 pandemic. It has helped demonstrate that no one can live life in isolation.

Chapter 1 Dark Clouds cover the world

This chapter reflects on the many distortions of the contemporary era, the manipulation and deformation of concepts such as democracy, freedom, justice, the loss of the meaning of the social community and history; selfishness and indifference towards the common good; the prevalence of market logic based on profit and the culture of waste; unemployment, racism, poverty; the disparity of rights and its aberrations such as slavery, trafficking organ trafficking. It calls for global action and sounds the alarm against a 'culture of walls' that favours the proliferation of organised crime, fuelling fear and loneliness. Vatican news and Isabella Piro

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.

Christ the King, Year A

Entrance Antiphon:

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (34: 11-12, 15-17)

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest - it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats. **The word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **R.**

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. **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 first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (15: 20-26, 28)

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in the proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all. **The word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (25: 31-46)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: People's basic needs have to be taken care of before any kind of higher life is possible. But in many countries these needs have been taken care of. Mother Teresa said, 'The worst disease in the world today, is the feeling of being unwanted, and the greatest evil is a lack of love. What the poor need even more than food, clothes and shelter, is to be wanted.' In today's words the King will say for a little companionship, and all you did was nag, and then ignore me. I was a stranger, a child, a neighbour, and you refused to have anything to do with me, wouldn't let your children play with me and wouldn't let me into your club, because I wasn't of your class. I was naked, not because I lacked clothes, but because I lacked self-confidence and I lost my good name through a story that wasn't true, and you made me feel the chill wind of disapproval and refused to believe me. I was sick, not in body, but with doubt and worry, failure and disappointment, depressed and needing some hope, and you never noticed, or cared and all you did was blame me. I was a prisoner of nerves, loneliness and guilt, and you shunned me, punished me by not forgiving me.

I was homeless, not for the want of a house, but for the want of tenderness and affection, wanting sympathy and understanding, love and acceptance, and you left me out in the cold, treated me like a block of wood and locked me out of your heart.

The sin of omission is one of the worst sins in the world..... yet one of the easiest to commit.

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: stmarybairnsdale@gmail.com Safeguarding Officer: Kath Cassidy



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE