

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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10 May 2026



Readings for this week:

Acts 8:5-8,14-17, 1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21



Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

FIRST READING

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result, there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! R. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. R.

He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod.

Let our joy then be in him; he rules forever by his might. R.

Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul:

Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me. R.

SECOND READING

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! *All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.* Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave your orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time, the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day, you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

REFLECTION

In today's readings, we are invited to reflect on the transformative power of God's love and the call to live faithfully even in trials. In Acts, we see Philip bringing the Good News to Samaria. People respond with joy, and the Spirit works through prayer and the laying on of hands. This reminds us that the Gospel is meant to reach beyond boundaries, and the Spirit brings life and renewal wherever faith is welcomed. 1 Peter challenges us to embrace suffering with courage and integrity. Following Christ may sometimes mean facing criticism or hardship, but Peter reassures us that God's judgment begins with the faithful. Suffering for doing good unites us with Christ and deepens our trust in God. In John, Jesus prays for His disciples, asking the Father to protect them and unite them in love. His prayer is both comforting and challenging: we are called to remain in Christ's love, to live in truth, and to participate in God's mission of unity. Together, these readings remind us that faith brings joy and life, even amid trials. The Spirit strengthens us, suffering purifies us, and Jesus' love sustains us. May we live boldly, guided by the Spirit, and rooted in Christ's love. God Bless always, Fr Vijay

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Weekends – Saturday 6pm. Sunday 9.30 am, Weekdays – Tues to Fri 9.15 am

Benediction 1st Friday of each month, 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.

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

Parish Secretary Position Available

We are seeking a dedicated individual to take on the role of Parish Secretary. If you are interested, please speak with Fr Vijay. This position involves a variety of administrative responsibilities, including managing the parish's internal database. Applicants should be confident in Microsoft applications, Adobe Acrobat, and in handling networked data systems. Closing date: 15/05/2026

Laudato Si' Week 2026

Laudato Si' Week is a celebration held annually from May 17-24 May to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis's landmark encyclical on caring for our common home. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this global celebration unites Catholics to listen and respond together to the cry of creation, rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing *Laudato Si'* to life, and intensify our efforts through the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform as well as other opportunities for education and action. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference committed to celebrating *Laudato Si'* Week annually in their Social Justice Statement (2021-22): Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor. 2026. Please pick up reading information in the Narthex.

Laudato Si' Week Project

Sr Liz project needs help on the 17th May to start garden in front of Building 31. Things in need cardboard, water cans, shovels/spades, compost and gardening gloves but most of all, hoping for helpers. If you would like to donate plant bulbs for this project, please find a labelled basket in the narthex for dropping off plant bulbs.

Guess Who Turned 80?

Someone mentioned Michael O'Brien had a birthday last week. Congratulations Michael! "Happy 80th birthday! You're the best example of 80 being the new 60."

Caritas

Our wonderful Benalla Parish Community has raised \$3444.00 for the Easter Caritas project this year. Well done everyone!

Mothers Day

A special time to reflection and celebration the day. There will be a cuppa after the Mass in the Building 31, please pick up your prayer card and chocolate before leaving.

♥ What do you love most about our Parish ♥

For 150 years, our parish has been a place of faith, friendship, and community—but what does it mean to *you*? As we celebrate this special milestone, we'd love to hear what you've loved most—memories, moments, people, or traditions that have made our parish feel like home. Share a short reflection with us at the parish office and help us celebrate the heart of our community.

PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS: Jim McKenna

ANNIVERSARIES: Dan Kearney, Florence Rogash, John Wilson, Les Meares, Des Gallenti, John Randell, Veronica Dickinson, Garry Martin, Jack Bourke and Joseph Mackus

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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

CALENDAR

May	Cuppa after Mass -
10	Mothers Day- morning tea
17	Ascension of the Lord. Thoona Mass
24	Pentecost
31	The Most Holy Trinity
June	Fr. Vijay on Sabbatical Leave
1	
5	The Rosary
7	Corpus Christi - The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ
1	Cuppa after Mass
4	In the Parish House
16	'The Carpenter'- Publish
21	Mass at Thoona [To Be Confirmed]

Steam It Up CARPET CLEANING Jason Blyss 0407438219	gmcu. 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	HAIR Manor 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

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
9 May	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Cath Duncombe	Clare O'Brien	Janene Humphries	K Elliott & Volunteer
10 May	9.30am	Max Rankin	Anne McLeod	James Flynn	Denise O'Brien	Daw Family
16 May	6.00pm	Ryan Miguel	Pat McDonald	Sr Liz	Maureen Murphy	Charlee & Kevin
17 May	9.30am	Oliver Raschke	Brian Higgins	Marg Daw	Susie Buykx	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



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