

Celebrating



1876 – 2026

150 YEARS

of Benalla Catholic Parish



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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

26 April 2026



Readings for this week:

Acts 2:14, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20-25
John 10:1-10



Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

FIRST READING

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

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.

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.**

SECOND READING

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

REFLECTION

The readings invite us to trust in Jesus as our Good Shepherd and source of life. In the first reading, Peter boldly speaks about Jesus, reminding us that salvation comes through Him alone. Even in difficulties, the apostles remained strong in faith. This encourages us to stand firm and not be afraid to witness to Christ in our daily lives. The second reading gives us comfort, showing that Jesus understands our suffering. He walked the path of pain and now guides us gently. When we feel lost or burdened, we can turn to Him, knowing He cares for us deeply. In the Gospel, Jesus says, "I am the gate for the sheep." He invites us to enter through Him to find safety, peace, and true life. Many voices in the world can confuse us, but only Jesus leads us to what is good and lasting. This week, we are called to listen to His voice more closely, trust His guidance, and follow Him with simple faith. When we stay close to Jesus, we will never be lost, because He always leads us with love. God Bless always, Fr Vijay



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.**



REGULAR MASS TIMES

Weekends – Saturday 6pm. Sunday 9.30 am, Weekdays – Tues to Fri 9.15 am
Thoon Mass – Third Sunday of each month, 12 noon



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

Dear Lord,
on Anzac Day,
we remember the
brave souls who
made the ultimate
sacrifice for peace.
Grant them
eternal rest and
comfort their loved
ones. May their courage inspire us to build a world of
harmony and understanding. Amen.



PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS:

Jacqueline Ryan and Anthony Lynch

ANNIVERSARIES: Thomas Putt, Linda Keenan, Cath Kelly, Kathleen Feehan, Norma Ryan, Pam Hocking, Kristina Cesek, John Avery, Ray Lawlor and Albert Muldeary

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Skylar Levy, Susan Fitzgerald, Tracey Welsh, Elizabeth Waters, Anne Ryan, Duncan Carradice, Margaret McCrohan, John Downie, Frank Leveque, Trish McCabe, Sari Yoinco, Rebecca O'Reilly, Paula McPherson, Julie Lynch and Anne Moore



📷 Then and Now – Same Faces, New Chapters! 📷

Do you have an old photo at the parish with family or friends?

Why not recreate it today! As we celebrate 150 years, we'd love to see your "then and now" photos—same people, same place (if you can), just a few years wiser 😊 Send in your side-by-side snaps and help us showcase the beautiful generations of our parish community.

This year in celebration of Benalla Parish 150 Jubilee year in conjunction with Benalla Heritage Festival, will conduct guided tours of the Parish House and St Joseph's Church during these hours.



Friday 1 May | Saturday 2 May
2026, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Also, St Joseph's Primary School are joining in with a tour on Saturday 2 May 2pm to 4pm. Go to the website to see

what's happening and where.

www.australianheritagefestival.org.au

For this exciting community festival we will need help on the 2 days and also a working bee to be held after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 26 April. If you would like to be involved and volunteer some time please find volunteer lists in the narthex to write your name on. A great time to get involved and enjoy the festivities!

Wednesday Exercise Group

We are changing the start time to 9.30am instead of 9.00am.



Steam It Up CARPET CLEANING Jason Blyss 0407438219	 Goulburn Murray Credit Union 30—32 Bridge Street PH 5762 3380	 SMITH DOSSER 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	 Currie ELECTRICAL Expert Electrical Services in Benalla Ph 0408 572 766
COOKS KERB CONCRETE EXCAVATION PHIL & DEBBIE COOK 0409 950 046	 N.J. TODD Funeral directors Phone: (03) 5762 2461 FEEHAN FAMILY Est. 1938 - AFDA Member 81 Baddaginnie Road, Benalla	

We are looking for someone to take on the Parish Secretary Position. If you are interested please talk to Fr Vijay. We are looking for someone who will take on a number of tasks in this position and importantly someone who is competent in knowing how to manage and internal network data base.



WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
25 Apr	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Anna Wise	Vince Brannigan	Kunchacko Chacko	Dan Brown & Michael
26 Apr	9.30am	Oliver Raschke	Anne McLeod	John Smyth	Louise Beling	P & J O'Brien
2 May	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Vince Brannigan	Cath Duncombe	Maureen Murphy	K & S Chacko
3 May	9.30am	Adrian Daw	Norma Pelly	Oliver Raschke	Victor Nduka	Brierley Family

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



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