

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

17 & 18 JANUARY 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,
both in heaven and on earth,
mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace on our times.
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: TRUE SAVIOUR

This Sunday's Gospel, John 1:29-34, John the Baptist recognises that Jesus is more than a teacher—He is the long-awaited Saviour who brings forgiveness, renewal, and hope. John's humility reminds us that our mission, too, is to lead others toward Christ, not ourselves.

I reflect:

- *Where do I need Jesus' healing and forgiveness in my life right now?*
- *How can I point others to Christ through my words or actions today?*
- *Do I recognise the presence of Jesus in the ordinary moments of my life?*
- *What prevents me from fully trusting in Jesus as the Lamb of God?*
- *How is the Holy Spirit inviting me to grow in humility, like John the Baptist?*

Promised Hope

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, open my heart to recognise Your presence and Your love. Heal what is wounded, forgive what is sinful, and strengthen what is weak within me. Help me to follow You with humility and to lead others toward Your light. Amen.

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

(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 9:00am to 10:00am

Adoration & Confession (Reconciliation)

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

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**



First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:
'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:29-34 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

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



"I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."



"Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world."

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Readings: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6, 1 Corinthians 1:1-3, and John 1:29-34

Isaiah reminds us that God calls each of us for a purpose beyond ourselves: "I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." Even when we feel ordinary or limited, God can use us to bring His love, mercy, and hope to others. Paul echoes this in his letter to the Corinthians, reminding us that we are saints, called and blessed in Christ. Our identity is found not in our own strength, but in God's grace, which equips us to live faithfully.

In John's Gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus as the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." John's humility shows us how to live as witnesses: our task is not to draw attention to ourselves, but to point others to Christ. Recognizing Jesus as the Lamb of God invites us to trust Him completely, to allow His forgiveness to heal our hearts, and to share the hope He brings with the world.

Together, these readings call us to see ourselves as part of God's plan: chosen, blessed, and sent to bring His light and hope into the lives of those around us.

Key Thought:

We are called to live as witnesses of God's light and hope, reflecting His love in our everyday lives.

Take-Home Challenge:

This week, look for one practical way to point someone toward Jesus—through encouragement, kindness, or a simple act of service.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, help me to recognise Your presence in my life and share Your love with others. Strengthen me to be a light to those around me, reflecting Your grace and hope. Amen.

Source: chatgpt.com

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

January 2026

Monday 19: 1 Sam 15:16-23. Mk 2:18-22.
R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Tuesday 20: 1 Sam 16:1-13. Mk 2:23-28.
R. I have found David, my servant.
St Fabian, pope, martyr. St Sebastian, martyr.

Wednesday 21: 1 Sam 17:32-33, 37, 40-51. Mk 3:1-6.
R. Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!
St Agnes, virgin, martyr.

Thursday 22: 1 Sam 18:16-9, 19:1-7. Mk 3:7-12.
R. In God I trust; I shall not fear.
St Vincent, deacon, martyr.

Friday 23: 1 Sam 24:3-21. Mk 3:13-19.
R. Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.

Saturday 24: 2 Sam 1:1-4, 11-12, 17, 19, 23-27. Mk 3:20-21.
R. Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.
St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor.



**St. Vincent, faithful deacon
and martyr,
pray for us that we may
serve God with courage
and love,
even in the face of trials.
Amen.**

Source: Ordo 2025 image: mycatholic.life



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for January 2026:



For prayer with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER
24/1/2026 to 25/1/2026
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	
Reader1	Daniel V	Donna B	Mirko J
Reader2	Edyn V	Ann L	John Family
Prayers	Margaret B	Nigel M	Lorna B
TV		Jules O	Leon J
EMHC 		Angela S	Lorna B
EMHC 			
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Marisa Q	Adam F
Music		Pauline H	Martina J
Music		Teresa G	
Morning Tea		Sophie R	
FLOWERS	Souraya K		

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St Benedict's Parish are committed to fostering a community of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ. If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help. These people in our parish can help: Fr Shansana 0437 884 233 - Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882 - Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.

For all parish OH&S and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.

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
ALL are welcome to attend any time.

NEW ROSTER

Please collect your roster from the Sacristy. They are labelled with your names on it.

If you would like to be added to the roster please let Melanie know. Melanie is always on the piano on Sundays!

God bless Melanie working so hard!

PARISH E-BULLETIN



The Parish is offering the Parish bulletin electronically in addition to the printed version.

If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send your email address to the parish office at:
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

Remember, the bulletin is also available weekly on the Parish website and Facebook page.

DID YOU KNOW...

Confession Confidentiality: Canon Law makes the seal of Confession inviolable—priests cannot reveal what's confessed, even under threat!

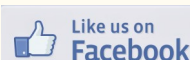
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm
(Parish office closed in January)

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](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictsarcadia)



MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159
121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

PARISH BANK DETAILS for ONLINE only donations:
BSB: 062 784 **Account:** 100002141
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund

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Scan this QR code to make a donation.

