



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.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 26 October 2025



Readings for this
week:

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18 2
Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14



Readings for next
Sunday:

Wisdom 11:23-12:1 2
Thessalonians 1:11-2:2
Luke 19:1-10

FIRST READING

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable, nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The just call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. **R.**

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **R.**



SECOND READING

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen..

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else. 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

REFLECTION

This Sunday's readings highlight humility, mercy, and the right attitude before God. In the first reading, we are reminded that God listens especially to the cries of the poor and the humble. God shows no favoritism, but He hears the prayer of the lowly and the oppressed. Their prayers "pierce the clouds" because they come from sincere, trusting hearts. In the second reading, Paul reflects on his life as a faithful servant. Even when others abandoned him, he trusted that the Lord stood by him. His confidence comes not from pride, but from knowing he has kept the faith and relied fully on God's strength. The Gospel, contrasts the proud Pharisee and the humble tax collector. The Pharisee boasts of his good deeds, while the tax collector simply prays, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Jesus teaches that it is the humble person who goes home justified. These readings challenge us to approach God with humility. God doesn't seek perfection, but sincerity. He lifts up those who admit their need for Him and rely on His mercy. True prayer begins with a humble heart.

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.

Thoona Mass – Third Sunday of each month, 12 noon



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

PRAYERS FOR

RECENT DEATHS:

Jean Fuleky, Bernie (Annie) O'Brien, and Joe Ryan (brother of Margaret McCrohan)

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Quinn, Elaine Stafford, fcJ Sr Mary John (Ita Haskings), Jim Spencer, Monica Vance, Kevin Speer, Maria Martiniello, John Reilly and Jason Hammond

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Skyler Levy, Susan Fitzgerald, Tracey Welsh, Elizabeth Waters, Anne Ryan, Brigid Chalmers, Duncan Carradice and Margaret McCrohan



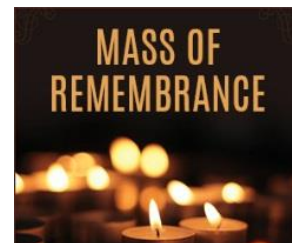
THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

The Bereavement Mass will be held early this year, due to Fr Vijay going away in November. All Parishioners are invited to this year's Bereavement Mass that will be on this Saturday 25th October 10am at the Benalla Cemetery.



FR VIJAY WILL BE AWAY FROM 29 OCT TO 6 DEC

Fr Vijay will be the Delegate of Holy Spirit Fathers, participating in the General Chapter held Tanzania East Africa from 11 Nov to 25 Nov. Some of Fr Vijay's time away, will be catching up with family in India and spending time in his home town near Hyderabad.



Fr Paul Sireh is originally from Manus Island near Papua New Guinea and joined the Carmelites in the year 2000 in Australia. Since his ordination in 2005 Fr Paul has served in the Carmelite parishes of Wentworthville (NSW) and Coorparoo (QLD) before taking up his present ministry as Chaplain at Whitefriars College, Donvale (VIC). During the Covid lockdown, Fr Paul celebrated becoming an Australian Citizen. Fr Paul will be celebrating weekend Masses with St Joseph's Parish from next weekend until Fr Vijay's return.

Steam It Up CARPET CLEANING Jason Blyss 0407438219	 Goulburn Murray Credit Union 30-32 Bridge Street PH 5762 3380	 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 Manor	 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 FEELHAN FAMILY Est. 1938- AFDA Member 81 Baddaginnie Road, Benalla



LEARNING AND GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship: Applications Open



Applications are now open for the [Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship](#) for 2026/2027.

Administered by the National Centre for Evangelisation (NCE), the Fellowships aim to enable young women to proclaim the faith confidently and competently in all the places they are called to lead, now and into the future. Applications close at 5pm AEDT on November 24, 2025.



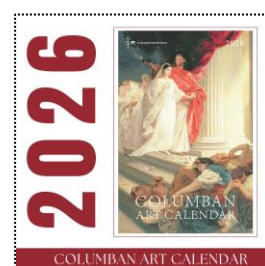
CHRISTMAS PARTY

7th December
5.30 - 7.30pm

Subscribe and receive Parish Bulletin, Newsletter & updates about upcoming events: Subscribe by using the QR Code.



Columban Calendars are now available from either the Piety Store or Parish House at \$15 each



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



WEEKEND VOLUNTEER ROSTER

WEEKEND VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE							
Date			Laptop	Commentator	Reader	Eucharist	Offertory
25 Oct	25 Oct	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Anna Wise	Vince Brannigan	Kunchacko Chacko	K & S Chacko
26 Oct	26 Oct	9.30am	Adrian Daw	Anne McLeod	Wendy Rettke	Volunteer please	B & W Rettke
1 Nov	1 Nov	6.00pm	Sr Liz	Vince Brannigan	Cath Duncombe	Maureen Murphy	K & S Chacko
2 Nov	2 Nov	9.30am	Ryan Miquel	Norma Pelly	Oliver Raschke	Victor Nduka	P & J O'Brien

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