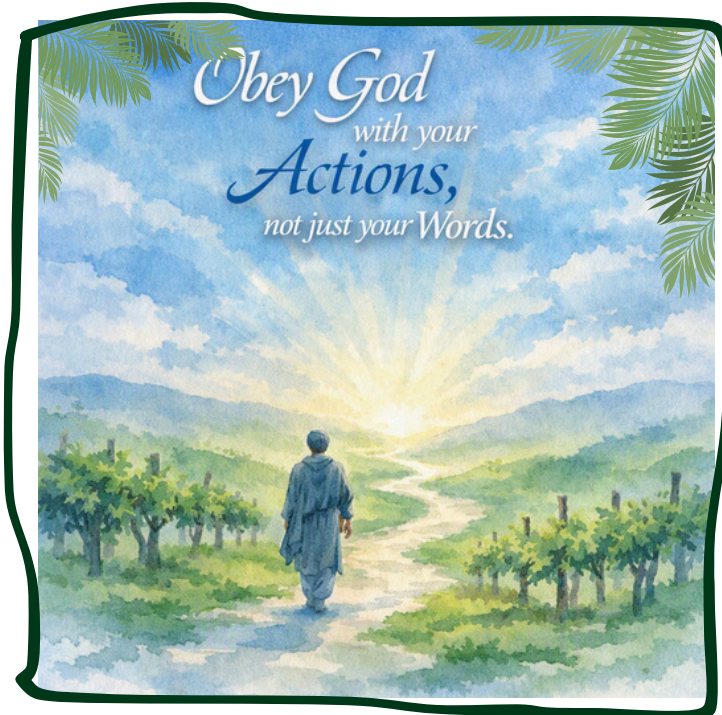




St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends:

Saturday 7:00pm Vigil

Sunday 9:00am

Sunday 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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven.

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: FAITH IN ACTION

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 21:28-32 Jesus reminds us
that our words mean little if our actions do not follow. One
son says "no" but later changes his mind and obeys his
father. The other says "yes" but does not follow through.
Jesus calls us to be people who not only say yes to God,
but live that yes through our actions.

I Reflect:

1. Do my actions match my words?
2. Am I willing to change?
3. Do I follow God's call?
4. How do I show my faith?
5. What is God asking of me?



Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me to live my faith through my actions,
not just my words. Give me a humble heart that is willing
to change, obey Your call and do Your will. May my
actions each day show my love for You. Amen.

First Reading**Ezekiel 18:25-28 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 24:4-9 (JB)**

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading**Philippians 2:1-11 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL**Matthew 21:28-32 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



*"The first step of humility is unhesitating obedience."
~ Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 5*



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Ezekiel 18:25-28 / Philippians 2:1-11 / Matthew 21:28-32



CHOOSING GOD'S PATH

In **Ezekiel** God is merciful and gives us the opportunity to turn away from sin and choose what is right. It is never too late to change our ways and return to God.

Paul calls us to be humble, united and selfless, following the example of Jesus, who humbled Himself and put the needs of others before His own.

In the **Gospel** Jesus teaches that our actions matter more than our words. Like the son who changed his mind and went to work, we are called to respond to God with obedience and action.

Key Thought:

God does not expect perfection. He asks us to have humble hearts, turn back when we go astray, and show our faith through our actions.

Take-Home Challenge:

This week, choose one action that shows God you are willing to follow His way.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, give me a humble and willing heart. Help me to change when I am wrong and to put my faith into action. May my words and deeds always reflect Your love. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 2026

Monday 28 Readings: Job 1:6-22. Lk 9:46-50.

R: Lord, bend your ear and hear my prayer.

St Wenceslaus, martyr. St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, martyrs.

Tuesday 29 Readings: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14. Jn 1:47-51.

R: In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises Lord.

Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels.

Wednesday 30 Readings: Job 9:10-12, 14-16. Lk 9:57-62.

R: Let my prayer come before you, Lord.

St Jerome, priest, doctor.

Thursday 1 Readings: Job 19:21-27. Lk 10:1-12.

R: I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord.

St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor.

Friday 2 Readings: Ex 23:20-23. Mt 18:1-5, 10.

R: He has put his angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.

The Holy Guardian Angels.

Saturday 3 Readings: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17. Lk 10:17-24.

R: Lord, let your face shine on me.

Source: Ordo 2026



The Holy Guardian Angels

Feast Day 2 October

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of our Guardian Angels. May they protect us, guide us and lead us closer to You each day.

Help us to listen to Your voice and walk always in Your ways. Amen.



POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2026

FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.



PARISH OFFICE SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Mondays during the school holidays.

CLOSED:
Monday 28 September
Monday 5 October

The Parish Office will be open on Fridays and reopen as normal on Monday 12 October.

Thank you for your understanding.

VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK

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

TERESA GAMBINO

Thank you, Teresa, for all your wonderful work with the Fatima Committee, and for the time and creativity you put into our Fete, Feast Day celebrations and various graphic designs.

Your dedication, creativity and willingness to help are greatly appreciated by our parish community.

Thank you, Teresa, for all that you do for St Benedict's! May God bless you abundantly for your generous service. 🙏

CHILDREN'S MASS

Next Sunday, 4th October

Come along and celebrate Mass with our children and parish family!

☕ Morning tea will follow.
Everyone is welcome!



SENIOR ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We desperately need Senior Altar Servers for our Sunday 10:30am Mass.

If you are able to help, we would greatly appreciate your support. Training will be provided.

Thank you for helping to serve our parish community.



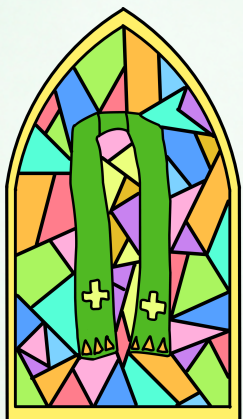
CONGRATULATIONS FR EUGENE DE SILVA

Congratulations to Fr Eugene on the Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood

27 September 1997 - 29 years

May God continue to bless you abundantly on your journey of faith and priestly ministry. We are truly grateful for all that you do for our parish and for the love and care you share with our parish community.

May God bless you always, Fr Eugene!



In Our Parish

Please let us know if there is someone you would like us to pray for.

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 Pappalardo and Shannon Murray.
~ May they rest in Eternal Peace.



CATECHIST NEWS

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAK

School holidays are here!
Classes will resume on Wednesday, 14 October.

REMINDER:

CCD Ongoing Safeguarding Training Zoom session is on Monday night 28th September 6.15pm.

A heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful Catechists for your dedication, patience and hard work in sharing the faith with our children throughout the term. Your commitment is greatly appreciated! Have a wonderful break.

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

CCD ANNUAL MASS FOR CATECHISTS

Our Annual Mass for Catechists will be held on Saturday, 7 November, 11.30am at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. Catechists receiving awards and training certificates at the Mass have been sent their invitation. Our own Lisa Welsman will be receiving 15 year award. All catechists, family, friends, parishioners and clergy are welcome.

Please RSVP to ccdadmin@bbcatholic.org.au.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider sponsoring and donating towards our altar flowers by choosing a date that is special and meaningful to you and your family.

It is a beautiful way to honour special moments such as:

Wedding anniversaries, birthdays or any celebration.



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



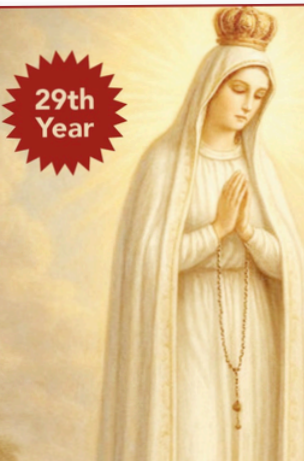
Prayer meeting held every **Wednesday morning:**
after 9.30am Mass. *Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!*

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.

NEW ROSTER IS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE SACRISTY. PLEASE COLLECT YOUR COPY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MAKER'S TABLE



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.

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 has finished for the term 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.

"Good King Wenceslas"

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT WENCESLAUS, MARTYR

September 28

c. 907-929

Patron Saint of brewers, Czech Republic,
Bohemia, and Slovakia



Wenceslaus, the saint we honor today, was born in Bohemia, present-day western Czech Republic to his Catholic father, Vratislaus I, Duke of Bohemia, and his pagan mother, Princess Drahomíra, who came from a Slavic tribe. It was a transitional and tense period in Bohemia's history as Christianity began replacing pagan practices. The division was palpable in the duke's household. Duchess Drahomíra, Wenceslaus' mother, staunchly opposed Christianity, in contrast to her Christian mother-in-law, husband, and sons. Of them all, Ludmila was exceptionally devout and ensured that both her son and grandson, Wenceslaus, were nurtured in the Catholic faith.

Upon Duke Vratislaus' death, thirteen-year-old Wenceslaus became duke. Given his youth, he needed guidance until he was old enough to govern on his own. His grandmother, Ludmila, eagerly undertook this role, encouraging her grandson to bolster the Catholic faith, much to Drahomíra's chagrin. According to one legend, within a few years of Wenceslaus' ascension, Drahomíra orchestrated Ludmila's assassination, and she was strangled with a scarf in her castle. Shortly thereafter, Ludmila was canonized, by popular demand of the people.

With Ludmila eliminated, Drahomíra initiated a persecution of the Catholic faith. Catholics were ousted from public positions, churches were shut, and Catholic teachings prohibited. However, this oppression was short-lived. As Wenceslaus matured, Catholic nobles pressed him to exert control and counter his mother's directives. Heartbroken by his mother's actions, Wenceslaus still accorded her respect, but he began to dismantle her anti-Catholic mandates, ultimately banishing her.

Duke Wenceslaus was a devout Catholic. He yearned for all of Bohemia to embrace Christianity and sought to fulfill this mission by fervent prayers. Diligent in his daily duties, he would frequently devote entire nights to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. He practiced regular penances, beautified the church, and took joy in preparing bread for the Mass, which he attended daily.

Early biographers note an episode in which a neighboring prince aimed to annex Bohemia and obliterate Catholicism. Wenceslaus led his army to confront the prince. As they clashed, Wenceslaus proposed a duel, with the victor ruling Bohemia. The prince consented, but as they charged, two enormous angels shielded Wenceslaus, sending fear into the prince and prompting him to repent.

Wenceslaus' reign was tragically short. In his twenties, his mother, who savored power, orchestrated his assassination, designating her younger son as the executioner. Boleslaus invited Wenceslaus to a meal and then slew his own brother. Wenceslaus' last words are recorded as, "May God forgive you, brother." Shortly after, Wenceslaus was venerated as a martyr and saint, inspiring biographies and becoming a beacon of virtue for future monarchs. Though Wenceslaus died as a duke, Holy Roman Emperor Otto I posthumously crowned him king, earning him the title "**Good King Wenceslas**." Moved by the admiration for Wenceslaus and the miracles attributed to his intercession, his assassin-brother Boleslaus the Cruel sought penance. No records indicate Drahomíra's remorse.

Saint Wenceslaus, you listened to God's voice, learned the faith from your grandmother, and chose the Gospel as the central mission of your governance. Please pray that I will choose Christ above anything this world has to offer and make the proclamation of the Gospel my central mission. Saint Wenceslaus, 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

Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, its history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

Tuesday – Thursday
10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment
Free entry, parking available
Bookings recommended



*You too are part of this continuing
and living heritage and we'd
love to welcome you.*



Sisters
of Charity
of Australia

HERITAGE
CENTRE

1 Rockwall Cres. Potts Point, NSW
T: 02 9138 0835
W: socheritagecentre.org.au
E: heritagecentre@rscoffice.com



WORLD REFUGEES & MIGRATION DAY SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026

A day to remember and pray for migrants, refugees and displaced people around the world. As Christians, we are called to welcome the stranger, protect the vulnerable and treat every person with dignity, compassion and love.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, bless all migrants and refugees who have been forced to leave their homes. Give them safety, hope and welcome. Open our hearts to those who are seeking peace and a better life. May we see in every stranger a brother or sister in Christ. Amen.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S NEPAL FLOOD EMERGENCY APPEAL

A sudden and devastating flash flood struck Nepal's Rasuwa District on 26 August 2026, causing widespread destruction along the Bhote Koshi River. The impact is devastating: More than 1,400 bodies have been recovered however nearly 6,000 including 38 Australians are still missing. 25 bridges have been severely damaged or destroyed. Homes, roads, markets, hydropower projects and other vital infrastructure have been badly affected. Communities are facing an urgent need for assistance as they begin the long road to recovery.

Set up a fundraiser today and help restore hope where it is needed most. If you are interested in setting up a fundraising page in support of the relief efforts, please go to <https://fundraise.caritas.org.au/nepal> and to show support or learn more, please visit our website.

EUCHARIST28 UPDATE – WALKING WITH CHRIST

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives. It will be a celebration of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be an important moment of Eucharistic renewal for the Church in Australia and beyond. The journey to Eucharist28 has begun!

Our lives this side of heaven are a continuous journey of walking with Christ. We are called to walk alongside Him during our trials and our triumphs. In Micah 6:8, scripture tells us, "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." This journey of walking with Christ is interior, but it can also be expressed physically.

We can become pilgrims by walking and prayerfully moving with Him, including through processions. In 2028, the global church that gathers in Sydney for Eucharist28 will have an opportunity to be pilgrims by participating in the Eucharistic Procession.

This journey through the streets of Sydney will be a witness to our nation and our world, as tens of thousands of pilgrims walk alongside Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist. In the years leading up to this moment and beyond, the prayer of Eucharist28 is that across Australia, Eucharistic renewal will continue to flourish, and Eucharistic processions and pilgrimages will become a commonplace way for all to walk with Christ in their lives.



The mission we share: Co-responsibility in the Church

The Global Centre for Catholic Leaders is pleased to invite you to join us in discussion with Cardinal Mario Grech, the current Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops.

This synodal conversation will invite participants to explore questions such as:

- Is Pope Leo XIV walking in the footsteps of Pope Francis?
- How do we share responsibility in the mission of the Church in an increasingly pluralistic world?
- Who is the 'boss' in a synodal Church?
- Does synodality offer us a pathway towards more participative modes of governance?
- What formation is needed for co-responsibility for mission both in our schools and in Catholic organisations?
- How do we revitalise parish and community life?
- What has a synodal style to offer students? Can it teach them about communion, peace and reconciliation?

Thursday 5 November
9am-12pm
Moot Court (NDS23/103)
The University of
Notre Dame Australia
46-52 Mountain Street, Ultimo
\$45
Bookings essential
Scan QR code
to register
Email gcc@nd.edu.au
for further enquiries



PARISH ROSTER

NEXT WEEKEND

3/10/2026 to 4/10/2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A

Please join us for ☕ Morning Tea after the
9:00am & 10.30am Children's Mass next Sunday.

	SAT 7PM	SUN 9AM	SUN 10:30AM Children Mass
Acolyte		Nigel M	Paul E
Reader 1	Margaret B	Ann L	CHILDREN
Reader 2	Daniel V	Judy H	CHILDREN
Prayers	Edyn V	Lorraine D	CHILDREN
TV		Mary A	Paula E
EMHC		Catherine C	Gebran A
EMHC		Ann L	Sandra M
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Theresa N
Music		John T	Sandra M
Music			
Morning Tea		Mary A	Tania T
Flowers	Mona M		

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? The word "ordination" comes
from the Latin *ordinatio*, meaning "to order" or
"to appoint." Through the Sacrament of Holy
Orders, a man is ordained to serve God and His
people as a deacon, priest or bishop.

WYD27 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

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

open for our WYD27 Broken Bay
Pilgrimage AGES 15 TO 35:

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