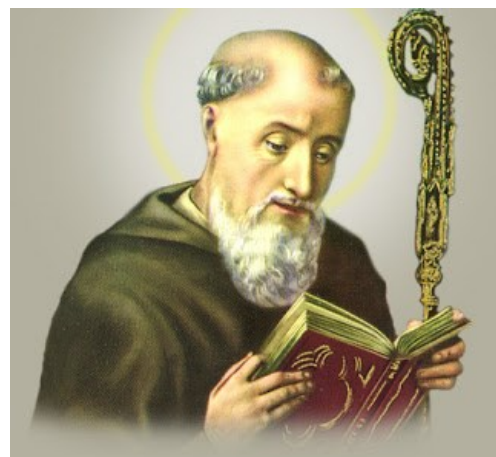


St Benedict's Parish Arcadia

*To console the sorrowing.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*



All public Masses and gatherings have
been suspended until further notice

Weekend Mass

Weekday Mass

Special Masses at the Parish

Monthly Mass

Children's Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Liturgy of the Word

Baptisms are celebrated at 11.00am on
the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month.
Please see Father Bernard.

Reconciliation available by
appointment.

For the sick who require a priest, please
call Father Bernard.

Marriages by appointment, please see
Father Bernard.

Funerals to be arranged through
Father Bernard.



Third Sunday of Easter Year A

25 & 26 April 2020

First Reading

A reading from the
Acts of the Apostles
2:14, 22-33

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 15 R v.11
Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of
St Peter 1:17-21
*The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the
Lamb, Jesus Christ.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
Make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke 24:13-35

Third Sunday of Easter 2020

In the verse before our gospel, we are told Simon Peter goes to the tomb, where he saw the linen cloths by themselves, but does not see Jesus remains perplexed as the women had been before him.

And at the end of our passage we read that the risen Lord had now been seen by Simon Peter in v.34.

The passage focuses on several journeys – that of Jesus and that of two of the disciples who come together on the way to Emmaus.

At the same time there is the journey from ignorance to knowledge.

Two disciples are on the road to Emmaus:

Initially their eyes were kept from recognising Jesus vv.13-16

But in vv.29-31 their eyes were opened and they recognised him

And as a consequence they believe, together with the other disciples, that the Lord has risen indeed

This journey theme is developed by way of 3 sets of opposites:

The first is in the tense conversation between Jesus, who enquires about the disciples conversation v.17, and Cleopas who rebukes him for not knowing what has been going on in Jerusalem these past few days

The irony is that Cleopas and his companion (perhaps his wife) accuse Jesus of not knowing what happened in Jerusalem, and assume that they themselves *do* know

So the first thing that prevents them from knowing Jesus is the false confidence they have in their own knowledge, which is in fact incomplete

So they are sad, because of the crucifixion and the empty tomb, where by now they should be joyful at the resurrection

The second opposition is another problematic exchange, between the two disciples, who try to explain the situation, and Jesus who rebukes them

The problem is that the disciples do not understand the situation they describe – they are to some ignorant Why?

Because they are slow of heart to believe all that the prophets had spoken, and have failed to interpret the events in the light of the scriptures, and the scriptures in the light of these events

Instead of understanding that the Christ should suffer these things and so enter his glory, they view the crucifixion and empty tomb as signs of failure: *we had hoped for a prophet...*

And despite the more positive assessment of the women's account, they still take the report that Jesus is alive as an idle tale, resulting from a dubious vision of angels.

But even when Jesus explains to them the Scriptures, they still do not recognise him

The third set of opposites is that Jesus appears to want to keep going on his journey, whereas, in fact, he stays with the disciples

The text says that Jesus *appeared* to want to go on

In other words, this was the disciples perception of what Jesus intended

But it performs the role of clarifying for us Jesus' will, namely to stay on with the disciples

Even though their misunderstanding leads them to constrain him to stay with them

But note their concern for this stranger: shelter, food and indeed offering him the seat of honour at table, from which he then offers the blessing and breaks the bread – and then their eyes are opened!

We too are on a journey forced upon us by the pandemic

The internet contains plenty of examples of strange interpretations of what is going on.

Authorities: medical, political, educational, economic, Church and others are struggling to understand what is going on, and what does the future hold for us.

Unforeseen consequences, but ones of hope and challenge, are seen in the clear skies being recorded above what usually are polluted cities.

I went for a flu shot during the week, and the doctor reminded me that I belonged to a group at serious risk from the corona virus.

We are being forced to confront our own fragility, in our journeys through life.

May our eyes be opened through what we are now experiencing, and in the words of the opening prayer at today's Mass, may we look forward with confident hope, as we continue to look after one another, with all the restrictions we now live under.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen



MEETINGS

All meetings including Parish Council and Finance Committee meetings are suspended until further notice.

PARISH FUNDS

We have had a few people enquiring about financially supporting our parish. We still have to pay ongoing invoices for the parish so we would really appreciate your support if you are able to help out please contact the office on 9653 2312.

Our Bank details: Arcadia Catholic Parish
BSB: 062784
Account: 14468001

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project compassion boxes are available for you to take home. Payments can be paid online or over the phone or by cheque. Here is a story of how your contribution is helping:

Twenty-seven-year-old Phany was a struggling farmer and was forced to leave her daughter to take up construction work in the city. Her life has been transformed since joining Caritas supported program, learning crop growing skills and better water management, to combat drought.

CATECHIST NEWS

How the world changes! This week would usually be the start of Term 2, but life is far from usual at the moment. As schools and parents decide how to go about learning from home or returning to school, the Department of Education has approved the continuation of SRE (Scripture) classes during the COVID-19 period via a Learning from Home model. Our Diocesan CCD team have been working hard to adapt lessons into PowerPoint format so that they can be delivered online. Schools will be able to share a link to the lessons on our diocesan website so that students and families can easily access these lessons at home.

While Catechists cannot be involved in the lesson delivery at this time, we will continue praying for all our children and their families, allowing space for the Holy Spirit to work in the students' lives.

Let us all keep our parish and community in our prayers at this time.

God bless, Miriam Brown 9652 0558

FETE CANCELLED

The Raffle will still be drawn on **Sunday 3rd May** and winners will be contacted.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1st prize | One week in 3 bedroom apartment opposite beach at Hawkes Nest |
| 2nd prize | Calf from Monastery herd |
| 3rd prize | Bike |
| 4th prize | PlayStation 4 |

For any questions please contact Robin 0405 482 222

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards:

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards: Leadership, monitoring & Improvement.

Standard 9 – The Parish regularly reviews and improves systems for keeping children safe

Key Elements of Standard 9:

- ◆ Regularly reviews and improves practices
- ◆ Analyses concerns and Complaints to identify causes and potential system failures
- ◆ Reports of the findings of relevant reviews

If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help.

These people in our Parish can help:

Fr Bernard 0416 032 497
Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882

Or contact the **Office for Safeguarding on 8379 1605**

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers - all our dearly beloved who have died.

We welcome into God's family - to all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish, our country and throughout the world.

Gospel reading for this Week Third Sunday of Easter - Year A

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 24:13-35

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened.

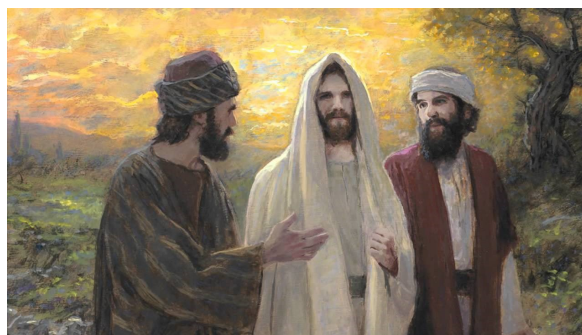
Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leader handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them.

Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Parish Office:	9653 2312	Office Hours:	Mondays & Fridays 10.30am to 3pm
Parish Priest:	Fr. Bernard McGrath osb	Monastery:	9653 1159
After hours:	0416 032 497	Email:	arcadia.parish@bigpond.com
Good Samaritan Sisters:	9653 1231	Website:	www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook:	stbenedictsarcadia		

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters
please contact Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.

Gospel reading for next Week
Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year A

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John 10:1-10

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

Are thieves and brigands;

But the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

He will go freely in and out

And be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

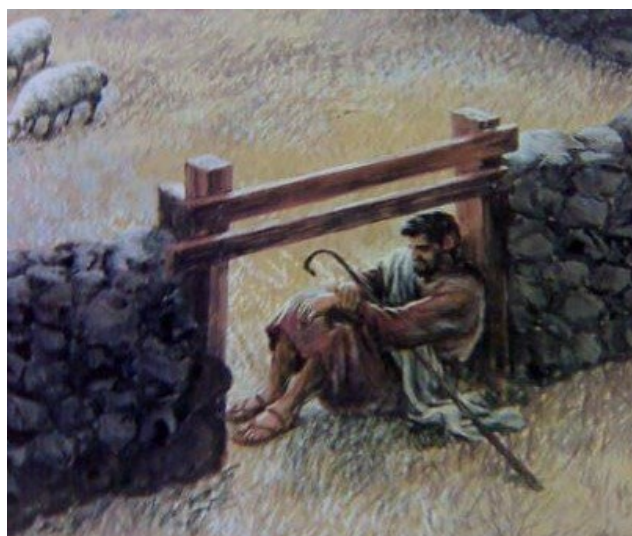
Only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

So that they may have life

And have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.





Monday 20 April 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In July 2019, the Diocese farewelled Mr Peter Hamill as the Director of Schools for the Catholic Schools Office. Peter left the Diocese to take up an important role as the Deputy Director of the National Catholic Education Commission. Since that time Dr Tony Bracken, Assistant Director - School Improvement, generously agreed to temporarily assume the role of Acting Director.

Amidst these challenging times for our Catholic education, it is clear to me that our Catholic Schools Office is in need of additional support and resources. With this in mind, I am delighted to announce that Mr Danny Casey has been appointed to the role of Interim Director of Schools for the next 12 months, effective as from Monday 20 April 2020. Mr Casey's appointment will allow Dr Bracken to return to his previous role and continue the important work of ensuring that our schools provide the very best in quality Catholic education for our children. Dr Bracken remains a key advisor to me and he will collaborate closely with Mr Casey in this regard. Within the next twelve months I will recruit for the permanent position of Director of Schools. Please be assured of my personal commitment and priority in ensuring the provision of quality Catholic education for the young people of our Diocese.

An active member of St Agatha's Parish, Pennant Hills, many of you will know Mr Casey from when he was the Chief Executive Officer for the 23rd World Youth Day held in Sydney in 2008. During that time, he successfully navigated the enormous challenges which come with managing an event that attracted more than 400,000 young people and had a worldwide audience of more than 1.4 billion. Mr Casey was also previously the Business Manager for the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. After leaving the Sydney Archdiocese, Mr Casey spent more than two years as Director of the Secretariat for the Economy for Vatican City. Since returning from Rome, he has taken up various board and consulting appointments in the Catholic sector. Mr Casey brings with him significant academic and professional achievements. I have included a letter from him to you as part of my announcement and an introduction to him.

I take this opportunity to thank Dr Bracken most sincerely for his leadership during the past eight months. He has provided much needed stability and guidance to the CSO and all his colleagues during this time of transition and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. He has worked tirelessly and faithfully throughout, and I am most appreciative and sincerely very grateful.

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY
PO Box 340, Pennant Hills NSW 1715, Australia P +612 8379 1614 E bishop@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au



Please join me in welcoming Mr Casey as the Interim Director of Schools, a key addition to the CSO leadership team.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Anthony Randazzo

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD, JCL
Bishop of Broken Bay

FAMILY PRAYER

WEEK BY WEEK

Third Sunday of Easter - Year A

26 April 2020



"They recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread."

Something to Think About

The disciples in today's story don't recognise Jesus at first - even when he is walking beside them. We need to recognise Jesus in all people in our daily activities, in our family, friends, and even those people we don't know very well. Let's give a joyful welcome to those we meet each day!

The Story

This is a post-resurrection story from Luke's gospel. The disciples are disillusioned and disappointed because Jesus died on a cross, was buried in a tomb, and now his body is missing and they have been told 'he is risen from the dead'. Into this gloom walks Jesus, who walks with the two disciples along the road to Emmaus but the disciples do not recognise him.

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

24:14-16, 28-31

As two of Jesus' disciples were talking and thinking about what had happened, Jesus came near and started walking along beside them.

But they did not know who he was.

When the two of them came near the village where they were going,

Jesus seemed to be going farther. They begged him,

"Stay with us! It's already late, and the sun is going down."

So Jesus went into the house to stay with them.

After Jesus sat down to eat, he took some bread.

He blessed it and broke it. Then he gave it to them.

At once they knew who he was, but he disappeared.

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

Video

Click to watch the video:

[Jesus Appears on the Road to Emmaus](#)



THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Bedtime Prayer



Family Discussion

How do you think the two disciples felt as they left Jerusalem? Why do you think they did not recognise Jesus? When they realised they had been speaking with Jesus, what did they do?

Jesus shows us how to welcome the stranger – those who are different, those we do not like as much as some others. We need to recognise Jesus in all people in our daily lives. How do we welcome those who are on the outside of our group?

Family Activity

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, sometimes OUR eyes are not looking at things properly. Put on special imaginary glasses to see the world the way God sees it. You can find a printable template to make some crazy glasses by clicking [here](#).

Picture yourselves in different scenarios with your new vision. How should you act with someone who is in a grumpy mood? When someone accidentally knocks over something you have been using? When somebody gives the wrong answer to a question? When one of your friends hurts themselves? When somebody you do not get on with gets hurt?



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Contemporary English Version of Scripture extracts provided under licence from ICEL to Liturgy Brisbane.



**" AFTER JESUS SAT DOWN TO
EAT, HE TOOK SOME BREAD.
HE BLESSED IT AND BROKE IT.
THEN HE GAVE IT TO THEM.
AND AT ONCE THEY KNEW
WHO HE WAS..."**

Find six differences in this picture of
Jesus at supper with the disciples in
Emmaus.



Jesus' halo is gold. A piece of bread is missing from the plate.
The man on the left has blue eyes. His headband is different.
The man on the right has a red headband and a gold bracelet.



WELCOME TO THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Let us acknowledge Christ in our lives and the beautiful gift of faith we have been given through the power of the Holy Spirit and through Jesus' life, death and resurrection, that we may believe and live a life according to his plan and will. We, like St Peter Chanel, are missionaries, called to take the faith to others, that they may encounter and come to know the Risen Christ, and so that when we meet him on the road, our eyes are open, and we are able to recognise him always as he accompanies us.



GOSPEL READING: LUKE 24:31

"And their eyes were opened, and they recognised Him"

Read the full text at

<https://www.universalis.com/Australia/mass.htm>

REFLECTION:

"Jesus wanted the Emmaus disciples to see for themselves that God had not lost control of His Creation, even in the disaster they had recently experienced"

<https://catholicexchange.com/scripture-speaks-road-emmaus>



PRAYER:

Lord, as we walk down the journey of life, we ask that you would be our constant companion, particularly on those days when we are disheartened or when we have strayed off your path.

When we are downcast, we ask that you lift our spirits. When we are confused, we ask that you enlighten our minds. When we are disappointed, we ask that you give us hope. **Amen**

<http://catholicotdish.com/the-pastors-page/emmaus-prayer/>



SAINT:

28-April St Peter Chanel - priest, missionary and martyr, was passionate about sharing the Good News and travelled to various countries including Tonga, Canary Islands, Chile, India, to proclaim the Risen Christ. After serving the people on the small island of Futuna in the South Pacific, Peter Chanel was murdered by order of the king, due to fear and jealousy. Within a few years of Peter Chanel's death, the entire island converted to Christianity.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Heart to Heart - Stepping Stones:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0qehAW00imU>

The Good Oil - Article:

<https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/so-this-is-easter-a-moment-in-history-a-moment-like-none-other/>

SONG:

Be Thou My Vision - Audrey Assad:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optm7iF16s>

THIS WEEK:

Make an examination of conscience each day, recognising Jesus' presence throughout your day.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES:

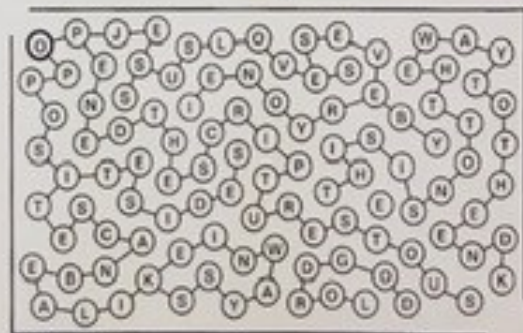
Road to Emmaus video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34zqp750suM>

Who Is Jesus? - Catholic Central
<https://www.catholiccentral.com/catholic-central-episodes/wholisjesus>



Oliver and a companion were walking along the road to Emmaus when Jesus joined them. They didn't recognise him until he revealed himself after the evening meal. Then he disappeared. What was the man's comment afterwards?

The path of circles below will lead you to the answer. Follow the correct path to the end and record all the letters in the spaces provided.



"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and..."

https://freesundayschoolcurriculum.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/5/0/12503916/lesson_74_jesus_walks_with_two_friends.pdf

MORE RESOURCES AT:
bbcatholic.org.au/connected



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DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY