

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.

Third Sunday of Easter

19 April 2026



Readings for this week:

Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35



Readings for next Sunday:

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

FIRST READING

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.' Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witness to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord: 'You are my God. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize.' **R.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

You will show me the path of life, and the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.' Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

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GOSPEL Cont. They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

REFLECTION

The Third Sunday of Easter, invites us to recognize the Risen Lord in our daily lives. In the first reading, Peter boldly proclaims that Jesus, though rejected and crucified, is risen and alive. This gives us hope that God can bring life even out of suffering and failure. The second reading reminds us that our faith and hope are in God, who raised Jesus from the dead. We are called to live with reverence and sincerity, knowing we are redeemed not by material things, but by the precious sacrifice of Christ. In the Gospel of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we see how they fail to recognize Jesus at first. It is only when He breaks the bread that their eyes are opened. This teaches us that Christ walks with us, especially in moments of confusion, disappointment, and doubt. Today, we are invited to listen to His Word and encounter Him in the Eucharist. When we do, our hearts, like those of the disciples, will burn with faith and joy, and we will be renewed to witness His presence in the world. God Bless always, Fr Vijay



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.

PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS: Jacqueline Ryan and Anthony Lynch
ANNIVERSARIES: Rose Nelson, Nancy Smith, Maria Fita, Ella Chanter, Molly Burke, Sandra Tuckett, Enid Pallpratt, Mona Corboy, Dean Froude, Vena McNamara, Mim Hickey and Bill Stapleton

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

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date	Times	Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
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
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

St Patrick's Race Day – Do you remember this?

Back when our parish knew how to pick a winner (or at least back one with confidence 😊) St Patrick's Racing Days were not to be missed!

As we celebrate 150 years, we're calling for photos, stories, race day programs, or any memorabilia from those lively days—big wins, near misses, and everything in between. Help us relive the fun—please send contributions to the parish office



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!

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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

