

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.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15 August 2026

 <i>Readings for this week:</i>	Revelation 11:19 12:1-6, 10 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 Luke 1:39-56	 <i>Readings for next Sunday:</i>	Isaiah 22:19-23 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20
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FIRST READING

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones. On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house. **R.**

So will the king desire your beauty: He is your lord, pay homage to him. They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king **R.**

SECOND READING

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 their 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, for everything is to be put under his feet.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up to heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

REFLECTION

In the Gospel this Sunday, a Canaanite woman cries out to Jesus for her daughter. At first, he seems to ignore her, and the disciples want her sent away. But she persists. "Lord, help me," she pleads. Her faith is not polite or convenient. It is bold, trusting, relentless. Jesus names her faith "great", and her daughter is healed. This week, let her courage encourage us. Bring your deepest need to Jesus. Not demanding, but trusting in his abundant mercy. – 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: Pasqualina Grieco

ANNIVERSARIES: Greg Hoskin, Lillian Kent, Nancy Bryant, Patricia Chaszczewsky, Patricia Ross, Terrence Hernan, Edith Simmons, Margaret Stocker, Maciej Bialy, Rev Fr Brian Connell, Suzanne Burns, Peter Robertson

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

CALENDAR

Aug

15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
18	'The Carpenter Out'
22	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
29	The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Steam It Up
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Benalla

Census & Time and Talent Forms

We warmly invite all parishioners to complete our Parish Census. Whether you are new to the parish, have been part of our community for many years, or worship with us occasionally, your details will help us stay connected, offer pastoral support, and plan for the future. Please take a few moments to complete a census, time and talent form. Thank you for helping us build a welcoming and connected parish community. **Census QR Code:**



Parish Office Notice

Please note that our parish staff will be out of the office on Aug. 25 & 26 while attending a conference. If you have pastoral concerns, please email Fr. DJ dj.suguitan@sandhurst.catholic.org.au.

Planned giving envelopes

All parishioners using the envelopes for their Planned Giving Contributions, could you please contact the Parish Office on telephone 5762 2060 notifying us of your current envelope number, or speak to Cath or Jane at Mass. Unfortunately our new computer system for recording information is struggling to recognize details. Many thanks.

7.4 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE HITS COLOMBIA

Help is needed now. 180 confirmed dead. This number is expected to rise significantly. Thousands of homes have also collapsed or damaged. Its epicentre was 5 km. south of San Jose del Palmar on Aug 10. If you can help, please contact Caritas Colombia at +5714377150 or snpscol@cec.org.co You can also donate on the following links:
<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/ayudar-nos-acerca/>
<https://www.bancodealimentos.org.co/nosotros/nuestros-lideres/>
Many thanks- **Sister Liz, FCJ**

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
15 Aug	6.00pm	Ryan Miguel	Pat McDonald	Sr Liz	K & S Chacko	Charlee & Kevin
16 Aug	9.30am	Adrian Daw	Brian Higgins	John Smyth	Joan Berry Susie Buykx	J Berry & volunteer
22 Aug	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Anna Wise	Cath Duncombe	Clare O'brien Janene Humphries	Dan Brown & Michael
23 Aug	9.30am	Oliver Raschke	Lisa Raschke	Marg Daw	Sr Liz Louise Beling	Daw 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
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****Limited Stocks Only****

To avoid disappointments, please return the order form and payment to the Parish Office, from 2 to 4 pm, Mon-Fri, or email benalla@sandhurst.catholic.org.au.

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