



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

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

OCTOBER 3 & 4 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
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: FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 21:33-43

In the parable of the vineyard, Jesus reminds us that God has entrusted us with many gifts, responsibilities and opportunities. The question is not only what we have received, but what we do with what God has given us. We are called to be faithful, grateful and generous stewards, producing good fruit through our lives.

I Reflect...

1. Do I recognise the gifts God has entrusted to me?
2. Am I using my gifts to help others?
3. Do my actions produce good fruit?
4. Am I grateful for what God has given me?
5. What can I do this week to live more faithfully?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for all the gifts and blessings You have given me. Help me to use them wisely, generously and faithfully, so that my life may bear good fruit for You and for others. Amen.

First Reading**Isaiah 5:1-7 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend has a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds To rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20 (JB)**

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Second Reading**Philippians 4:6-9 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL**Matthew 21:33-43 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.





*"Let us prefer nothing whatever to the love of Christ."
— Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Isaiah 5:1-7 / Philippians 4:6-9 / Matthew 21:33-43

GOD'S VINEYARD – BEARING GOOD FRUIT

In **Isaiah**, God lovingly prepares and cares for His vineyard, yet it fails to produce the good fruit He hoped for. In the **Gospel**, Jesus uses the image of the vineyard to remind us that everything we have comes from God and that we are called to be faithful and responsible with His gifts. St **Paul** gives us the way to live this faith: through prayer, trust, gratitude and by focusing our hearts on what is true, good and worthy of praise.

KEY THOUGHT:

God has entrusted each of us with a part of His vineyard—our families, parish, friendships, work and daily responsibilities. He patiently gives us opportunities to grow in holiness and to serve others. The question is not simply what God has given us, but what fruit are we producing with His gifts?

TAKE-HOME CHALLENGE:

This week, take a moment each day to ask yourself: "What fruit am I producing for God?" Choose one practical way to show greater kindness, patience, forgiveness or generosity to someone around you.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for caring for me and for all the gifts You have placed in my life. Help me to be a faithful worker in Your vineyard. May my words, choices and actions produce good fruit and bring Your love to others. Keep my heart peaceful through prayer and help me to focus on what is good and pleasing to You. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

OCTOBER 2026

Monday 5 Readings: Gal 1:6-12. Lk 10:25-37.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

St Faustina Kowalska, virgin.

Tuesday 6 Readings: Gal 1:13-24. Lk 10:38-42.

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

St Bruno, priest.

Wednesday 7 Readings: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14. Lk 11:1-4.

R: Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

Our Lady of the Rosary.

Thursday 8 Readings: Gal 3:1-5. Lk 11:5-13.

R: Blessed is the Lord God of Israel; for he has come to his people.

Friday 9 Readings: Gal 3:7-14. Lk 11:15-26.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

St Denis, bishop, martyr, and companions, martyrs.

St John Leonardi, priest.

Saturday 10 Readings: Gal 3:22-29. Lk 11:27-28.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

Source: Ordo 2026



ST BRUNO

Feast Day 6 October

Prayer:

Lord, through the example of St Bruno, help us to seek You in silence, prayer and simplicity. Give us peaceful hearts and a deeper love for You. May we always place our trust in Your presence. 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:

MARTINA JUTRISA

Thank you, Martina, for your wonderful dedication to our parish, especially for coordinating our Catechists, which is a very important and demanding role. We are also grateful for your beautiful singing in our choir and for all the many other ways you generously support and contribute to our parish community.

Your time, talents and commitment are truly appreciated. Thank you, Martina, for all that you do for St Benedict's!

May God continue to bless you abundantly.

PARISH NOTICE – DEFIBRILLATOR

Please note that a defibrillator (AED) is located on the Church Sacristy entry wall for use in an emergency. It is available should it be urgently needed by anyone in our parish or visiting our church. Please familiarise yourself with its location.



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.



CHILDREN BELONG AT MASS NOW—NOT JUST IN THE FUTURE.

Parents should not feel discouraged from attending Mass because their children are noisy, restless, late, need feeding, ask questions, cry, or require extra care. These are normal parts of family life.

Children learn to participate in the Church by being present: watching their parents pray, learning the prayers and responses, hearing Scripture, observing reverence, and experiencing the Eucharist.

The Church should be a place where every child—including those with disabilities or special needs—is welcomed, loved and given room to grow in faith.

The sounds and movements of children are not signs that they don't belong; they are a reminder that the Church is alive and growing.

Bring the children. Make room for them. Be patient with them. And if you need to step out, come back in. They belong at Mass because, through Baptism, they are already part of the Body of Christ.

ALL ARE WELCOME . EVERY CHILD IS LOVED . WE GROW TOGETHER IN FAITH

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.

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

JOBS IN FOCUS - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Senior Research & Writing Consultant
Minor Basilica Application Project
Catholic Parish of Chatswood, Diocese of Broken Bay

Closing Date: 9 October 2026
Enquiries and Submission:
David.ranson@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 NOVEMBER 5**

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!



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.

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.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT FAUSTINA KOWALSKA, VIRGIN

FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 5

1905-1938

**Patron Saint of The Divine Mercy devotion
Canonized by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000**

Helen Kowalska was the third of ten children born to a poor family in Glogowiec, Poland. With only three years of schooling, she loved to pray, obeyed her parents, and was sensitive to human suffering. From age seven, she sensed God calling her to the religious life. Her parents, though devout, refused their permission, and at eighteen, Helen turned herself "over to the vain things of life."

One day, Helen experienced "deep torments while at a dance with her sisters." Starting to dance, she had a vision of a bloodied and beaten Jesus at her side who asked how long she intended to put him off. Sneaking away to the Cathedral of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, she fell prostrate before the Blessed Sacrament and begged God for direction. As she prayed, she heard, "Go at once to Warsaw; you will enter a convent there." With only the dress on her back, she left for Warsaw.

In Warsaw, Helen knocked on the doors of every convent but all turned her down. Finally, the mother superior at the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy accepted her but noted in her diary that Helen "was no one special." At age twenty, an "immensely happy" Helen was accepted into the Congregation. Soon frustrated with the convent's busy schedule and her lack of prayer time, Helen decided to leave. Jesus appeared again to her, telling her that the convent was the place to which he had called her. Helen changed her mind, finished her novitiate, and on April 30, 1926, received the habit, and was given the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sister Faustina spent the next twelve years in the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy's convents in Poland and Lithuania. She died in Kraków on October 5, 1938, at age thirty-three. As a nun, Sister Faustina worked as a cook, gardener, and doorkeeper. Her ordinary duties were intertwined with incredible mystical experiences, in which Jesus delivered to her His message of The Divine Mercy. Obeying her superiors, beginning in 1934, she wrote down these visions and private revelations in six notebooks, now contained in The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul.

Faustina's diary describes how Jesus wants devotion to His Mercy to spread. The first is by meditating upon the Divine Mercy image of Jesus with its blue (Baptism) and red (the Eucharist) rays shining from His Heart and the inscription, "Jesus, I Trust in You." The second is by instituting the Solemnity of Divine Mercy on the eighth day of Easter. The third is by praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. The fourth is to honor the three o'clock hour, at which Jesus died, pouring forth His Mercy. Jesus also desired apostles of Mercy, who live mercifully and spread devotion to His Mercy.

Within two decades of Sister Faustina's death, the Divine Mercy messages spread from Poland to other continents, but in 1959, the Vatican banned her diary and its devotions, for "serious theological reservations," in particular for "excessive focus on Faustina herself." In 1965, then-Cardinal Karol Wojtyła received Vatican permission to examine Faustina's life and virtues, submitting his positive findings two years later. In 1978, when Cardinal Wojtyła was elected Pope John Paul II, the Vatican lifted its ban. Faustina was canonized on the eighth day of Easter, 2000, the first universal Church celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday.

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska of the Blessed Sacrament, you listened and responded as God spoke to you. Through you, God revealed His invitation to live in His mercy. Please pray that the Ocean of Mercy pouring forth from Heaven will flood my soul and affect many others through me. Saint Faustina, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life



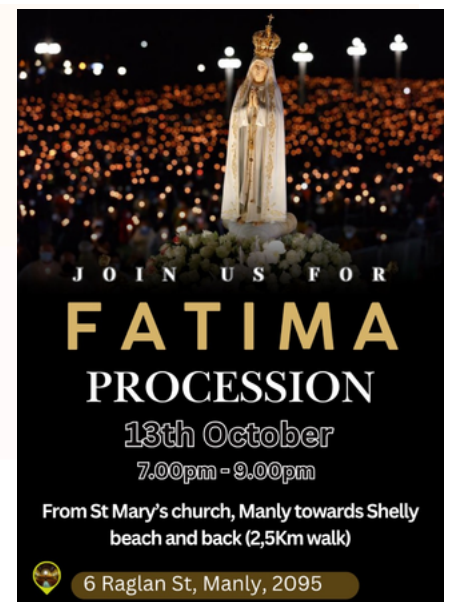
Celebrating Seniority!

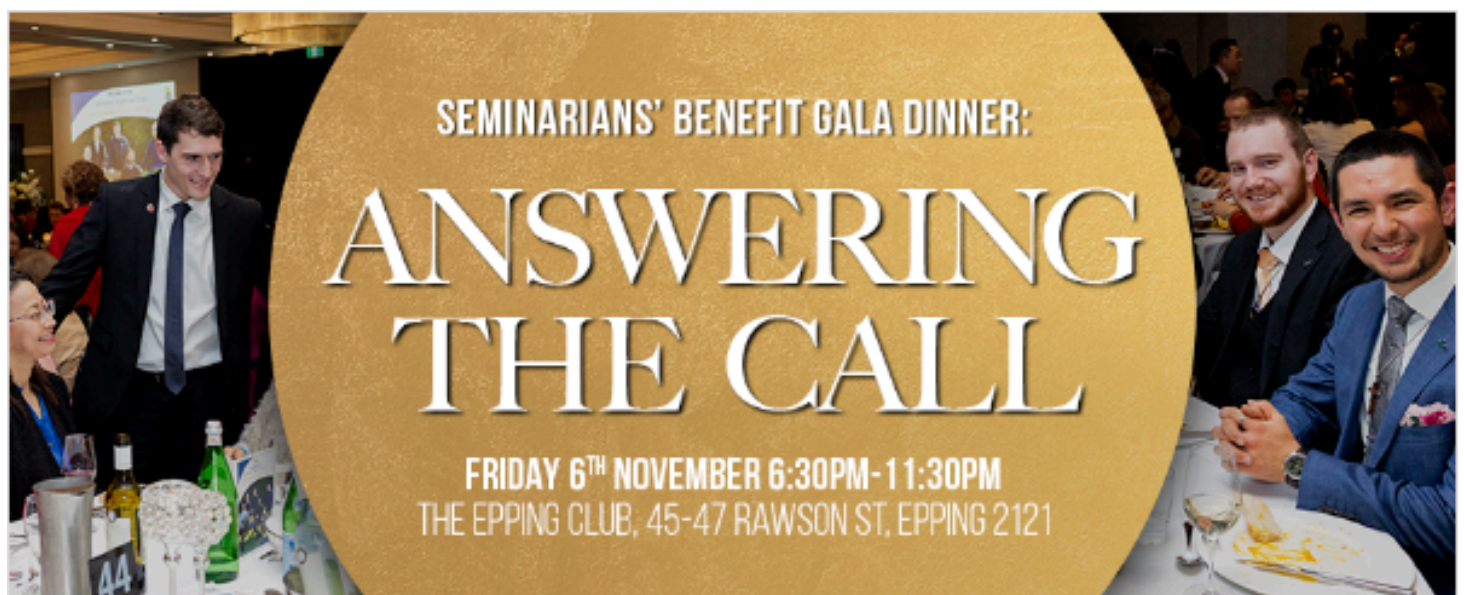
Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering for a special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications and time of life. Meet past volunteers Wendy and Mick who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste, leaving a lasting positive impact on communities. Scan below to register or see palms.org.au/events

Date: Monday 19 October 2026
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333
palms@palms.org.au





Answering the Call

Answering the Call: a celebration of faith and hope - is a Seminarists' Benefit Gala Dinner hosted by Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay Vocations to supp

[trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com)

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/event/answering-the-call-1657770>

PARISH ROSTER

NEXT WEEKEND

10/10/2026 to 11/10/2026

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A

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

	SAT 7PM	SUN 9AM	SUN 10:30AM
Acolyte		Paul C	George A
Reader 1	Natasha S	Mary C	Gebran A
Reader 2	Margaret B	Gabrielle W	Doug M
Prayers	Mary C	Donna B	Leann A
TV		Nigel M	Joshua E
EMHC		Jessie G	Gebran A
EMHC		Lorraine D	Anthony A
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Keith W	Theresa N
Music		Marisa Q	Sandra M
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 word "Catechist" comes from the Greek word *katecheō*, meaning "to teach by word of mouth." Catechists help pass on the Catholic faith by teaching children and others about Jesus, Scripture and the teachings of the Church.

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 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

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)

