

WE THE PARISH OF BENALLA ARE WORKING TOWARDS BEING A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY, WHICH ENCOURAGES ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN OUR LIFE. RECOGNISING AND RESPECTING THE UNIQUENESS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL, AS WE JOURNEY IN LIVING OUT JESUS' GOSPEL MESSAGE.

We acknowledge the custodians of the land of the Yorta Yorta Nation which, includes the eight clan groups. We also acknowledge the Taungurung clan of the Kulin Nation whose lands are within our parish. We remember their ancestors with respect and commit ourselves to a better future through reconciliation and justice.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 July 2026

 <i>Readings for this week:</i>	Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43	 <i>Readings for next Sunday:</i>	Kings 3:5 7-12 Romans 8:28-30 Matthew 13:44-52
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FIRST READING

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you exposed the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Lord you are good and forgiving.

Oh Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
 Give heed, O Lord to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice **R.**

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **R.**

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name,
 Oh Lord; for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you alone are God. **R.**

SECOND READING

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep, his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servant said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel, you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in a bundle to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn." He put another parable before them. The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown, it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come in shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable. The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took, and mixed it with three measures of flour, till it was leavened through. In all this, Jesus spoke to the crowd in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill, the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables, and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well, then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences, and who do evil and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!

REFLECTION

Jesus compares the Kingdom of heaven to wheat and weeds, a mustard seed, and yeast. Apparently, God is very interested in gardening and baking! The parable of the wheat and weeds reminds us that life is rarely neat. Good and bad grow side by side, sometimes even within our own hearts. We may be tempted to start pulling out the weeds immediately, especially when the “weed” happens to be another person. But Jesus warns us not to judge too quickly. God is patient because people can change, including us. The mustard seed reminds us that small things matter. A kind word, a quiet prayer, or a simple act of forgiveness may seem tiny, but God can make it grow. And like yeast hidden in dough, grace often works quietly. We may not see anything happening, but God is still at work. Our task is to keep growing, keep trusting, and leave the final sorting to God. - Fr DJ, Parish Administrator

PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS: Sr Margaret Olsen FCJ

ANNIVERSARIES: Natalie Kropkowski, Jeanette Bourke, Margaret Scharp, Francis Barlett, John Byrne, Bernard William Beaton, Brian Scott, Edward Murray, Lorna Quinn, Christine McCauley, Mary Ronke, Allan King, Alan Bourke, Patrick Schipp, Lyn Hickey, Antonio Valentini, Adrian McLaughlin, Darryl Anderson

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Skyler Levy, Susan Fitzgerald, Tracey Welsh, Elizabeth Waters, Anne Ryan, Duncan Carradice, Margaret McCrohan, Frank Levesque, Trish McCabe, Sari Yoingco, Rebeeca O'Reilly, Paula McPherson, Julie Lynch, Anne Moore, Jacob Smith, Tony Meade and David Rogash

CALENDAR

July

17 Birthday lunch for Sr. Liz at the Golf Club

Aug

7 Exposition & the Rosary

8 Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)

9 Cuppa after Mass in Building 31

☺ Remember that story that had everyone laughing so hard they could barely tell it? ☺

Now's your chance to put it in writing! We're looking for the funny moments, unforgettable mishaps, unique events, and heartwarming memories that have made our parish so special over the past 150 years. Every great parish has stories worth sharing—help us bring our history to life, one memory at a time. Submit your story at the back of the church!

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

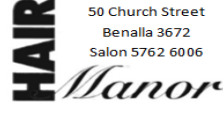
Your support is greatly appreciated and is a wonderful expression of our parish's commitment to caring for those in need. May God bless you for your generosity. Please note that **cash donations** made through our parish remain in **Benalla** to support those in need within our local community. **Donations made by card** are processed through the St Vincent de Paul Society and are directed to **Melbourne** to support the Society's wider works.

Sandhurst Formation Institute “Growing as Communities of Mission” Friday 21 – Saturday 22 August 2026 at Riverlinks Eastbank, Shepparton

Join people from all over the Diocese at the SFI; two days to explore “Gospel, Mission, and Pastoral Outreach”; the First Direction of the Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals. Opening Reflection and Closing with Bishop René Ramirez RCJ; Keynotes on both Friday and Saturday: “What is the Mission and What Does that Mean?”, and “Growing as Communities of Mission”. Many seminars to choose from, inter-parish dialogue, intergenerational dialogue and a special Youth Stream (16 – 35s). For more information, go to our website: <https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/3078-sandhurst-formation-institute-2026>

Help Shape the Future of Our Parish

Our Diocese has given us a clear vision through its the Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals. Now it is our turn to ask: What does this look like here in Benalla? We are seeking parishioners to join a Mission and Pastoral Plan Core Group to help develop a local plan that reflects the needs, hopes, and gifts of our parish community. If you are prayerful, willing to listen, and passionate about the future of our parish, we would love to hear from you. Together, let us discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us and help bring forth God's Kingdom in Benalla. Please contact the Parish Office or speak to Fr DJ or any members of the PPC if you would like to be involved.

Steam It Up CARPET CLEANING  Jason Blyss 0407438219	 Goulburn Murray Credit Union 30—32 Bridge Street PH 5762 3380	 Accountants Income Tax Returns Business Advisers 107 Bridge St Benalla Ph 5762 1588
MAHERS TREE SERVICE JOHN MAHER M: 0413 842 525 For all your tree needs, tree tidy up, complete tree removal, tree stump removal, woodchips Dam cleanouts	 Alana Robertson 50 Church Street Benalla 3672 Salon 5762 6006	 Expert Electrical Services in Benalla Ph 0408 572 766
 KERB CONCRETE EXCAVATION PHIL & DEBBIE COOK 0409 950 046		 Funeral directors Phone: (03) 5762 2461 FEEHAN FAMILY Est. 1938 - AFDA Member 81 Baddaginnie Road, Benalla

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
18 Jul	6.00pm	Ryan Miguel	Cath Duncombe	Sr Liz	K & S Chacko	Charlee & Kevin
19 Jul	9.30am	Max Rankin	Oliver Raschke	James Flynn	Joan Berry Susie Buykx	Venal Family
25 Jul	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Anna Wise	Vince Branigan	Cath Duncombe Janene Humphries	Dan Brown & Michael
26 Jul	9.30am	Oliver Raschke	Anne McLeod	John Smyth	Louise Beling & Volunteer	P & J O'Brien

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Weekends – Saturday 6pm. Sunday 9.30 am, Weekdays – Tues to Fri 9.15 am
 Rosary and Exposition every first Friday of the month while Fr Vijay is on sabbatical.



Subscribe and receive Parish Bulletin, Newsletter & updates about upcoming events: Subscribe by using the QR Code.

St Joseph's Parish is a Child Safe Parish, and we are committed to the wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. The Diocese of Sandhurst Safeguarding Committee is part of the structure under the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which is designed to be implemented by Catholic entities across Australia. Any questions, queries, comments or suggestions are welcomed by the Safeguarding team who can be contacted through the Parish House by phone or email. St Joseph's Parish Child Safe Officers – Xavier O'Kane and Cath Duncombe 0423 203 154

