

# St Benedict's Parish

## Arcadia

*To love fasting.*  
*Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*



**UPDATE — 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

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### **MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses**

Contact Father David for:

Monastery Bookings on 0400 371 260

Sundays 7:00am  
Daily 7:00am

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Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS  
RECONCILIATION  
FOR THE SICK  
MARRIAGES  
FUNERALS**

**Father Bernard: 0416 032 497**

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 8 & 9 August 2020

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Look to your covenant, O Lord,  
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.  
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,  
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

### **First Reading**

A reading from the first book of the Kings 19:9. 11-13  
*Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.*

### **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 84:9-14 v.8

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
And grant us your salvation.*

### **Second Reading**

A reading from the letter of  
St Paul to the Romans 9:1-5  
*I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I hope in the Lord,  
I trust in his word.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Matthew 14:22-33  
*Command me to come to you over the water.*

### **Communion Antiphon**

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,  
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

**Gospel reading for this Week**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew 14:22-33**

*Command me to come to you over the water.*

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

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).

Acknowledgement: The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. Liturgia Copyright 2020

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

The **Nineteenth** Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A  
Matthew 14:22-33

If we believe Jesus is the Son the God, then we need to place our faith in him.

Encouraged by Jesus, Peter is able to step out of the tiny boat and walk on the stormy water. Peter's "little faith" is strong enough to enable him to begin the walk toward Jesus. Peter's faith allows him to be open to God's presence and power in his life. As long as Peter keeps his focus on Jesus and does not allow the other stormy things around him to be a distraction, Peter does not falter.

Is this not our story as well? In faith, we begin to walk toward Jesus, but we also encounter distractions that cause us to lose our focus. It is precisely in this moment that Jesus reaches out to us and catches us.

God stands with us on the journey of life, asking us to place our faith in God. Each of us is challenged to respond to Jesus's invitation to "come." We must leave our safe places as Peter leaves the boat, believing that God's love will conquer every fear. During those times when we may be afraid or overcome by doubts, Jesus is there reaching out to us, strengthening us for the journey toward the light.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Feastday: August 11  
Birth: 1842 Melbourne, Australia  
Death: 1909 Sydney  
Beatified: 19 January 1995, Sydney by Pope John Paul II  
Canonized: 17 October 2010, Vatican City by Pope Benedict XVI

Mary Helen MacKillop (15 January 1842 - 8 August 1909), also known as Saint Mary of the Cross, was an Australian Roman Catholic nun who, together with Father Julian Tenison Woods, founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australasia with an emphasis on education for the poor, particularly in country areas. Since her death she has attracted much veneration in Australia and internationally.

On 17 July 2008, Pope Benedict XVI prayed at her tomb during his visit to Sydney for World Youth Day 2008. On 19 December 2009, Pope Benedict XVI approved the Roman Catholic Church's recognition of a second miracle attributed to her intercession. She was canonised on 17 October 2010 during a public ceremony in St Peter's Square at the Vatican. She is the only Australian to be recognised by the Roman Catholic Church as a saint.

*Prayer:*

***Dear Lord,***

***Help us to use your gift of understanding to more closely follow in the footsteps of St. Mary of the Cross especially in caring for those in our world less fortunate than ourselves.***

***AMEN.***

## THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

*Chapter 7 Part IV (continued)*

The third degree of humility is that a man for the love of God subject himself to his superior in all obedience, imitating the Lord, of whom the apostle says: *He was made obedient even unto death.*

### FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP AUGUST 11TH 2020 PRAYER

IF I COULD TELL THE LOVE OF GOD  
[from Mary's retreat notes.]

If I could tell the love of God  
I'd sing of one my heart enjoys,  
of one who whispers, warm and calm,  
of one whose tender touch persists.

If I could tell the love of God  
I'd sing of beauty barely seen,  
of shadow gums and stringy bark,  
of tracks and water hard to find.

If I could tell the love of God  
I'd sing of women seen as fools  
because, in Joseph's hidden way,  
they crossed an empty land with trust.

If I could tell the love of God  
I'd sing of women working hard,  
receiving bits of broken bread,  
and poor enough to serve the poor.

If I could tell the love of God  
I'd sing of Christ who chose the Cross.  
His wisdom brings the might down.  
His strength uplifts the stable's child.

### POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2020

#### THE MARITIME WORLD

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea,  
among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

**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.

**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 ESPECIALLY LEBANON.**

## TAP AND GIVE—Donation Point Tap

Although parishioners can still donate by using cash, most people find it easier to give to church via regular electronic transfer from their bank account. It saves time heading for an ATM before church or finding the right change each week. Enabling people to give in a way that suits them is a challenge that many churches are facing. We are also heading towards a cashless world. For this reason and for your convenience we have installed Donation Point Tap devices. They have been pre-set at \$20. All you need to do is place your payWave debit or credit card on the front and it automatically deducts \$20 from your account. Only swipe it once a month if you want to donate \$5 per week. Swipe it once a fortnight if you want to donate \$10 per week. Swipe it more than once if you want to donate more etc.

You will find one device available on the disability ramp at the back entry. The other one at front entry right hand side.

The funds will go into the second collection for the parish expenses.

Thank you for your understanding and your kind weekly giving.



## CATECHIST NEWS

Thanks to those who were able to attend the meeting this week. Also thanks to Mary for providing lunch for us! We were able to listen to Bishop Anthony's message supporting us in our ministry of evangelisation and catechesis.

Training available - Classroom Management and Curriculum Skills via Zoom on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August and Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 10am - 12pm. Please register one week prior to the date on 8379 1643 or [registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au)

We have two Catechists unable to continue teaching in Term 4 due to family reasons. If you are available on Wednesdays either 10:10-10:50am or 11:30am – 12:10pm, and love to be with children, please give me a call or talk to Fr Bernard or any of our Catechists. Training is free and you will be provided with lesson plans!

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

## PRAY FOR LEBANON

Amidst the COVID19 pandemic, Lebanon, on Tuesday, experienced a tragic explosion at Beirut Port which felt like Hiroshima. Our prayers and thoughts go out to all the Lebanese people in Lebanon, also to our parishioners and Australians with Lebanese Heritage. May God keep your family and friends safe in Lebanon.

### National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon

In response to the horrific explosion in Beirut on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, the Australian office of the international Catholic Charity, *Aid to the Church in Need*, has launched a national emergency appeal to raise funds to support the people of Lebanon. To read more about the appeal, and to make a donation, please visit:

[www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon) or call 1800 101 201 during business hours: 8am-5pm, AEST.

## GCEA COMMITTEE MEETING

On Monday 10th August, we'll be having our termly Prayer Meeting for the GCEA. With COVID restrictions on the way up, and seeking to protect the more vulnerable amongst us, we've decided that we'll have an online prayer meeting.

**What:** GCEA Prayer meeting

**When:** Monday 10th August, 7.30pm

**Where:** On Zoom. Please [click here](#) to connect.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Due to Covid 19 our Sacramental Program has been put on hold. 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

*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.*

## 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.

## COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

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**  
4 August 2020

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This week, I would like to offer you a short quote from Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, whose feast day we celebrate on Saturday 8 August. Our Saint, who suffered much due to the uncharitable ways of a couple of bishops and priests, and several of her own Sisters, simply said, "God gives me strength for what is necessary."

I have no doubt that Saint Mary was familiar with the struggles of her time. She was a Prophetess for the poor, she advocated for children and the vulnerable, and she blazoned new ways of reaching out to those on the edge of the Church and society. To do all these things, and more, meant that she often stirred the minds and hearts of men and women who were happy with the status quo and who sometimes avoided change because change has a tendency to make some people feel uncomfortable.

As a woman of faith, Mary MacKillop was a woman of prayer who meditated deeply on the Word of God and who fed on the Body of Christ. She knew Jesus Christ personally in her life and in the community of the Church. Despite her many hardships, hurts, and frustrations, she never abandoned her faith. Faith is a gift from God. Once given, God never takes the gift back, and no one can rob us of it. Saint Mary teaches us that all things are possible, if we realise that God desires only what is good and holy for us in our lives.

God calls the Christian community to be a witness in human history. This is our vocation. Each one of us, like Saint Mary of the Cross, is called to proclaim by word and deed that God is our strength. In challenging times such as these, the world needs witnesses of faith. For our part, our discipleship as sisters and brothers of Jesus, leads us always into the world – where Jesus has gone before us.

Not everyone is open to hearing or receiving the Good News. Some will reject it while others will reject the messenger. No one particularly likes rejection. Preaching the Gospel of Jesus is seldom an experience of comfort or ease. Yet, that is what we do as Christians. The great reward in evangelising is the joy we receive when others come to life in Christ.

In his Encyclical on Christian Hope, Pope Benedict XVI gave us some insight into why we must persist in our joyful proclamation of the Gospel. He reminds us that we are created for greatness—for God himself, we are created to be filled by God. (Benedict XVI, *Spe salvi* 33) Our vocation is ultimately a calling to be with God.

In a spirit of faith and hope, I invite you this week to discern once more your calling as a Catholic Christian. One part of your discernment will be asking God what you are to do in life. The other part of your discernment will be discovering who God is calling you to be.

Enjoy your time with the Lord who gives you strength for what is necessary.

+Anthony

## Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Father Michael Kelly

In July Father Michael celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination as a priest. The parish would have loved to have had a party for him but, unfortunately, weren't able to. But the editor of the local paper was so impressed with his story that she put him on the front cover. Here it is:

In July Father Michael Kelly celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination as a priest.

Father Michael grew up in Parramatta, where he was educated at St Monica's Primary School in North Parramatta and Marist Brothers Parramatta. At the age of 18 he entered the relatively new St Benedict's Monastery at Arcadia and, over many ensuing years, continued his tertiary education at St Columban's College, the University of New England and in Rome.

In 1970 he was ordained as a priest and it is this anniversary we are celebrating this year. Sadly, like our parish's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, we were unable to have the grand party we would have preferred to but we did join in congratulating him at a special mass in the parish church in July (appropriately socially distanced, of course).

Father Michael has served as Parish Priest at Arcadia, led the St Benedict's Arcadia Monastery for many years, lectured in meditation (including on two visits to Timor Leste), and authored a number of articles. He is particularly interested in desert spirituality as he feels that, in the desert, where we are stripped of our worldly trappings and have no human support systems to fall back on, we must confront ourselves before God. He is committed to the revitalisation and positivity of monastic life, monastic spirituality and the humble Benedictine devotion to prayer and work.

In 2007 Father Michael was elected for his first six-year term as the 115<sup>th</sup> Abbot General of the world-wide Sylvestrine Benedictines. He moved to live and work in Rome in the historic monastery of St Stefano del Cacco, which dates back to about the beginning of the 9<sup>th</sup> century. He was re-elected in 2013 and finally came home in 2019. How proud our parish is of his wonderful work in Australia and around the world.



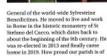
**Congratulations Father Michael!**

### 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

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M: 0416 635 650  
T: 9653 2205  
info@mcardletrees.com.au

**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.parish@bigpond.com  
**Postal address:** 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

**Website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia)  
**Facebook:** stbenedictsarcadia  
**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**  
**Contact:** Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.

**Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:**  
**BSB:** 062 784  
**Acct:** 1446 8001  
**Name:** Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:  
**CBA—Catholic Development Fund**



**LISTENING  
TO THE PAST;  
CARING FOR  
THE FUTURE**



## Liturgy of Lament

All are invited to gather to pray together  
in acknowledging the suffering caused to our most  
vulnerable and to give public expression to our sorrow.

**1 September 2020  
7pm**

Our Lady of the  
Rosary Cathedral  
Yardley Ave,  
Waitara

The liturgy  
will be live  
streamed  
**To watch:**  
[bbcatholic.org.au](http://bbcatholic.org.au)



For more information visit  
[bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding)  
or call **8379 1605**



**CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY**