

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.

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

12 April 2026

 Readings for this week:	Acts 2:42-47 1, Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	 Readings for next Sunday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33, 1 Peter 1:17-21 Luke 24:13-35
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FIRST READING

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord, grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light. **R.**

SECOND READING

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! *You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me but still believe!* Alleluia!

GOSPEL

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

REFLECTION

The Second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, invites us to move from doubt to faith, from fear to trust. In the first reading, we see the early Christian community united in heart and soul, sharing everything and living with deep joy. Their faith was alive and visible in their love for one another. The second reading reminds us that everyone who believes in Christ is born of God, and this faith gives us victory over the world. It encourages us to trust in Jesus, even when life is difficult. In the Gospel, we encounter Thomas, who struggles to believe in the resurrection. Like him, we too have moments of doubt and fear. Yet Jesus comes with peace, not condemnation. He invites Thomas to touch His wounds and believe. This shows us that God understands our weaknesses and meets us where we are. Today, we are called to open our hearts to God's mercy, to believe without seeing, and to become witnesses of His love. Trusting in Jesus, let us share His peace and mercy with others.

God Bless always, Fr Vijay

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



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.

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
11 Apr	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Anna Wise	Cath Duncombe	Clare O'Brien	K Elliott & Volunteer
12 Apr	9.30am	Adrian Daw	Lisa Raschke	Wendy Rettke	Victor Nduka	M & R Miguel
18 Apr	6.00pm	Ryan Miguel	Cath Duncombe	Sr Liz	Suleena Chacko	Charlee & Kevin
19 Apr	9.30am	Max Rankin	Oliver Raschke	James Flynn	Joan Berry	T & N Pelly

Calendar Dates

MAY

Friday 1st	Australian Heritage Festival at St. Joseph's Church, Parish House Open day 1pm – 4pm
Saturday 2nd	Second Open Day 1pm – 4pm St Joseph's School Open for tour 2pm – 4pm

2026 BENALLA National Heritage Festival WED 29 APRIL TO SUN 3 MAY

The 7th annual Benalla National Heritage Festival will be a wonderful way to step back in time and enjoy the 30 events arranged throughout the town. There are 17 organisations showcasing the richness and diversity of Benalla's past and present. If you would like a program there is some printed in the narthex or please use this QR code or go to the website to see what's happening and where.

www.australianheritagefestival.org.au

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.

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!

MORE PHOTOS

We have had a wonderful response from parishioners with photos of our 150 years of Benalla Parish. Our photo board in the narthex looks great with memorabilia of the past. Please dig deep into your cupboards, drawers and boxes for more. Maybe you can remember a relative that has moved away but you know they may have photos from the past. A few special times to jog your memory – St Pat's racing day, Confirmations, Special visitor to our parish, Multicultural event, choir members, altar serving or other working bees. Please bring your photos along to the parish office and we will include them.

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



PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS: Anthony Lynch
Suzanne Cane (nee Stivey)

Leodegario Minoza (father of Louie Minoza)

ANNIVERSARIES: Dorothy Macklan, Amy Hickey, Bernie Cooke, Peg Simkin, Shirley Chamberlain, Kevin Ryan, Frank Da Pos, Margaret Nikolsky and Frans Ruyters

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 Yoinco, Rebecca O'Reilly, Paula McPherson and Julie Lynch

PROGRAM

<https://bit.ly/4rPIf51>



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



HAIR

Alana Robertson
50 Church Street
Benalla 3672
Salon 5762 6006

Manor

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
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81 Baddaginnie Road,
Benalla

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