

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

24 & 25 JANUARY 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
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: YOUR MISSION

This Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 4:12–23, Jesus' call, "Come, follow Me," invites us to step out of our familiar routines and trust Him with our lives. Like the first disciples, we are reminded that true discipleship begins with the courage to respond to His voice and walk in His light.

I reflect:

- Where is Jesus calling me to follow Him more closely?
- What "nets" do I need to let go of?
- Where do I need His light in my life right now?
- How can I show Christ's love to others today?
- Am I willing to respond to His call with trust?

Follow Christ

Prayer:

Lord Jesus,
You call me each day to walk in Your light. Give me the
courage to follow You, the wisdom to hear Your voice, and
the strength to let go of whatever holds me back. Fill my
heart with Your peace and lead me in Your ways. Amen.



"Come, follow me"

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 8:23 - 9:3 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 (JB)

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

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollo', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-23 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



"The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light."



"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Readings: *Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3*, *1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17*, and *Matthew 4:12-23*

Isaiah reminds us that even in times of darkness, God's light breaks through, bringing hope, joy, and guidance to His people.

St. Paul calls us to unity, urging us to put aside divisions and follow Christ together with love and humility.

In Matthew, we see Jesus beginning His public ministry, calling ordinary people to leave their nets and follow Him, inviting them into a new life of purpose and mission.

Taken together, these readings invite us to recognise God's light in our lives, respond to His call with trust, and live in harmony with others as we share His mission. Following Jesus requires courage, openness, and a willingness to step into the unknown, but it also brings peace, joy, and a sense of true purpose.

Key Thought:

God calls each of us out of darkness into His light—into a life of faith, unity, and mission.

Take-Home Challenge:

Consider what holds you back from fully following Jesus and take one concrete step this week to trust His call.

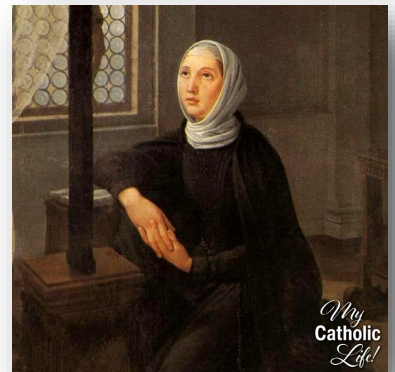
Prayer:

Lord Jesus, You call us from darkness into Your wonderful light. Give us courage to leave behind anything that keeps us from following You fully. Help us listen with open hearts, trust Your guidance, and walk faithfully in Your ways. Unite us in love and purpose, so we may reflect Your light to others and share in the mission You have given us. Amen.

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

January 2026

- Monday 26: Is 32:15-18. 1 Cor 12:4-11. Mt 5:1-12.
R. The Lord speaks of peace to his people.
AUSTRALIA DAY
- Tuesday 27: 2 Sam 6:12-15, 17-19.
R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!
St Angela Merici, virgin. Sts Timothy and Titus.
- Wednesday 28: 2 Sam 7:4-17. Mk 4:1-20.
R. For ever I will keep my love for him.
St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor.
- Thursday 29: 2 Sam 7:18-19, 24-29.
R. God will give him the throne of David, his father.
- Friday 30: 2 Sam 11:1-10, 13-17. Mk 4:26-34.
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
- Saturday 31: 2 Sam 12:1-7, 10-17.
R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.
St John Bosco, priest.



ST ANGELA MERICI
Feast day: 27 January

**Lord, help me follow
St. Angela's example of
faith and dedication.
Teach me to serve others
with love, humility, and
courage, and guide me to
live each day in Your will.
Amen.**

Source: Ordo 2026 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

31/1/2026 to 1/2/2026

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Sr Carol T	Judy H	Leanne A
Reader2	Mary C	Lorraine D	Mirko J
Prayers	Natasha S	Donna B	Fogarty Family
TV		Teresa G	Fogarty Family
EMHC 		Pam G	Caterina V
EMHC 		Jessie G	Lorna B
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Keith W
Music		John T	Theresa N
Music			
Morning Tea		Tania T	
FLOWERS	Hannah A		

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.

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.



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!

HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY!

JANUARY 26



On this day, we give thanks for the blessings of our land, our communities, and the freedom we enjoy. We acknowledge and honour the First Nations peoples, the traditional custodians of this land, and their rich cultures and wisdom. May we celebrate together with respect, gratitude, and a commitment to care for one another and for our shared home.

DID YOU KNOW...

Catholics honour Mary and the saints, asking for their prayers, while worship is given to God alone.

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

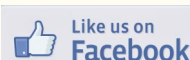
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

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

Support our parish!

Scan this QR code to make a donation.

