

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.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 Sept 2026



Readings for this week:

Ezekiel 33:7-9
Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20



Readings for next Sunday:

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

FIRST READING

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work. **R.**

SECOND READING

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.

REFLECTION

Reconciliation is what happens when two people begin taking steps towards each other. Most of us know what it is like when something has come between us and someone we care about. We want things to be right again, but we are not quite sure how to get there. Someone has to make the first move. That is where Jesus begins in today's Gospel: "Go and have it out with him alone." One person takes a step. But reconciliation happens when the other person takes a step too. We can apologise alone. We can forgive alone. We can leave the door open. But we cannot rebuild a relationship alone. At some point, both must be willing to cross the distance between them. Sometimes that happens quickly. Sometimes it takes many small, hesitant steps. And sometimes we simply have to wait. Perhaps reconciliation begins with this simple hope: I will take my step towards you, trusting that one day, you might take yours towards me. -Fr DJ

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.

PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS: Pat Todd, Colleen Burke, Peter Tanner, Marie Rhodes

ANNIVERSARIES: Lesley McGill, Gregory Hoskin, Gisela Glaser, Stella Dallan, Gary Griffin, Eddie Barnes, Marie Wise, Kathleen McCormack, Kit Smyth, Alan Burge, Margaret Plozza

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 Yoningco, Rebecca O'Reilly, Paula McPherson, Julie Lynch, Anne Moore, Jacob Smith and Tony Meade and Catherine de la Cruz

CALENDAR

Sept

- 6 Father's Day
- 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 12 Family Mass 6 pm, followed by light supper
- 13 Cuppa after mass in Building 31
- 17 Fr Vijay returns
- 20 Thoona Mass 12 noon

Oct

- 2 Benediction & the Rosary 6 pm
- 11 Cuppa after Mass in Bldg. 31
- 13 'The Carpenter' out
- 18 Mass at Thoona at 12 noon
- 24 Vigil Mass 6 pm
- 25 NO 9:30 am MASS
- 25 150th Jubilee Mass at 2pm, followed by afternoon tea and refreshments in St. Joseph's Hall

CARITAS AUSTRALIA NEPAL APPEAL

The Caritas network is working alongside affected communities and local authorities to assess needs and ensure assistance reaches those most impacted. We are asking Australians to stand with the people of Nepal during this devastating time. Thousands of households have been affected across multiple districts. Search and rescue operations continue in extremely challenging conditions, with damaged roads and communications hampering access to affected areas.

You can support the Appeal at www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call 1800 024 413.



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
COOKS 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	



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Season of Creation 2026 "Living Water" 1 September – 4 October

Each year, the Universal Catholic Church joins with other Christian denominations to celebrate the Season of Creation, a special time of prayer and action for our common home. The theme this year is "Living Water". In his message for the 11th World Day of Prayer for the Season of Creation, Pope Leo focuses on the connection between armed conflict and environmental degradation.

Parish Priest: Fr Vijay Bandanadam, Parish House: 42 Arundel St, Benalla 3672. Fr Vijay's Mobile: 0435 006 171 Parish House Phone: 5762 2060
www.catholicparish.app>benalla Office Email: benalla@sandhurst.catholic.org.au, Fr Vijay's Email: frbasuoss@gmail.com
For donations/planned giving bank transfers BSB: 083543 Account No: 457724666 Reference: Your name

Renewed and Sent Parish Renewal Summit 2026

1-3 October, St Gregory's College, Campbelltown (western Sydney) Bishop René RCJ strongly encourages Sandhurst Clergy and Parish Leaders to attend this 'Divine Renovation' Summit to see what God is doing in other parishes and discern what it could mean for their own. For more information, go to: <https://renewedandsent.com.au> Contact your parish priest to discuss an expression of interest to Bishop René RCJ.

Happy Father's Day!

Today we give thanks for all fathers and father figures who nurture, guide, and love their families. May God bless them with wisdom, strength, and grace, and may St. Joseph be their inspiration and guide.

We also remember with love those fathers who have gone before us. **Happy Father's Day, and God bless all fathers!**

Family Mass

Saturday, September 12, 6 PM Mass

Join us for a special Family Mass! Bring the whole family and celebrate together as we gather in faith and community.

Everyone is invited to stay for sausage sizzles after mass.



All welcome! ♥

St Francis of Assisi Reflection and Prayer Resource

It has been 800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi, yet he remains deeply relevant today. His life speaks to some of the most pressing concerns of our time: care for creation, peace, poverty, fraternity and a simple, Gospel-centred life. St Francis' vision was not about admiring creation from a distance, but recognising our relationship with God, one another and the whole of creation. Pope Leo XIV declared 2026 a special Jubilee 'Year of St Francis'. To mark this important anniversary, the Diocese of Sandhurst has published a resource for reflection and prayer, developed by the Office of Mission and Pastoral Life at the Chancery with the Sandhurst Care for Creation Team. The Diocese invites people to rediscover the witness of St Francis and to draw his spirit of simplicity, peace, compassion and care for creation into their own lives and prayer.

Columban Art Calendar 2027 Now available at the piety stall

Catholic Theological College
Engaging Your Faith online presentations in October 2026

From \$25 per session.

For more information: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith

Marian Festival Sunday 11 October Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo

All are welcome to the 52nd Marian Festival dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The day starts with Mass at 11:00 am celebrated by Bishop Emeritus Leslie Tomlinson, followed by BYO Lunch (or BBQ available); Festival begins with Rosary procession, followed by Guest Speaker then Benediction, and concludes with afternoon tea. National Costume dress welcome. For more information go to: www.bendigofatima.com Contact:

info@bendigofatima.com

150 Jubilee items for sale at the old piety stall

Commemorative Items	Price
Fine China Coffee Mugs	\$10.00
Stemless Wine Glasses (pair of 2 glasses in a box)	\$15.00
Stemmed Wine glasses	\$10.00
Pictorial History Booklet "150 Years of Faith and Community" (To be picked up at a later date)	\$15.00
Tarzali Wine: Reisling	\$15.00
Tarzali Wine: Shiraz	\$15.00

WE ARE HIRING

Join the St Brendan's Catholic Church Office team

Administration Support Officer

13.5 hours per week

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during school hours

Permanent part-time position

Location: St Brendan's Catholic Church Office

A welcoming opportunity for an organised and reliable person to provide administration support in a parish office setting.

Enquiries: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Contact: 5821 2633

Applications close: 24 September 2026

Parish Priest: Fr Vijay Bandanadam, Parish House: 42 Arundel St, Benalla 3672. Fr Vijay's Mobile: 0435 006 171 Parish House Phone: 5762 2060

www.catholicparish.app>benalla Office Email: benalla@sandhurst.catholic.org.au, Fr Vijay's Email: frbasuoss@gmail.com

For donations/planned giving bank transfers BSB: 083543 Account No: 457724666 Reference: Your name



Fr Vijay in Paris!

Fr Vijay enjoying his time in Europe before we welcome him home in just a couple of weeks. We look forward to having him back with us soon!



Prayer for the Season of Creation 2026

Holy God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters at the beginning, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. We give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home, that sustains the cedar and the whale, the pasture and the city. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop is a sacred testament to your love.

Yet, we confess that we have treated this gift as a mere commodity. We have choked the seas with our waste and watched the warming tides rise in judgment. We lament the cracked earth of the drought-stricken and the salty tears of the climate refugee. Melt our frozen hearts, O God, and let the waters of repentance flow.

Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honor the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations.

May God our Father who brought water from the rock sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
5 Sept	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Shirley Kearney	Cath Duncombe	Janene Humphries Dan Brown	Kunchacko & Suleena Chacko
6 Sept	9.30am	Oliver Raschke	Lisa Raschke	John Smyth	Joan Berry Louise Beling	T & N Pelly
12 Sept Family Mass	6.00pm	Ryan Miguel	Pat McDonald	Student Volunteers	Jane Branigan Cath Duncombe	Student Volunteers
13 Sept	9.30am	Adrian Daw	Paddy O'brien	James Flynn	Denise O'Brien Oliver Raschke	J Berry & volunteer

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

