



St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends:

Saturday

Sunday 7:00pm Vigil

Sunday 9:00am

10:30am

Weekdays:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays

6:30pm Adoration

7:00pm Mass & Confession

Saturdays

9:00am to 10:00am

Adoration & Confession

MONASTERY CHAPEL MASS TIMES

Sundays 7:00am

Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana or Parish Office for the following:

**Baptisms
Reconciliation
For the Sick
Marriages
Funerals**



Parish Priest:

Fr Shansana 0437 884 233

Parish Office 9653 2312

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEARA SEPTEMBER 5 & 6 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

SELF REFLECTION: RECONCILIATION

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus reminds us that love sometimes means having the courage to gently address hurt and misunderstanding. We are called not to judge or condemn, but to seek reconciliation, forgive, and restore relationships. Where two or three gather in His name, Jesus promises to be among them.

I Reflect...

1. Do I lovingly address problems, or avoid them?
2. Am I willing to forgive those who hurt me?
3. Do I listen before I judge?
4. Is there someone I need to make peace with?
5. Do I invite Jesus into my relationships?

CHOOSE FORGIVENESS

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, give me a gentle heart that seeks peace and reconciliation. Help me to forgive, listen with love, and bring Your presence into all my relationships. Amen.

First Reading**Ezekiel 33:7-9 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'



The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9 (JB)

R. O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading**Romans 13:8-10 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

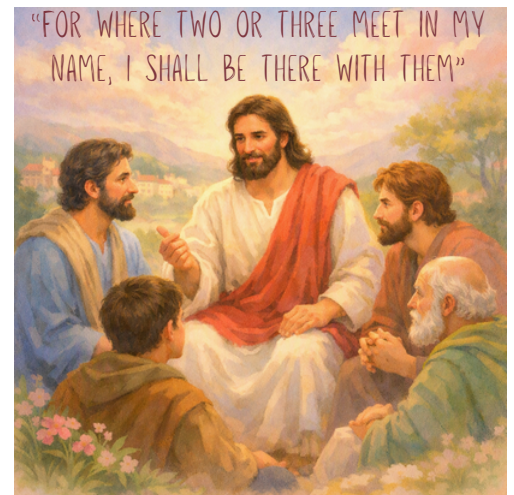
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL****Matthew 18:15-20 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*"Bear with one another's weaknesses of body or behaviour with the utmost patience."
— Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 72*



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Ezekiel 33:7-9 / Romans 13:8-10 / Matthew 18:15-20

SEEK RECONCILIATION

The readings remind us that Christian love is not simply about being kind—it also calls us to care enough to guide one another towards what is right. In **Ezekiel**, God calls the prophet to be a watchman who lovingly warns others. **Paul** reminds us that love is the fulfilment of the law: when we truly love our neighbour, we seek their good. In the **Gospel**, Jesus gives us a gentle way to deal with conflict, encouraging us to speak honestly, privately and with compassion, always seeking reconciliation rather than condemnation.

Jesus also reminds us of the power of gathering in His name. When we pray, listen and seek peace together, He is present among us.

Key Thought:

True Christian love has the courage to speak truth with compassion and the humility to seek reconciliation.

Take-Home Challenge:

This week, if there is a relationship that needs healing, take one small step towards peace—listen, forgive, apologise, or gently reach out.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, teach us to love one another with patience, courage and compassion. Help us to speak truth with gentleness, forgive freely, and always seek reconciliation. May we remember that You are with us whenever we gather in Your name. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 2026

Monday 7 Readings: 1 Cor 5:1-8. Lk 6:6-11.

R: Lead me in your justice, Lord.

Tuesday 8 Readings: Micah 5:1-4 or Rom 8:28-30. Mt 1:1-16, 18-23.

R: With delight I rejoice in the Lord.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Wednesday 9 Readings: 1 Cor 7:25-31. Lk 6:20-26.

R: Listen to me daughter; see and bend your ear.

St Peter Claver, priest.

Thursday 10 Readings: 1 Cor 8:107, 11-13, Lk 6:27-38.

R: Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.

Friday 11 Readings: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27. Lk 6:39-42.

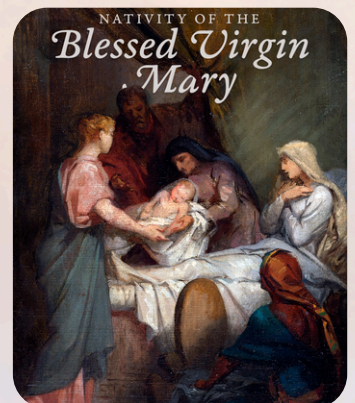
R: How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

Saturday 12 Readings: 1 Cor 10:14-22. Lk 6:43-49.

R: To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.

The Most Holy Name of Mary

Source: Ordo 2026



FEAST DAY SEPTEMBER 8

*Heavenly Father,
we thank You for the
gift of Mary,
whose birth brought hope and
joy to the world.
May we follow her example of
faith, humility and love,
and draw closer to
Your Son, Jesus.
Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us.
Amen.*



POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

FOR THE CARE OF WATER

**Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water,
a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.**



PARISH NOTICE

Our parish is currently seeking volunteers to assist in a number of important ministries:

Music Ministry – WE ARE IN DESPARATE need of singers for the choir, and musicians.

Morning Tea – Helpers are needed to assist with morning tea after the 9:00am Mass every 6 weeks.

Flower Ministry – We are looking for volunteers to help arrange flowers for the church approximately once every 6–8 weeks.

Kids Youth Group – Adult volunteers are needed to assist with our Kids Youth Group on Friday evenings.



 **Caritas**
AUSTRALIA | **WOMEN**
for the WORLD

You can **help** mothers
have a safer chance
to bring new life into
the world

DONATE NOW
caritas.org.au/wftw



Caritas Australia's Women for the World Appeal
Safe childbirth shouldn't depend on luck. But in Papua New Guinea, many women still face pregnancy and childbirth without access to the care, equipment and support they need. Health centres are often under-resourced, and distance, cost and extreme weather can make reaching care a challenge.

By supporting Caritas Australia's Women for the World appeal, you can help upgrade rural health centres, giving women a safer chance to bring new life into the world. Your gift today can help support safer pregnancies, safer births and healthier futures for mothers and babies.

Audience: All Parish Social Justice Ministries and all interested parishioners
Date: September 2026
Location: Online

<https://www.caritas.org.au/women-for-the-world>

VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

This week's volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

**SANDRA MAHWINNEY
RAMZA SALIBA**

A heartfelt thank you to Sandra and Ramza for kindly volunteering their time to help clean our church while Mary is out of action. Your willingness to step in and help is greatly appreciated and makes such a difference to our parish community.
May God bless you both abundantly for your generosity, kindness and service. ❤️🙏

*Happy Father's Day
to all our fathers,
grandfathers, and father figures!*



In Our Parish

(please let us know if you would like someone added here)

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

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially:

Joe Gallo, Miriam Brown, Pauline Honor, Kath Moran, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died:

Bill Youl, Teresa DeLuca and Patrick DeLuca, Sr Fay Hancock, Tereza Muscat, Bill Pierce, Francesco Merlino, Peter Chedid, Antonio Romeo, Nanna Trani, Anne Pearce, Robert Wallace, Maria Pappallardo and Shannon Murray.
~ May they rest in Eternal Peace.



CATECHIST NEWS

ONGOING SAFE GUARDING TRAINING TIMES AND DATES:

ZOOM – Mon 28 Sept 6.15-8.30pm:
Central Coast - Terrigal Parish
Tues 29 Sept 10am-12.30pm

Northern Beaches – Dee Why Parish
Thurs 1 Oct 10am-12.30pm

North Shore – CCC, Pennant Hills
Fri 2 Oct 10am-12.30pm

To register, please call 02 8379 1643 OR email
registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

God bless,
Martina Jutrisa srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Co-Ordinator 0413 403 767
Parish Office: 9653 2312

**DRAFT ROSTER AT SACRISTY WINDOW
PLEASE CHECK YOUR NAMES.**



Create.Share.Encounter
A Creative Women's Ministry



The ladies at the Makers Table workshop welcomed in Springtime by making beautiful ribbon roses!

There will be no workshop in October due to the school holidays so we will next meet on November 4th for an Advent themed activity.

www.facebook.com/makerstable
www.themakersgarden.com.au
Martina Musumeci 0458 533 250
Nerida Woodbury 0425 834 017
themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

HEALING MASS

Healing Mass is held on the first Thursday of each Month at 9.30am

**NEXT HEALING MASS:
THURSDAY OCTOBER 1**

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every **Monday 2.00pm.**
Every one welcome.

For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.



CCC PRAYER GROUP



Prayer meeting held every **Wednesday morning:**
after 9.30am Mass. *Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!*

For more details call
Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CRAFTGROUP

The quilting and craft group will meet every **4th Tuesday** of the month at 10.30am in the parish meeting room.

Bring your craft and come and join us!



29th Year

OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

Begins with a short play and rosary in five languages, followed by procession and Mass. Ending with refreshments and raffle.

St Benedict's Parish, Sunday 11 Oct 2026 1pm
2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159

A Petition Box will be available for special requests to Our Lady, which will be taken to the Shrine of Fatima.

9-day Novena begins Friday 2 October at 6:25pm with Holy Rosary, followed by Holy Mass at 7pm each day.

Phone: 0438 521 421 for further details.

People are welcome to bring a plate to share for supper.

CatholicCare
DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



VACATION CARE SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

<https://catholiccaredbb.org.au/vacation-care/>

ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Join the fun! Ages 8-12 years
Our Kids Youth Group is held on Fridays
DURING SCHOOL TERM
4.00pm to 5.30pm

*We need adult volunteers to help out.
Please let the parish office know if you
are free to help or
call Jules On 0415 448 797*

SAINT OF THE WEEK

September 5

ST PETER CLAVER, PRIEST

1581–1654

Patron Saint of African missions, African-Americans,
black missions, black people, foreign missions,
interracial justice, slaves, and Colombia

Invoked against slavery

Canonized by Pope Leo XIII on January 15, 1888



Saint Peter Claver was born to devout, upper-class parents in Verdú, Catalonia, Spain. At age twenty, he entered the Jesuit novitiate. At the Jesuit college of Montesión on Mallorca, off the Spanish coast, Peter decided to become a missionary in the South American Spanish colonies. In 1610, he set sail for Cartagena, Colombia, a major hub in the transatlantic slave trade that had replaced enslavement of the indigenous people. By 1610, Spanish ships transported an estimated 10,000 slaves to Cartagena to be sold annually. Disease and malnutrition on the slave ships led to the deaths of one-third of the slaves during the journey. Despite Church outcries, the cruel behavior continued.

After six years of study in Tunja and Bogotá, Father Claver committed himself to serving the African slaves. He signed his final profession: "Peter Claver, slave of the slaves, forever." During thirty-eight years as a priest in Cartagena, Father Claver catechized and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves. He waited at the port for a new slave ship to arrive, each containing as many as 500 slaves. For the two-to-three month journey, they were poorly fed once a day, chained naked to each other, abused, threatened, and forced to sit in their own excrement and vomit. Their metal shackles caused the flesh on their wrists to bleed and become infected.

Once the ship arrived, Father Claver begged door-to-door for food for his new flock. With a small band of interpreters and charitable workers, he entered the foul-smelling hull of the ship where many lay dead, while the fearful survivors needed medical treatment and compassion. As a sign of love, he kissed their sores, sucked out the infectious pus, and washed the wounds with his handkerchiefs. He would baptize any babies, provide food, and demonstrate a compassion that many had never seen. He then helped transport the slaves to a new location, carrying those who could not walk, where they could be well fed and regain their strength before being sold.

Father Claver's primary concern was the salvation of souls, but he chastised the oppressors, calling them to repentance for their cruelty. He preached the Gospel to the slaves in ways they could understand and helped them see their innate dignity. He told them that there was a loving God who died for their sins, who wanted to forgive them and fill them with joy. He held up the crucifix, revealing the God Who suffered for them, showing them the way to Heaven. As they listened, learned, believed, and converted, they were baptized, often a moment of tears and rejoicing. If a ship was not due for months, Peter traveled the countryside to see those he had baptized. Upon arriving on a plantation, he spent his time with the slaves, sleeping and eating in the slaves' quarters. He further instructed them in the Catholic faith, taught them to pray, and offered hope.

After decades of ministry to the slaves, Father Claver fell ill. One of his caregivers, a slave, mistreated him in his final days. Father Claver accepted this treatment, uniting it with Christ's suffering on the Cross as a form of penance for his own sins and as a way to deepen his communion with the slaves.

Saint Peter Claver, you journeyed into the hellish conditions of abuse and suffering, caused by greed and a lack of respect for human dignity. You brought Christ's light, administered the Sacraments, and gave hope to those who needed it most. Please pray that I will be a beacon of hope for those in need, by preaching Christ Crucified and making the salvation of souls, beginning with my own, my first priority. Saint Peter Claver, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

CARING FOR GOD'S WORLD

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." ~ John Muir ~

From the 1st September to the 4th October, Christians around the world will observe the Season of Creation. It is a special time to appreciate the beauty of the world God has given us and to think about our responsibility to care for it. There is so much around us that we can easily take for granted – the trees and flowers, oceans and rivers, animals and birds, fresh air and changing skies. Taking time to notice these simple wonders can remind us how precious our world really is.

Looking after the environment does not have to involve big changes. We can all make a difference through the things we do each day. We can waste less, use water wisely, recycle where possible and treat the places around us with respect. It is also about caring for one another. The way we use the Earth's resources can affect people both near and far, as well as those who will come after us. God has entrusted this beautiful world to our care. May we value what we have been given, protect it wisely and help preserve it for future generations.

***Dear Lord, open our eyes to the beauty that surrounds us each day.
Help us to respect and protect our world and never take for granted the many gifts of nature. Amen.***

Please join us to celebrate
the ministry of GCEA
Galston Christian Education
Association Galston High School

Spring Dinner

Saturday 12 September 2026

6pm at the Galston Club
21 Arcadia Road, Galston

2 Course meal, tea and coffee

Tickets

Adults dinner, 2 course \$70
Concession dinner, 2 course \$60

Contact Paula on 0423 078 282

or:

events.humanitix.com/gcea-spring-dinner-2026

Every Church to decorate their own table competition.

SPRINGDINNER

GCEA

Saturday 12 September
6pm to 9pm

Come along and join us for a wonderful evening at our Spring Dinner in support of the Galston Christian Education Association (GCEA) and our own Paul El-Chaar, who does a fantastic job teaching Scripture to the students of Galston High School each week.

This is always a great night filled with good food, friendship, and community spirit.

**St Benedict's still have
8 spots left on our tables!
We already have 3 tables,
we need to fill up the last
table.**

**Please see Paula
to book you a ticket**

**or call on 0423 078 282
as soon as possible**

**Ticket sales end on
Monday 7th September.**

SEOULFEST - WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027

**Join us for SeoulFest — the official launch of our
pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2027!**

Celebrating the Feast of Saint Andrew Kim Taegŏn, Patron of World Youth Day, we're beginning the countdown to an unforgettable pilgrimage to Japan, Seoul and Incheon in 2027. Come and experience a taste of South Korea with Korean food, music, culture, games and activities, while meeting other young people, young adults and families from across the Diocese.

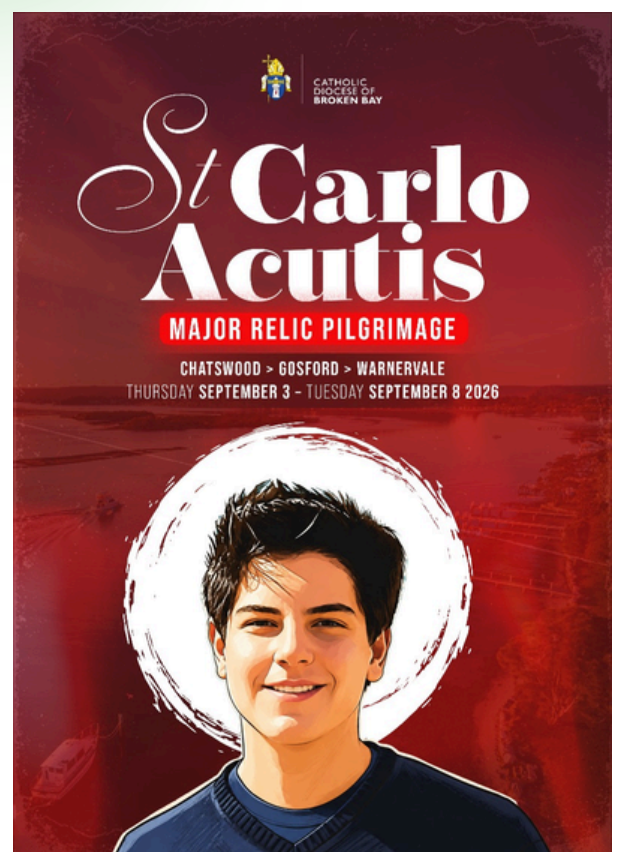
This is intended for young people, young adults and families.

Date: Sunday 20 September 2026

Time: 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: The Light of Christ Centre, 29 Yardley Avenue,
Waitara

Enquiries: mission@bbcatholic.org.au



PARISH ROSTER

NEXT WEEKEND

12/9/2026 to 13/9/2026

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A

Please join us for ☕ Morning Tea after the
9:00am Mass next Sunday.

	SAT 7PM	SUN 9AM	SUN 10:30AM
Acolyte		Paul E	George A
Reader 1	Edyn V	Gabrielle W	Leeann A
Reader 2	Daniel V	Judy H	Jutrisa Family
Prayers	Natasha S	Nigel M	Jutrisa Family
TV		Teresa G	Jutrisa Family
EMHC		Catherine C	Sandra M
EMHC		Sophie R	Caterina V
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Marisa Q	Sandra M
Music		Keith W	Theresa N
Music			
Morning Tea		Sophie R	
Flowers	Angela S		

MONASTERY CHAPEL

Liturgy of the Hours

"Seven times a day I will praise you"

Psalm 119:164

The liturgy of the hours is a set of prayers (psalms, hymns, readings and other prayers). It is recited in the Monastery Chapel daily at the following times:

5.45am Office of Readings

6.30am Morning prayer - Lauds

12.45pm Midday prayer

6.00pm Evening prayer - Vespers

8.00pm Night prayer - Compline

DID YOU KNOW...

The Catholic Church calls reconciliation with others an important part of Christian life. Jesus teaches us not to ignore conflict, but to lovingly seek to restore peace and unity with one another.

WYD27 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are so excited to announce that Expressions of Interest are now

open for our WYD27 Broken Bay Pilgrimage:

26 July – 12 August 2027

Japan – Seoul South Korea

<https://bbwyd27.org.au/>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and their enduring connection to country, waters, and culture. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

*Above all we give thanks to **God our Father**, who blesses this land, its people, and all creation. May we live in harmony, justice, and peace, guided by His love.*

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

St Benedict's Parish is committed to the safety of all, especially children and vulnerable people.

Concerns? Contact Fr Shansana 0437 884 233, or the Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.

*For all parish **OH&S and Safeguarding Children** matters Contact Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882 or the parish office on 9653 2312.*

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mondays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm

(During School Holidays closed on Mondays)

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia 2159

Email: arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

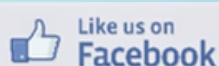
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Parish Priest: Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB

Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com

After hours: 0437 884 233

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



PARISH BANK DETAILS for

ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141

Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia

Bank:

CBA—Catholic Development Fund



Support our parish!

Scan this QR code to make a donation.

MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159

121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159