St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A
OCTOBER 24 & 25 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God,
increase our faith, hope and charity,
and make us love what you command,
so that we may merit what you promise.
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.

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

SELF REFLECTION:
THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Sunday's Gospel – Matthew 22:34–40 ❤️
Jesus teaches us that the greatest commandments are to **love God with all our heart and to love our neighbour as ourselves.** We show our love for God by being kind, forgiving and caring towards others.

I Reflect 💭

1. *Do I put God first in my life?*
2. *How do I show my love for God?*
3. *Am I kind and patient with others?*
4. *Is there someone I need to forgive?*
5. *How can I show love today?*

Prayer 🙏
Dear Jesus, help me to love You with all my heart and to treat others with kindness, patience and compassion. May I share Your love each day. Amen.

First Reading
Exodus 22:20-26 (JB)
A reading from the book of Exodus
If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.
The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.
"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.
"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Psalm
Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51 (JB)
R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 (JB)
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.
You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL
Matthew 22:34-40 (JB)
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

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

"Let all things be done with moderation."
— The Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 48





READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Exodus 22:20-26 / 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 / Matthew 22:34-40

The Greatest Commandment ❤️

Today's readings remind us that love must be at the heart of our faith.
In **Exodus**, God calls us to care for the poor, the vulnerable and those in need. St **Paul** praises the Thessalonians for their faith and love, which became an example to others. In the **Gospel**, Jesus teaches that the greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbour as ourselves. True love is shown not only in prayer, but also through our kindness, compassion and concern for others.

💡 **Key Thought**
When we love God wholeheartedly, His love shines through the way we treat others.

🏡 **Take-Home Challenge**
This week, show God's love through one simple act of kindness, especially towards someone who may feel forgotten, lonely or in need.

🙏 **Prayer**
Heavenly Father, help us to love You with all our hearts and to love our neighbours through our words and actions. Open our eyes to those in need and give us generous and compassionate hearts. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

OCTOBER 2026

Monday 26 Readings: Eph 4:32-5:8. Lk 13:10-17.
R: Behave Like God as his very dear children.

Tuesday 27 Readings: Eph 5:21-33. Lk 13:18-21.
R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Wednesday 28 Readings: Eph 2:19-22. Lk 6:12-19.
R: Their message goes out through all the earth.
Sts Simon and Jude, apostles.

Thursday 29 Readings: Eph 6:10-20. Lk 13:31-35.
R: Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!

Friday 30 Readings: Phil 1:1-11. Lk 14:1-6.
R: How great are the works of the Lord!

Saturday 31 Readings: Phil 1:18-26. Lk 14:1, 7-11.
R: My soul is thirsting for the Living God.

Source: Ordo 2026



ST JUDE
FEAST DAY 28 OCTOBER

"May the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored and loved in all the tabernacles until the end of time. Amen."

St Jude, pray for us.
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.



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to share these important announcements.

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS NEW TIME OF 6PM

New time: 6:00 pm. Commencing **Saturday, 28 November 2026**
Our Saturday Vigil Mass will commence at the new time of 6:00 pm on Saturday, 28 November 2026.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION SATURDAY

The First Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will commence from Saturday 7th of November.

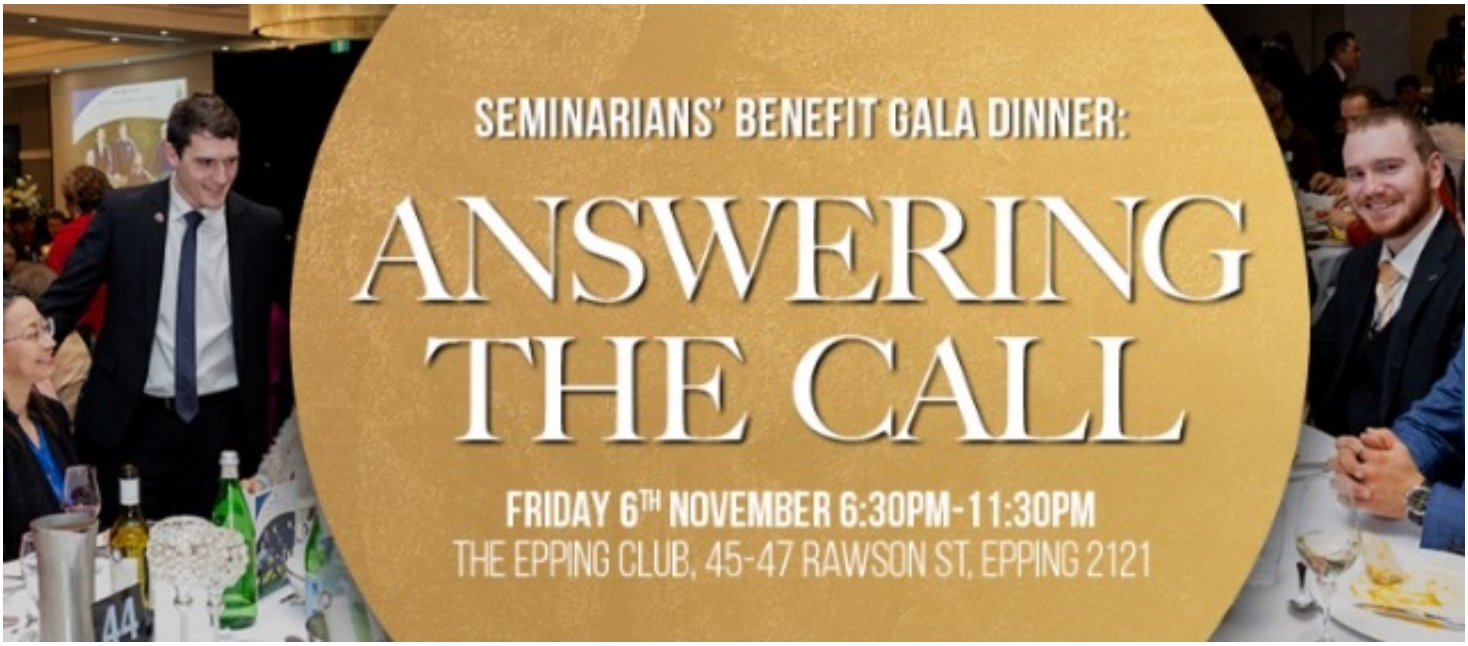


MARRIAGE PREPARATION: ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Engaged Encounter provides couples with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give couples a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich their relationship.

Dates:
Nov 14-15, Feb 13-14, May 22-23

Website:
www.engagedencounter.org.au



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 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. Training and manual books are provided.

📖 YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS

Does your child finish Year 6 this year? We invite all Year 6 students who would like to receive a Bible and Certificate to contact the Parish Office.

A special Mass and presentation will be held on Sunday, 6 December, at 10:30am Mass.

We look forward to celebrating this important milestone with our young parishioners! 🙏

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

OUR GREATEST BLESSING ❤️

"You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them." ~ Desmond Tutu ~

Family life is filled with special moments and everyday routines. Often, it is the little things—a kind word, a helping hand, a shared meal or a loving smile—that mean the most. Let us cherish our families, thank God for the gift of one another, and remember that love grows through the simple things we do each day.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION
Confirmation
Reconciliation
and
First Holy Communion

NEW SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM REMINDER

Commencing with Confirmation.
Classes are on Wednesday 21 October for Group 1 and Friday 23 October for Group 2.
Time: 5.30pm to 6.30pm
Classes are for 4 consecutive weeks.



🎉 ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP 🎉

We're Back! 🙌

Calling all kids aged 8–12 years! Come along for fun, friendship and faith as we grow together as a parish family.
📅 Fridays during school term
⏰ 4:00pm – 5:30pm
📞 For more information, contact Jules on 0415 448 797.
Everyone is welcome! 😊

Lord Jesus, help us to love You with all our hearts and to love our neighbours as ourselves. May our words and actions reflect Your love, kindness and mercy each day. Amen.

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!



SAINTS OF THE WEEK

SAINT SIMON &
SAINT JUDE, APOSTLES

First Century
Feast day: October 28

Patron Saint of curriers, woodcutters, and tanners (Simon); hopeless causes and hospital workers (Jude)
Pre-Congregation canonization

Today, the Church honors Saints Simon and Jude, two of our Lord's Twelve Apostles. They were two of the first bishops through whom Jesus established His Church and from whom all bishops, priests, and deacons descend. Very little is known about these two Apostles, other than their listing among the Twelve Apostles in Matthew 10:2–4; Mark 3:16–19; Luke 6:13–16; and Acts 1:13.

Today's Simon is "the Cananean" (Matthew and Mark) and "the Zealot" (Luke and Acts). The two names share a meaning. "Cananean" is a translation of an Aramaic word meaning "zealous."

Jesus' Apostles reveal his interest in people of every background and experience. Simon the Zealot would have been committed to his Jewish identity and firmly opposed to Roman oppression and taxation. Matthew had served the Romans by collecting taxes from the Jews. Jesus was not bound by cultural ties, nationalities, ideologies, or social classes.

Jude is referred to as "Judas son of James" (Luke and Acts) and "Thaddeus" (Matthew and Mark). The only other reference to Jude comes from John's Gospel during the Last Supper in which Jude is referred to as "Judas, not the Iscariot…" (John 14:22). When Jesus tells His Apostles that He will soon be leaving them, Jude asks Jesus, "Master, [then] what happened that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Jude is asking Jesus why He doesn't clearly and convincingly manifest His divinity to everyone, so that they will believe in Him.

A reference appears in two of the Gospels identifying Simon and Jude as Jesus' brothers: "Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas?" (Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3). Most scholars believe these two are not the same as the Apostles but are Jesus' cousins, as it was customary at that time to refer to one's cousin as brother or sister.

Unreliable apocryphal sources, such as the Passion of Simon and Jude and other fourth-century and later sources, provide what we know about Simon's and Jude's deaths. One tradition is that the two traveled to Persia to preach the Gospel and were killed there in AD 65. Simon is traditionally believed to have been sawed in half, and Jude is traditionally believed to have been beaten with a club. They often appear in sacred art holding the instruments of their deaths. Other traditions state they ministered in Armenia, Lebanon, Roman Britain, Egypt, and/or Samaria and died by arrows, crucifixion, or even a peaceful death.

The Epistle traditionally attributed to Saint Jude the Apostle is a short, passionate letter warning Christians against immorality and heresy. Some suggest that he is named Patron Saint of Hopeless Causes because of his passionate plea. Another tradition states that because Jude shared a name with Judas Iscariot, the betrayer, his intercession was rarely sought. However, after every other Apostle and saint was beseeched, people in the early Church would turn to Saint Jude as their last hope. Throughout the centuries, many miracles have been attributed to Saint Jude.

Saints Simon and Jude, you were privileged to learn from Jesus Himself. After His Ascension, you were among the first to receive the Holy Spirit and ordination as bishops. God used you to go forth and fulfill His command to share the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Please pray that I will more fully understand my mission within the Body of Christ and will fulfill my duties with diligence and love. Saints Simon and Jude, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life



the Makers table

Please join us for our upcoming Maker's Table workshop here at St Benedict's!
Embroidered Christmas Decorations Workshop
Wednesday, November 4th, 2026
7.30-9.30pm in the Parish meeting room.
Cost: $15
(covers materials, refreshments and donation for room hire)

RSVP by 1/11/26
so we can set a special place at the Table for you!

This month we will be making cute Christmas decorations to hang on your Christmas tree! There are 3 designs to make at the workshop (or take home to complete later) and we will learn a few different embroidery techniques as well. All welcome!

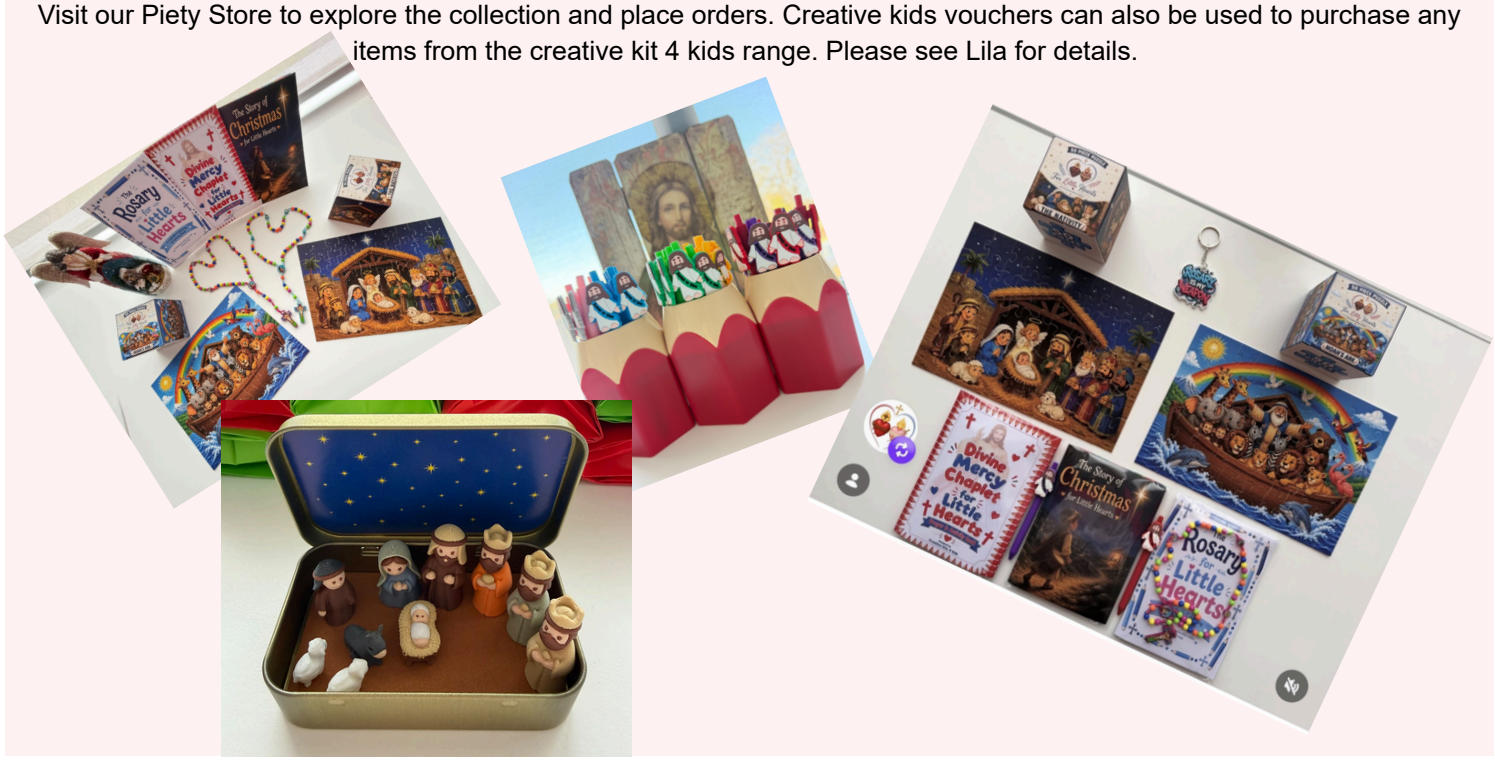


themakerstablesydney@gmail.com
Martine 0458-533-250 / Nerida 0425-834-017

PIETY SHOP NEWS

New Products Now Available!

We are delighted to introduce For Little Hearts by Creative Kits 4 Kids, a beautiful faith-inspired collection designed to help children grow closer to Jesus and Mary through prayer, creativity and learning.
Discover our range of Catholic colouring and activity packs, including The Rosary for Little Hearts, The Divine Mercy Chaplet for Little Hearts and The Story of Christmas for Little Hearts, along with our faith-inspired gifts and puzzles.
Perfect for birthdays, Sacraments or simply encouraging little hearts to grow in faith.
Visit our Piety Store to explore the collection and place orders. Creative kids vouchers can also be used to purchase any items from the creative kit 4 kids range. Please see Lila for details.



PARISH ROSTER

NEXT WEEKEND
31/10/2026 to 1/11/2026
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		Nigel M	George A
Reader 1	Edyn V	Teresa G	CHILD
Reader 2	Daniel V	Donna B	CHILD
Prayers	John V	Ann L	CHILD
TV		Zac B	Paula E
EMHC		Angela S	Anthony A
EMHC		Pam G	Robin B
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Martina J
Music		John T	Natalie M
Music			Adam F
Morning Tea		Donna / Zac	Robin B
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…

During Mass, the priest mixes a little water with the wine in the chalice. 🍷💧 This ancient tradition symbolises the union of Christ's divinity and humanity, and reminds us that Jesus became truly human to save us.

WORLD YOUTH DAY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

WE HAVE A FEW OF THE YOUTH INTERESTED IN ATTENDING FROM OUR PARISH. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.
We will be organising fundraisers to help them afford their trip.

Pilgrimage AGES 15 TO 35:
26 July – 12 August 2027

Japan, Seoul, Incheon and 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.

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