



ST JOSEPH'S Parish of Benalla



WE THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH'S 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.

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday

28 September 2025



Readings for this
week:

Amos 6:1, 4-7 1
Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31



Readings for next
Sunday:

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 2
Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Luke 17:5-10

FIRST READING

The almighty Lord says this: Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**
He upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to

you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours." 'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham, "let them listen to them." "Ah, no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

REFLECTION

Today's readings, confront us with a stark contrast: those who live in comfort and indulgence, and those who suffer in poverty—Lazarus at the gate. In the First Reading, Amos condemns complacency: people lie on ivory beds, feast lavishly, while injustice goes unseen. Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man's comfort becomes a barrier—he fails even to notice Lazarus's suffering, right outside his door. St Paul in Timothy urges us to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and gentleness—not chasing wealth, but living with integrity and preparing for the Lord's appearance. The message is urgent: God cares deeply about how we use our blessings. Our wealth or comfort isn't wrong in itself—but when it isolates us, dulls our compassion, or blinds us to need, it becomes dangerous. We are called to open our eyes, see the Lazaruses among us, and act—with mercy, with generosity, and with justice—so that faith becomes lived, not just believed. God Bless always, Fr Vijay.



REGULAR MASS TIMES

Weekend – Saturday 6pm. Sunday 9.30 am

Weekdays – Tues to Fri 9.15 am (Due to cold mornings, Weekday Mass is now in the Parish House)

BENEDICTION - Everyone welcome, first Friday of each month at 6pm.

Thoon Mass – Third Sunday of each month, 12 noon



WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Date		Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
27 Sep	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Cath Duncombe	Vince Brannigan	Kath Elliot	K Elliott & Volunteer
28 Sep	9.30am	Ruth Jelliff	John Smyth	James Flynn	Oliver Raschke	J Berry & Volunteer
4 Oct	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Shirley Kearney	Clare O'Brien	Cath Duncombe	K & S Chacko
5 Oct	9.30am	Richard Rubira	Brian Higgins	Paddy O'Brien	Susie Buykx	W Rettke

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: Fr Alex Lim

ANNIVERSARIES: Elizabeth Barnes, Stanislaw Bialy, Joan Clancy, Garth Ahne, Pat Fitzgibbon, Betty Daniel, Mary Ellen (Jr) Ginnivan, Kathleen Towers (nee Ginnivan), Mary Saunders (Gladys) nee Dodemaide, Monica Parker, Gordon McNair, Mons. Michael O'Reilly and Susanne Collins

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Skyler Levy, Susan Fitzgerald, Tracey Welsh, Elizabeth Waters, Joe Ryan, Anne Ryan, Brigid Chalmers and Duncan Carradice



GOALS FAMILIARISATION WORKSHOPS



Gather with your Parish to explore what the Sandhurst **Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals** mean and why they matter.



Dive into the **3 Strategic Directions:**

Gospel mission and pastoral outreach

Belonging and a sense of community

Live-giving and empowering formation

FORMATION enriches and strengthens us to **PARTICIPATE**, growing **deeper** in **COMMUNION**, reaching **wider** on the **MISSION**

OUR PARISH WORKSHOP

WHERE: Parish House
DATE: Tues. 30th Sept.
TIME: 6.00pm

Doing what the Goals envision



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
MTS COMPLETE LANDSCAPING
DANIEL MAHER
M: 0412 083 618

HAIR

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
FEENAN FAMILY
Est. 1938- AFDA Member
81 Baddaginnie Road,
Benalla

STRATEGIC MISSION AND PASTORAL GOALS 2024-2028

Recognising our parish mission and pastoral goals, receiving Bishops Shane's recommendations. Now ongoing formation and encouragement for people to take responsibilities to liturgy and leadership. Everyone welcome to join in and flourish in our community where the love of Jesus can be experienced and celebrated.

Chris Cotter and his team have scheduled a time for Our Mission and Pastoral Goals familiarisation workshop, next Tuesday 30th September 6pm at the Parish House. All welcome!

DIOCESAN FORMATION GATHERING: 11 OCTOBER 2025

You are warmly invited to the Diocesan Formation Gathering at Notre Dame College, Shepparton. This diocesan-wide event aims to enrich our capacity to build community and foster a sense of belonging in parishes. The day will feature a keynote address, interparish conversations, six practical workshops to choose from, prayer, and time to reconnect with others from across the Diocese. Bring a group from your parish and join the conversation! You are encouraged to register by 30 September, 2025.

To learn more about initiatives in the Dioceses to support the Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals visit our website:

<https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/mission-and-pastoral-life/formation-for-mission>