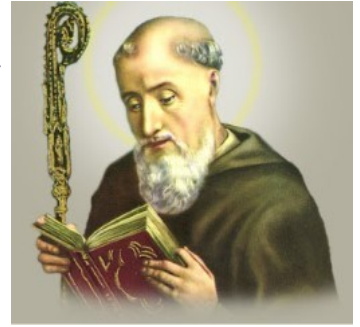


St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia



To listen gladly to holy reading.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS:

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

One person per 4sqm maximum 100 people.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Contact Paula for:
Parish bookings
on 9653 2312 (Mondays & Fridays)
or 0423 078 282

Online Booking:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BJSGK>

PARISH:

Weekend Mass

Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Contact Father David for:

Monastery Bookings on 0400 371 260

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Father Bernard: 0416 032 497

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

25 & 26 July 2020

Entrance Antiphon

*God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.*

First Reading

A reading from the first book of the Kings 3:5. 7-12
You have asked for wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57-130 R v.97
Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of
St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30
He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
You have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew 13:44-52
He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Communion Antiphon

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.*

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel reading for this Week

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



The Jerusalem Bible translation of Scripture is used in the Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981).

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The **Seventeenth** Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Matthew 13:44-52

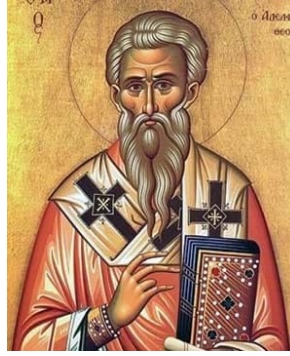
Today's Gospel teaches us the great value of the Kingdom of heaven. The parables express the joy a person experiences in finding the great treasure of God in her or his life and the total commitment required in being a member of the Kingdom.

Whether we come to know the Kingdom by accident or after a long search, we must recognize that it is priceless, and we must be ready to sacrifice everything to hold on to it.

To be a disciple is to be single-hearted in accepting the Kingdom of heaven. Jesus wants his listeners to break out of their conventional way of thinking about the Kingdom of God and not confine it to a worldly kingdom that idealizes the past.

You may have heard the saying, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Luke 12:34)." Is there anything for which you would sell everything to have? The cost of being part of the Kingdom of

SAINT OF THE WEEK



St James, Apostle

Feastday: July 25

He was the brother of St John and, like him, a fisherman. He was one of the witnesses of the Transfiguration and one of those who slept through most of the Agony in the Garden. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred in the year 44, being beheaded by King Herod Agrippa I to please the Jewish opponents of Christianity. He was buried in Jerusalem, and nothing more is known about him until the ninth century.

At this time we learn of a tradition that the relics of St James were brought to Spain some time after his martyrdom, (perhaps early, perhaps as late as 830), and his shrine at Compostela in Galicia grew in importance until it became the greatest pilgrimage centre in western Europe. In every country there are churches of St James and known, well-trodden pilgrim routes.

In Paris, the Tour St Jacques marks the start of the route and the Rue St Jacques points straight towards Compostela. In England, pilgrim routes lead from all parts of the country to the major ports that were used on the pilgrimage. This network of routes is a vital witness to the fact that the Middle Ages were not the static stay-at-home time that we often think them to be: everyone must have known someone, or known someone who knew someone, who had made the pilgrimage. The scallop-shell, the emblem of St James, has become the emblem of pilgrims generally.

In 1987 the pilgrimage routes to Compostela were designated by the Council of Europe as historical cultural routes of international importance. The Confraternity of St James continues to work to restore and upgrade the refuges on a route which is still in active pilgrim use today.

Prayer:

Dear Lord,

Help us to be like your apostle St James. Give us strength and courage to defend you as St James did, in order to be worthy followers of Christ.

AMEN.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 7 Part III (continued)

The second degree of humility is that a man love not his own will, nor delight in fulfilling his own desires, but carry out in deed the saying of the Lord: *I came not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.* It is written also: *Self-will hath its punishment, but necessity winneth a crown.*

FEAST OF ST ST JAMES, APOSTLE JULY 25TH 2020

PILGRIMS' PRAYER

*St James the Apostle,
Chosen among the first,
you were the first to drink,
the cup of the Master,
and you are the great protector of pilgrims;
Make us strong in faith,
and happy in hope,
on our Pilgrim's journey
Following the path of Christ's life,
And feed us so that,
We may finally reach the Glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

(Office of the Pilgrim, Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, author's translation)

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR July 2020

OUR FAMILIES

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

AMEN



NEW ADDITIONAL PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession

COVID19 RESTRICTIONS: 4SQM rules apply MAXIMUM 100 people.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Contact office on 9653 2312 or Paula on 0423 078 282
Online Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJSGK>

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers - all our dearly beloved who have died, especially the late Biagina Rubino.

We welcome into God's family - to all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish, our country and throughout the world.

PARISH FUNDS

Thank you for all the kind donations we have received!

For those wanting to make payments online directly to our bank account here are the details **ONLINE ONLY**:

BSB: **062 784**

Acct: **1446 8001**

Name: **Catholic Parish of Arcadia**

Bank: **Commonwealth Bank of Australia—Catholic Development Fund**

Another option is to pay by **credit card** just contact the parish office on:
9653 2312 or
email arcadia.pariah@bigpond.com

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting is held every Friday night after 7pm Mass, as well as Wednesday mornings after 9.30am Mass.

Everyone welcome.

For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403116987.

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.

ST VINNIES

Vinnies is proud to announce the launch of the Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP) for students in Years 4 to 6, who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time.

For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/MVFPinfo>

Please go to the following link for Vinnies Metropolitan Schools July 2020 Newsletter:

<https://bit.ly/VinniesMetroSchoolsNewsletter2020Term3>

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER MARRIAGE

Catholic Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation Weekend. We are open for a face to face marriage preparation weekend August 1-2 at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills. Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and married life.

Spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship.

Further information and registration:

www.engagedencounter.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

CATECHIST NEWS

A few new procedures but it was wonderful to be back in the classroom, seeing our students! And many of the students were excited to see us as well! Please continue to keep in your prayers all our Catechists and the children that they teach.

Free training is once more being provided by the CCD online to all Catechists. **Classroom Management and Curriculum Skills will be available online via Zoom on Wednesday 5th August and Thursday 6th August 10am - 12pm.** Please register one week prior to the date on 8379 1643 or registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

We are also looking for reserve Catechists. If you have Wednesdays free, love to be with children and are interested in becoming a Catechist, please talk to either Fr Bernard or myself. Training is free!

God bless,
Miriam Brown 9652 0558
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Due to Covid 19 our Sacramental Program has been put on hold. For those children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last year we are currently working out how and when we can finish the current program. As you know we need to do the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the lessons and Sacrament of Holy Communion. We are looking at different options and will let you know as soon as possible how we can deliver the program in the safest way for all concerned.

We have just heard from the Bishop regarding the start of the next Program commencing with Confirmation.

Confirmation will not take place at St Benedict's until the second half of 2021. The Bishop has also stated that children must now be 8 years of age and in Year 3 before they enrol in the program.

Reconciliation and Holy Communion will take place in 2022.

If you have any further questions please contact

Theresa Neely, Sacramental Program Coordinator

Ph: 0447 425 077

GCEA COMMITTEE MEETING

What: GCEA Committee Meeting - Term 3

When: Monday 27th July, 7.30pm

Where: Galston Uniting Church - 11 School Rd, Galston

Contact Roger:

roger@duralanglican.org.au 0413 067 770

EASING OF RESTRICTIONS—COVID 19

There is now maximum 100 people for Mass. Bookings is still essential or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at both entries.

Please adhere to social distancing guidelines and sanitize your hands at the door. Also wipe seats down afterwards with wipes provided at both entries.

If you are not well or experiencing flu-like symptoms, please stay home until you get better!

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo

Bishop of Broken Bay

Message for BBNeighbourhoods

21 July 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This image of the Penitent Magdalene painted in 1594-1595 by the Italian Master, Caravaggio, is worth contemplating as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, the Apostle to the Apostles, on Wednesday this week.

Caravaggio was not the first artist to depict Mary Magdalene in this manner. He makes the assumption that the woman in Luke's Gospel who washes Jesus' feet with her tears and dries them with her hair is Mary of Magdala (Luke 7:36-50). In the painting, we can see a glass bottle of oil representing the alabaster jar of perfume with which she anointed Christ's feet. Scattered on the floor next to Mary we can also see gold, pearls, and jewels that are symbols of earthly gain. Whatever the background of Mary Magdalene, what calls out to us for contemplation is not so much her past life but rather that, as the reading from the Song of Songs suggests, she found whom her heart loves (Song of Songs 3:1-4).

Only after having found Jesus in her life was Mary Magdalene able to bear witness to God's mercy and love. Traditionally this has been depicted, as this picture by Caravaggio suggests, as a penitent fallen woman. However, there is something much deeper here for our thought, and it can be found in the passage from John's Gospel (John 20:1-2, 11-18).

Having known Jesus in both life and death, Mary seeks the fullness of knowledge in his resurrection. There are two levels at which she seeks. The first is the most obvious and we would probably sum it up as the paschal mystery – the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

However, the second is far more subtle, in that by faith, Mary demonstrates the real presence of Jesus in her own life. That is, through her living with Christ and her dying to sin, a new life is possible.

Through her belief in the risen Christ, the Paschal mystery is enacted in her life. This Good News then impelled her to go and tell the Apostles that the Lord is indeed alive! Because of this, we know her as the Apostle to the Apostles.

Each one of us, like Mary Magdalene, is invited to seek Christ in faith. Life in Christ will bring death to sin. Life in Christ is not just to be hoped for; it is something to be enacted now. Christ changes our hearts by making his home within us.

My sisters and brothers, this week be inspired by the life of Saint Mary Magdalene and by the words from the Song of Songs, to seek him whom my heart loves. Moreover, having found that love go and tell others that the Lord is indeed alive!

This is the Good News for each of us.

Happy evangelising.

+Anthony





National Men's Gathering 2020

The Australian Catholic Men's Gathering will be held online this year and is a wonderful opportunity to connect Catholic men, encouraging and inspiring them with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission.

The National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is now being offered as an online program for registered participants. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with reflection questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group.

Aim: To inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world.

Cost: FREE

Registration: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au

Position Vacant - Facilities & WHS Officer, Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

The Chancery of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay is recruiting for the role of **Facilities & WHS Officer**. This is a full time, one year fixed term role based at Pennant Hills.

The Facilities & WHS Officer provides facilities management and expertise in maintaining Diocesan assets as well as assisting with the coordination and management of Chancery and Parish WHS responsibilities.

For the full advertisement see the **Positions Vacant** page of the Diocesan website:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant>

Office Hours: Mondays & Fridays 10.30am to 3pm

Parish Office: 9653 2312

Parish Priest: Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB

After hours: 0416 032 497

Email: arcadia.pariah@bigpond.com

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Facebook: [stbenedictsarcardia](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictsarcardia)

Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

Monastery: 9653 1159

Good Samaritan Sisters: 9653 1231

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters please contact Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.

CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay

To mark Homeless Persons Week last year, CatholicCare launched their Shout a Mate a \$6 Plate campaign in support of Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy which is open to anyone who is homeless, needing a helping hand or is lonely.

They are currently sitting at just over \$15,000 of a \$30,000 target! Mary Mac's costs over \$150,000 a year to run. Over 20,000 meals a year are provided a year to those in need and they rely 100% on community support.

Every \$6 donation goes straight to providing much needed meals and resources to the most vulnerable in our local communities – and every donation is 100% tax-deductible.

Please help us mark Homeless Persons Week (2 – 8 August) and provide a hot meal to those in need.

www.shoutamateaplate.org.au

