



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

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEARA SEPTEMBER 12 & 13 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
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: FORGIVENESS

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus reminds us that forgiveness is not something we should count or limit. Just as God generously forgives us, we are called to forgive others from the heart. Holding onto anger and resentment can weigh us down, but forgiveness brings freedom, healing and peace.

I reflect...

1. Who do I need to forgive?
2. Do I hold onto past hurts?
3. Do I remember how much God has forgiven me?
4. Can I choose forgiveness even when it is difficult?
5. How can I bring peace to someone today?

FORGIVE FREELY

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your endless mercy and forgiveness. Help me to forgive others from my heart, just as You forgive me. Free me from anger and resentment, and fill my heart with Your love, mercy and peace. Amen.

First Reading**Sirach 27:30 - 28:7 (JB)**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.**The word of the Lord.****Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 102:1-4, 9-12 (JB)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

FORGIVE
 AND BE
Forgiven

Second Reading**Romans 14:7-9 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!****I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.****Alleluia!****Lord, How Many Times Should I Forgive My Brother?**

70 x 7
 Matthew 18:21-22

GOSPEL**Matthew 18:21-35 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*"Do not repay one bad turn with another."
— Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sirach 27:30 - 28:7 / Romans 14:7-9 / Matthew 18:21-35

FORGIVENESS AND MERCY

The three readings beautifully come together around the theme of forgiveness, mercy and belonging to God. **Sirach** reminds us that holding onto anger and resentment only weighs heavily on our hearts. We are called to remember God's mercy towards us and to forgive others rather than seeking revenge.

Paul reminds us that whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Our lives are not centred on ourselves; we are called to live in a way that reflects God's love and mercy.

In the **Gospel**, Peter asks Jesus how many times he must forgive someone who sins against him. Jesus makes it clear that forgiveness is not something we should count or limit. Through the parable of the unforgiving servant, Jesus shows us how generously God forgives us—and challenges us to extend that same mercy to others. When we recognise how much God has forgiven us, it becomes easier to forgive those who have hurt us.

Key Thought

Because God has forgiven us so generously, we are called to forgive others with the same mercy.

Take-Home Challenge

This week, let go of one hurt or resentment and pray for the person who has hurt you.

Prayer

Lord, thank You for Your endless mercy and forgiveness. Help me to let go of anger, forgive those who have hurt me, and show others the same compassion You show me. May my life always belong to You. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 2026

Monday 14 Readings: Num 21:4-9/Phil 2:6-11. Jn 3:13-17

R: Do not forget the works of the Lord!

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Tuesday 15 Readings: Heb 5:7-9. Jn 19:25-27/Lk 2:33-35.

R: Save me, O Lord, in your steadfast love.

Our Lady of Sorrows.

Wednesday 16 Readings: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13. Lk 7:31-35.

R: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Sts Cornelius, pope, martyr, and Cyprian, bishop, martyr.

Thursday 17 Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-11. Lk 7:36-50.

R: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

St Hildegard of Bingen, virgin, doctor.

St Robert Bellarmine, bishop, doctor.

Friday 18 Readings: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27. Lk 6:39-42.

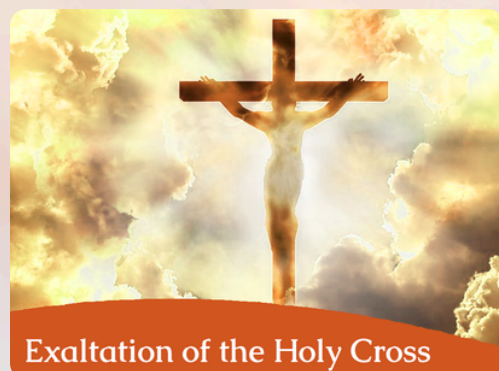
R: How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

Saturday 19 Readings: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49. Lk 8:4-15.

R: I will walk in the presence of God, with the light of the living.

St Januarius, bishop, martyr.

Source: Ordo 2026



Exaltation of the Holy Cross

FEAST DAY SEPTEMBER 14

Lord Jesus,
we adore Your Holy Cross,
the sign of Your great love and sacrifice for us.
Help us to carry our crosses with faith and courage,
trusting in Your love and mercy.
May Your Cross be our hope,
our strength and our salvation.
Guide us to live with greater love, forgiveness and
humility, and help us always remember that
through Your Cross, You have redeemed the world.
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.



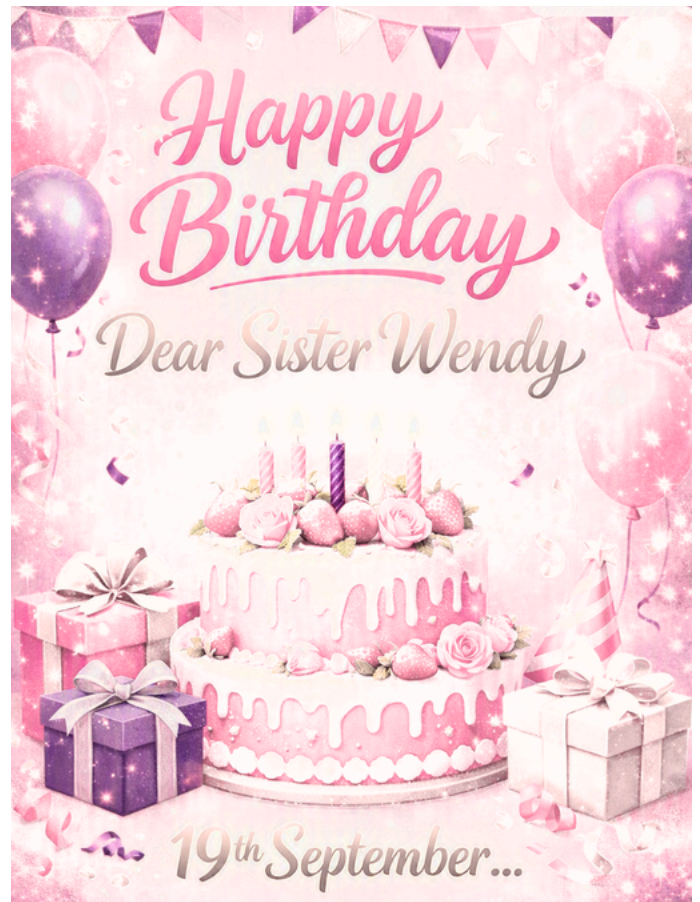
VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK

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

LORETO & GEBRAN AZZI

Thank you so much, Loreto & Geb, for helping out with cleaning the Parish Hall! We really appreciate your time, effort and willingness to lend a helping hand. As always you are there when we help is needed. Your generosity and support mean so much to our parish community. 💖🙏

Thank you both, and God bless you! 🌸



OUR LADY OF FATIMA COMMITTEE MEETING

To prepare for the Feast Day
7:15pm Tuesday 15 September
in the Parish Meeting room.

All members requested to attend.

Visitors are welcome.

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

School holidays is coming up. The last day of school is Friday the 25th of September. Resuming on Tuesday 13th of October. Thank you to all the Catechists for all your hard work with the children.

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.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY – 13 SEPTEMBER

Safeguarding Sunday is an important opportunity for us as a Church community to remember our responsibility to protect children and vulnerable people and to ensure that everyone feels safe, respected and welcomed. We are called to create a parish where every person is treated with dignity, compassion and care. Safeguarding is not only about policies and procedures—it is about looking out for one another and speaking up when something is not right.

Prayer

Lord, help us to be a community where everyone is safe, valued and respected. Give us courage to speak up, wisdom to protect those who are vulnerable, and compassionate hearts that reflect Your love. Guide our parish to be a place of welcome, trust and healing.
Amen.



Create.Share.Encounter
A Creative Women's Ministry

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
themakerstablestsydney@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.

† THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS †

Monday, 14 September

We warmly invite you to join us for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, an important day in the Church when we honour the Cross of Christ and remember the great love and sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation.

Mass Times:

7:00am – Monastery

9:30am – St Benedict's Parish

Come and celebrate this beautiful feast with us as we reflect on the power, hope and love found in the Cross of Christ.

"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world." †

ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Join the fun! Ages 8-12 years

Our Kids Youth Group is held on Fridays

DURING SCHOOL TERM

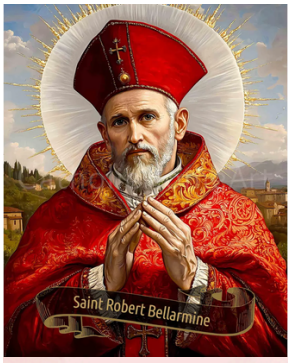
4.00pm to 5.30pm

YOUTH GROUP BREAK

Youth Group will finish for the term on Friday, 18 September and will resume on Friday, 23 October. We wish all our young people a wonderful break and look forward to seeing everyone again in October!

Contact Jules On 0415 448 797 for further information.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor

September 17

c. 1542–1621

Patron Saint of canon lawyers, catechism writers, catechists, and catechumens

Canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1930

Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI in 1931

Robert Bellarmine was the third of ten children born into a noble, but poor, family in Montepulciano within Tuscany, modern-day Italy, about 100 miles north of Rome. As a child, Robert was known for his intelligence and photographic memory. At age eighteen, he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Rome where he excelled. When asked to teach Greek, he learned it with his students and quickly mastered it. At age twenty-eight, in 1570, he was ordained a priest. Father Bellarmine was assigned to teach at the University of Louvain, where he had completed his theological studies., followed by an assignment at the Roman College, now the Pontifical Gregorian University, where he became spiritual director and confessor to the future saint, Aloysius Gonzaga.

Father Bellarmine's lectures in Rome became a three-volume book called *De Controversiis*, a defense of the Catholic faith against the Protestant Reformation. He powerfully defended Catholic doctrine against seventeen controversies resulting from the Reformation. His work became the standard for the theological defense of the faith across Europe. Topics included Scripture and Tradition, the psalms, Christ, the pope and Church, the Sacraments, sin, grace, free will, and good works. He presented the Catholic faith well and addressed the errors of Luther, Calvin, and Zwingli.

Popes relied on Father Bellarmine for administrative and diplomatic tasks. In 1592, at age fifty, he became rector of the Roman College. In 1598, he was made a cardinal and given the role of Cardinal Inquisitor, becoming a judge in important matters of the Inquisition, such as trials for heresy. He participated in the trial of the former Dominican turned Calvinist, Giordano Bruno, who was found guilty and turned over to the civil authorities, who put him to death.

Assigned as Archbishop of Capua in 1602, Cardinal Bellarmine agreed to Pope Paul V's request three years later that he remain in Rome as the chief advisor and theologian for the Holy See. Over the next sixteen years, Cardinal Bellarmine helped resolve divisions within the Church, clarified the Church's position on relevant topics, helped implement the Roman Catechism (or Catechism of Trent, which he had helped write), and communicated with and even rebuked kings and secular rulers. In 1616, Cardinal Bellarmine responded to the controversial teachings of Galileo, whom he considered a friend. The cardinal did not condemn him, but he delivered the Church's position that, since Galileo's conclusions could not be substantiated scientifically, the traditional understanding of Scripture must hold. He added that if science were to prove Galileo's view (that the earth revolved around the sun), then the Church had a duty to interpret Scripture in light of those new facts. After Bellarmine's death the Church went further, erroneously condemning Galileo, much to its later humiliation. After one more conclave, Cardinal Bellarmine fell ill and retreated into retirement. During the last years of his life, he wrote beautiful devotional works: "The Mind's Ascent to God by the Ladder of Created Things," "The Seven Words on the Cross," and "On the Art of Dying Well."

Saint Robert Bellarmine, you placed your mind at God's service for His glory and praise. God used you to articulate His truth in a systematic and practical way that strengthened and unified the Church. Please pray that I will place my gifts and talents at God's service so that He will use me to fulfill His perfect will. Saint Robert Bellarmine, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

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

GCEA SPRING DINNER - THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the GCEA Dinner at Galston Club Saturday night! ❤️
It was wonderful to see 40 people from our parish come along and enjoy the evening together.
It was lovely to see so many familiar faces supporting the dinner and making it such a great night.
The dinner was held to support Paul El-Chaar and his work teaching SRE at Galston High School, and we are very grateful to everyone who came along and helped make the evening a success.
Thank you for your wonderful support and for making it such a memorable night! 🙏❤️

THE CATHEDRAL PRECINCT CHARITY CLASSIC – TEEING OFF FOR THE FUTURE FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2026

Join us for a great day of golf and giving!

“Limited Spots remaining – book your team today!”

Get your team together and join us for The Cathedral Precinct Charity Classic – Teeing Off for the Future, on Friday 16 October 2026 at Newgreens Chatswood Golf Club.

Enjoy 12 holes of golf in a four-person Ambrose format, followed by a delicious BBQ lunch, while helping support the Cathedral Precinct Project and its vision for a lasting place of faith, community and service for future generations.

Whether you're a regular golfer or simply looking for a fun day out with friends, colleagues or your parish community, we would love you to join us.

There will also be great prizes, silent auction and special guest appearance making it a day not to be missed! Places are limited, so don't miss out. Book your team today and share the invitation with your friends, family and parish community.

\$130 per golfer, including golf and BBQ lunch
\$70 BBQ lunch only

Book today - <https://www.trybooking.com/au/event/cathedralprecinct-charity-teeing-off-for-the-future-1630804>

WOMEN OF BROKEN BAY LUNCH WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2026

Connect. Be inspired. Help shape the future.

“Limited Spots remaining – book your seat today!”

You're invited to the inaugural Women of Broken Bay Lunch. A special afternoon bringing women from across the Diocese together for connection, conversation and inspiration.

Join us for a delicious two-course lunch, wonderful company and an inspiring keynote address from Mrs Kelly Paget, as we explore the theme “Called to Lead: A Journey of Faith, Family and Community.”

Come along with friends, colleagues or fellow parishioners and enjoy an opportunity to meet other women from across Broken Bay Diocese and beyond, share stories and build new connections.

Most importantly, your attendance will help support the Cathedral Precinct Project contributing to a lasting place of faith, community and service for future generations.

Limited seats are available, so book today and invite the women in your parish, workplace, family and friendship circles to join you.

Date: Wednesday 28 October 2026

Time: 11:30am arrival, 12:00pm start – 2:00pm

Seats are limited – book today: <https://www.trybooking.com/au/event/women-of-broken-bay-lunch2026-1630835>

PARISH ROSTER

NEXT WEEKEND

19/9/2026 to 20/9/2026

25th 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 C	
Reader 1	Sr Carol T	Lorraine D	Azzi Family
Reader 2	Mary C	Mary C	Lorna B
Prayers	John V	Sharon O	John Family
TV		Trey O	Mary A
EMHC		Nigel M	Caterina V
EMHC		Melanie H	Keith W
Music		Noelle T	Theresa N
Music		John T	
Music			
Music			
Morning Tea		Tania	
Flowers	Souraya K		

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...

Did you know? Forgiving others is one of the Spiritual Works of Mercy. As Catholics, we are called to forgive others as Christ has forgiven us. 🙏

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