# 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**

## 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### YEAR A

### OCTOBER 17 & 18 2026

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### OPENING PRAYER

**Let us pray**.
Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity of 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: PUTTING GOD FIRST

**Sunday's Gospel – Matthew 22:15–21**
Jesus reminds us to fulfil our responsibilities in the world while always putting God first. We are called to give God our hearts, live with honesty, and reflect His love through our words and actions.

***I Reflect…***

1. *Do I put God first in my life?*
2. *Am I honest in my daily responsibilities?*
3. *Do I treat others with love and respect?*
4. *Do my actions reflect God's goodness?*
5. *How can I give more of myself to God?*




**Prayer**
Heavenly Father, help me to put You first, fulfil my responsibilities with love, and reflect Your goodness in all I do. Amen.

**First Reading**
**Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 (JB)**
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.
Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:
It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.




**The word of the Lord.**
**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**
**Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10 (JB)**
**R. Give the Lord glory and honour.**

**Second Reading**
**1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 (JB)**
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.
From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.
We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

**The word of the Lord.**
**Thanks be to God.**




**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**
**Shine on the world like bright stars;**
**you are offering it the word of life.**
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**
**Matthew 22:15-21 (JB)**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.
The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he replied, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's,' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

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

*Source: Liturgia Brisbane 2026*

*"Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ."*
*- Rule of St Benedict Chapter 53*

## READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

***Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 / 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 / Matthew 22:15-21***

### GIVE TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD

The first reading from **Isaiah** reminds us that God is the Lord of all creation and works through people and events to fulfil His purpose. In the second reading, St **Paul** praises the Thessalonians for their faith, love and hope, which are strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit. In the **Gospel**, Jesus tells us to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. His words invite us to reflect on our responsibilities in the world while remembering that our lives ultimately belong to God.

Together, these readings remind us that faith is more than words; it must be seen in the way we live, love and serve others. We are called to be responsible citizens, caring members of our community and faithful disciples of Christ. When we place God at the centre of our lives, our choices and actions can reflect His love, justice and goodness.

**Key Thought:**
God calls us to live with faith, love and integrity, giving Him our hearts and using our gifts to serve others.

**Take-Home Challenge:**
This week, make one choice that puts God first, whether through prayer, kindness or helping someone in need.

**Prayer:**
Lord, help us to grow in faith, live in love and serve You faithfully each day. May our words and actions give glory to You. Amen.

## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

**OCTOBER 2026**

**Monday 19** Readings: Eph 2:1-10. Lk 12:13-21.
**R:** The Lord made us, we belong to him.
**Sts John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, priests, and companions, martyrs.**
**St Paul of the Cross, priest.**

**Tuesday 20** Readings: Eph 2:12-22. Lk 12:35-38.
**R:** The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

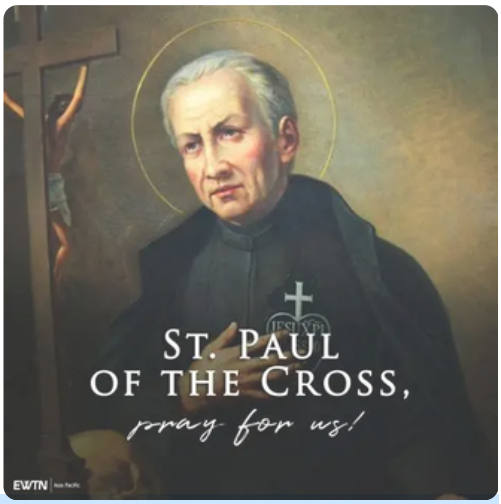
**Wednesday 21** Readings: Eph 3:2-12. Lk 12:39-48
**R:** You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

**Thursday 22** Readings: Eph 3:14-21. Lk 12:49-53.
**R:** The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
**St John Paul II, pope.**

**Friday 23** Readings: Eph 4:1-6. Lk 12:54-59.
**R:** Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
**St John of Capistrano, priest.**

**Saturday 24** Readings: Eph 4:7-16. Lk 13:1-9.
**R:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
**St Anthony Claret, bishop.**

*Source: Ordo 2026*




*"The Passion of Jesus is a sea of sorrows, but it is also a sea of love." — St Paul of the Cross.*



## 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.**

BREAKING NEWS

# IMPORTANT PARISH NOTICES

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS CHANGES

Please note that, effective immediately, the Parish Office will be open on **Tuesdays and Fridays**, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. The office will be **closed on Mondays**.

## SATURDAY EVENING MASS – NEW TIME

Please note that, following a thorough vote by parishioners, **Saturday evening Mass** will commence at the new time of **6:00pm**, **starting from Advent, Saturday 28 November 2026.**

Thank you to all parishioners who participated in the vote and for your understanding and cooperation.

## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

First Saturday of the month Devotion has been approved by Parish Council and the Diocese, and will commence on Saturday 7th November.

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ONE IN CHRIST UNITED IN Mission

100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

catholic mission

Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/united

This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home.

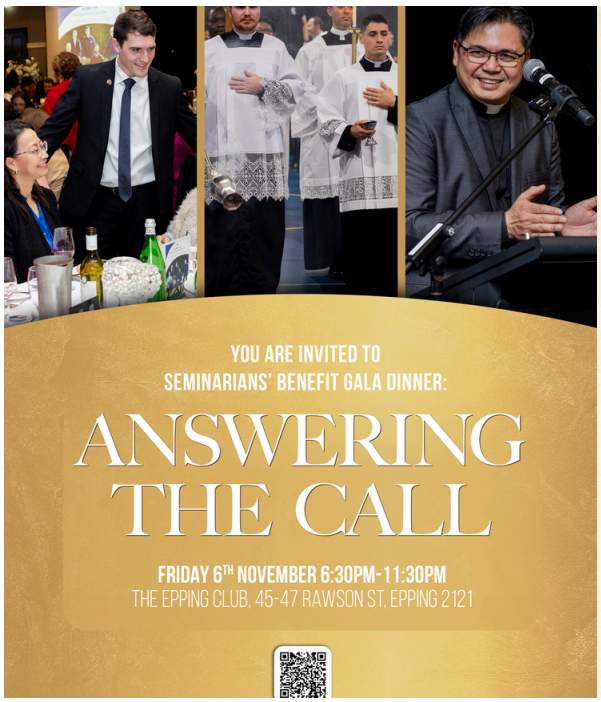
Through projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs.

As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'.

**Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan the QR code, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today.**

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
Help share the Gospel and bring hope to those in need.
Donation envelopes are available in the pews.
Thank you for your kindness.

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## SEMINARIANS GALA DINNER

Friday 6 November 2026 | 6:30pm–11:30pm
The Epping Club

Parishioners are invited to join us for the Seminarians Gala Dinner, an evening supporting our future priests and their journey towards the priesthood.

A few parishioners will be attending, and we hope to gather enough people from St Benedict's Parish to form a table of 10.
🎟 Tickets: $150 per person

If you would like to join us, please let Paula know by contacting the parish office.

Your support is greatly appreciated as we come together to support our future priests and pray for vocations to the priesthood.

# 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, NannaTrani, Anne Pearce, Robert Wallace, Maria Pappallardo and Shannon Murray.*

***~ May they rest in Eternal Peace.***

## CATECHIST NEWS

Term 4 has commenced, however it is only a short term this year with 6 weeks remaining.

**Classes end on Wednesday 25th and Friday 27th November with Final combined scripture lessons on Wednesday 2nd and Friday 4th December.**

New Catechists are needed for 2027, please contact myself or the Parish office if you are interested in becoming a Year 1 or Year 5 teach at Glenorie Public School. Classes are 40mins and run on Wednesdays from 10.50am - 11.30am.

Casual Teachers are always needed also, please contact us if you are interested as we have Beginner Zoom courses commencing in January to get you ready for the classroom in 2027!

Have a lovely term 4 everyone.

God bless,
Martina Jutrisa arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Catechist Co-Ordinator 0413 403 767
Parish Office: 9653 2312




### NEW SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM REMINDER

Commencing with Confirmation.
Classes are on Wednesday 21 October for Group 1 and Friday 28 October for Group 2.
Time: 5.30pm to 6.30pm
Classes are for 4 consecutive weeks.

## 🎁 GOD-GIVEN GIFTS

God has blessed each of us with unique gifts and talents. Let us use them generously to serve others, strengthen our parish community, and bring Christ's love to those around us. Every gift matters when it is given with love!

## HEALING MASS

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

**NEXT HEALING MASS:**
**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5**




## ✨ BECOMING CATHOLIC ✨

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Catholic faith? Are you feeling called to become Catholic, deepen your relationship with God, or discover what it means to be part of the Catholic Church? You are warmly invited to take the next step on your faith journey! If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact Fr Shansana.

We would love to welcome you and walk alongside you as you discover the beauty, richness and joy of our Catholic faith. 🙏

## 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 resume on Friday, 23 October.***

*Contact Jules On 0415 448 797 for further information.*

## 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!




## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

# Saints John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, Priests & Martyrs & Companions

## c. 1593 - 1649

## Feast day: October 19

Patron Saints of North America
Canonized by Pope Pius XI on June 29, 1930

In the early 1600's, Dutch explorers traded European goods for furs with the tribes in the Iroquois Confederacy in modern-day Albany, New York. At the same time, French explorers came into contact with the Huron-Wendat Confederacy, the Iroquois' enemies. The Iroquois soon distrusted the French newcomers who established missions in today's Nova Scotia, Maine, and Quebec City.

Father Jean de Brébeuf was one of more than 100 Jesuits who came to North America in the seventeenth century, of whom eight died as martyrs. He settled near Quebec in 1625 where he learned the Huron language, wrote a catechism in Huron, and created a French–Huron dictionary. In 1639, he, other Jesuits, settlers, and soldiers traveled down the Saint Lawrence River, deeper into Huron-Wendat territory, settling near Midland, Ontario, Canada, to establish a Jesuit mission named Sainte-Marie. From it, smaller missions were established in the area. Fathers Brébeuf and Gabriel Lalemant were serving in the village of Saint-Louis when the Iroquois attacked on March 16, 1649. After hours of torture with hot coals and scalping, they died.

In 1642, Father Isaac Jogues and forty others, including Huron-Wendat chiefs, set out from Quebec on a missionary expedition. Mohawk members of the Iroquois Confederation attacked the group, taking them to Ossernenon, near today's Auriesville, New York. First, their fingers were crushed and their fingernails torn out. One lay captive, René Goupil, had worked for the Jesuits as a medic and made his profession as a Jesuit lay brother to Father Jogues. Over the next six weeks, the captives suffered disfiguring beatings and their fingers were cut off. On September 29, two Iroquois men told Father Jogues and Brother René to follow them. One tomahawked Brother René in the head, the first Jesuit to be martyred, killed for making the sign of the Cross on an Iroquois child's forehead.

After over a year in captivity, Father Jogues escaped, returning to France with the aid of a sympathetic Mohawk and Dutch settlers. There, Father Jogues received the pope's permission to celebrate Mass, despite losing his fingers. After a year and a half, he returned to the missions, ready to accept martyrdom if God willed it. In 1646, he set out for the place of his captivity with Jesuit lay brother Jean de Lalande. On their journey, they were captured by the Iroquois and brought back to Ossernenon. Their time alive was brief. Father Jogues was tomahawked and beheaded on October 18, 1646. Brother Lalande was martyred as he tried to tend to Father Jogues' body.

Three remaining Jesuits were martyred in 1648–1649 at the missions served by Sainte-Marie. Father Antoine Daniel, captured at the Saint-Joseph mission on July 4, 1648, was still in his Mass vestments when he was shot with arrows and burned in the chapel. Fathers Charles Garnier and Noël Chabanel fled to Saint-Jean mission to continue their work. On December 7, 1649, Father Garnier was shot with arrows and tomahawked. Father Chabanel was killed; his body was never recovered.

***Saints Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and companions, you abandoned the comforts of your life in France to share the Gospel with a people who had never heard of Christ, shedding your blood in an act of love. Please pray that I will have the same love for all whom God calls me to serve. Holy Martyrs of North America, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.***

*Source: mycatholic.life*

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## FAMILY RETREAT DAY




The MGL Sisters warmly welcome you and your family to
the "Alive" Family Retreat Day to unleash the power of the Holy Spirit
When: 9am – 4pm on Saturday, 14 November 2026
Where: Our Lady of Mt Carmel parish hall - 4 Bennett Street, Wentworthville.
Why: Your family has been carefully chosen and put together by God and has an important mission entrusted only to you. Discover as a family the power of the Holy Spirit to live with boldness and love!

This is an interactive retreat, beginning with the 9am Mass at Our Lady of Mt Carmel parish, Varroville and then moving over to the parish hall for a day of inputs and activities that all ages in your whole family can enjoy.
As it can be difficult to cater safely for dietary needs and preferences these days, we ask that you bring your own lunch and snacks that you know your own family will enjoy.
Further information and Registration: https://trybooking.com/DIDCJ



# OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

Last Sunday was warm and sunny, when the faithful gathered at our Church, for Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day. We welcomed Fr Eugene De Silva from our St Benedictine Monastery to the celebration and he gave a strong heartfelt homily, recalling the story of Fatima and the three sears, Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia; inviting everyone to pray the rosary. The day commenced with a rosary in five languages and a litany with consecration to Our Lady. A short children's play followed, outside, renancting the story of Fatima, and then the procession began around the Church, with the Statue of Our Lady adorned with golden yellow and pure white flowers. The procession was performed with respectful prayer and silence, whislt singing the hymn with joy. Once the procession ended, Mass began with a glorious entrance hymn: "Immaculate Mary We Praise God in You". After Mass, a delightful supper was enjoyed by all and raffle prizes were drawn. Thank you and God bless to all who attended and who helped make this day successful.





***The children did an amazing job! God bless them!***

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

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

### THE FATIMA COMMITTEE

This week, we proudly recognise the Fatima Committee, led by Angela Egiziano, and all the wonderful volunteers who worked so hard to make our Fatima celebration last Sunday such a special and memorable day.

Our heartfelt thanks to Paul El-Chaar, Angela Scotti and Guido Scotti for their great help and support, Mary and Paul Camilleri especially for their generous donation of the beautiful statues, Teresa Monardo for her valuable hard work, Teresa Gambino for her excellent organisation and coordination, Rebecca for organising the children and playing the piano beautifully, Noelle and John Takchi for their beautiful and uplifting singing, Karina for sharing her wonderful piano playing, and Josephine, Mario and Samuel for their tireless work setting up and cleaning. Catherine for helping out where needed.

We also extend our sincere thanks to the many other volunteers who gave their time, energy and talents behind the scenes and on the day.

Your generosity, teamwork, faith and dedication helped make this celebration of Our Lady of Fatima truly beautiful. May Our Lady bless each of you abundantly for all that you do for our parish community.

Thank you all for making it such a special day!






***Thank you to the devoted parishioners who carried Our Lady with such strength, love and devotion.***



***A big thank you to Fr Eugene & Fr Shansana! Also the amazing singers Noelle & John Takchi.***

# PARISH ROSTER

**NEXT WEEKEND**
**24/10/2026 to 25/10/2026**
**30th 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** |  | Lorraine D | Paul E |
| **Reader 1** | Mary C | Zachary B | Mirko J |
| **Reader 2** | John V | Matt W | Lorna B |
| **Prayers** | Mariella V | Gabe W | Sandra M |
| **TV** |  | Jules O | Joshua A |
| **EMHC** |  | Sophie R | Gebran A |
| **EMHC** | | Catherine C | Caterina V |
| **Music** |  | Melanie H | Melanie H |
| **Music** |  | Theresa N | Martina J |
| **Music** |  | Mary A | Natalie M |
| **Music** |  | | |
| **Morning Tea** |  | Tania T | |
| **Flowers** | Rosa 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 that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God? Just as the coin bore Caesar's image, we bear God's image. Our lives, gifts and talents are blessings from Him, and we are called to use them to love God and serve others.*

## WYD27 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**WE HAVE A COUPLE OF YOUTH INTERESTED IN ATTENDING FROM OUR PARISH. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.**

**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 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.*
*We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and their enduring connection to Country, waters, and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and to emerging leaders.*

**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

Tuesdays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm

**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:** stbenedictsarcadia

Like us on Facebook

**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