

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



ALL SAINTS DAY

November 1

ALL SOULS DAY

November 2

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



THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY) YEAR C

1 & 2 NOVEMBER 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

OPENING PRAYER

Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord,
and, as our faith in your Son,
raised from the dead, is deepened,
so may our hope of resurrection for your departed
servants also find new strength.

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: COMPASSION

Luke 7:11-17 - When I read this passage, I see how
deeply Jesus cares for those who suffer. His compassion
for the widow reminds me that God notices my pain too. In
moments when I feel helpless or when something in my
life feels "dead," Jesus speaks the same words to me:
"Arise." I'm invited to trust that His mercy can bring new
life and hope, even in the darkest places.

1. When have I felt like the widow—alone or without hope?
2. Do I believe that Jesus truly sees and cares about my suffering?
3. What part of my life do I need to let Jesus touch and bring back to life?
4. How can I show compassion to others as Jesus did?
5. Do I take time to thank God when He restores hope and joy in my life?

Life Restored

Prayer:

**Lord Jesus, You see my pain and hear my silent cries.
Touch the places in my heart that feel lifeless and
speak Your word of life over them. Help me to trust in
Your compassion and to share that same love with
others. Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord God will destroy death for ever.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord God will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



*"The Lord God will wipe away the
tears from every cheek"*
~Isaiah 25:8

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Romans 5:5-11 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Having been justified by his blood, we will be saved from God's anger through him.

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,
and that I should raise it up on the last day.
Alleluia!

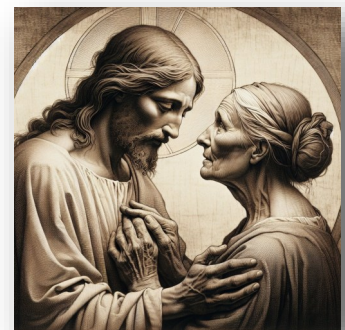
GOSPEL Luke 7:11-17 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Young man, I say to you, get up.

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up'. And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people'. And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

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



*"God has visited His
people"*
~Luke 7:17

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Readings: Isaiah 25:6–9 | Psalm 22 | Romans 5:5–11 | Luke 7:11–17

The readings this Sunday remind us of God's deep compassion and saving love.

In Isaiah, we hear the promise of a feast where God will "wipe away every tear" and destroy death forever. The Psalm echoes trust in the Lord, our shepherd, who leads us through the darkest valleys. In Romans, St Paul reminds us that God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit — Christ died for us even while we were still sinners.

In the Gospel, Jesus meets a grieving widow and, moved with mercy, restores her son to life. This powerful act reveals God's heart — a love that conquers sorrow, restores life, and brings hope where there is despair. Just as Jesus told the young man, "*Arise!*", He calls each of us to rise from fear, grief, or sin into the fullness of life with Him.

Key Thought

God's compassion has the power to turn mourning into joy and death into new life.

Take-Home Challenge

Be attentive to someone who is struggling or feeling lost this week.

Offer them kindness, a listening ear, or a prayer — let Christ's compassion flow through you to bring them hope.

Prayer

Loving Jesus, You are the Lord of life and compassion. Touch the places in my heart that feel weary or lifeless, and speak Your word of renewal. Help me to be an instrument of Your mercy to others, so that through my love, they may see Your face. Amen.

Source: chatgpt.com

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

November 2025

- Monday 3: Rom 11:19-36. Lk 14:12-14.
R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.
St Martin de Porres, religious
- Tuesday 4: Rom 12:5-16. Lk 14:15-24.
R. In you, Lord, I have found peace.
St Charles Borromeo, bishop.
ANGLICAN-ROMAN CATHOLIC RECONCILIATION
- Wednesday 5: Rom 13:8-10. Lk 14:25-33.
R. Happy the merciful who give to those in need.
- Thursday 6: Rom 14:7-12. Lk 15:1-10.
R. I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Friday 7: Rom 15:14-21. Lk 16:1-8.
R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.
- Saturday 8: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27. Lk 16:9-15.
R. I will praise your name for ever, Lord.



St Charles Borromeo

St Charles Borromeo, faithful shepherd and servant of God, guide us to live with compassion, humility, and courage.

Help us to care for others with a generous heart and to grow each day in holiness and love.

St Charles Borromeo, pray for us.



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for November 2025:

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION AND RENEWAL DAY

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia on Sunday, 16th November 2025.

Arrival from 10am for 10:30am start. No charge, donations welcomed.

Registration on the day, please bring your own picnic lunch, Tea and coffee

provided. Books available for purchase. Presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, periods of Meditation, Midday Prayer with the monks. Mass at 2pm. Conclusion at 3pm.

General enquires: Ann Lomas 0437 340 250

ALL SOULS' DAY PRAYER

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of November, we will be praying the Rosary for all the dearly departed after the 9.30am weekday Masses.

A Book of the Dead will be kept in the Church near the lectern, where parishioners are warmly invited to write the names of their loved ones.

These intentions will be remembered in our prayers throughout the month.

NEW ROSTER

The next roster is now available for collection in the Sacristy. Please pick up the copy with your name on it.

Thank you for your continued service and dedication!

HEALING MASS

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

The next Healing Mass will be on Thursday November 6.



2025 WORKSHOPS



5 NOVEMBER 2025
7:30- 9:30PM

\$15 /PARTICIPANT
RSVP BY 2 NOV



3 DECEMBER 2025
7:30- 9:30PM

\$15 /PARTICIPANT
RSVP BY 30 NOV

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH MEETING ROOM
2 FAGANS RD, ARCADIA

RSVP

Create.Share.Encounter
A Creative Women's Ministry

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

PARISH FINANCE MEETING

Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7.15pm
In the parish meeting room.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 7.15pm
In the parish meeting room.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

Visit Our Parish Piety Shop!

Get ready for the season of **Advent!**

New Advent stock is arriving soon — including Advent calendars, Advent puzzles, and Advent candles to help you prepare your heart and home for Christmas.

Christmas cards will also be available in store soon! Come visit the Piety Shop and take a look at the beautiful new items to support your Advent journey.

In Our Parish

(please let us know if you would like someone added here)

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

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially *Vincent Bacha, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.*

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died:

Maria Pappallardo, Shannon Murray, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana ~ May they rest in Peace.



PASTORAL WORKS COLLECTION



Together, we bring hope and healing across our Diocese - Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) November Appeal

The Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) November Appeal begins this weekend, 1–2 November 2025.

Through your generous support, PWBB helps fund vital ministries and programs across our Diocese — including **hospital chaplaincy, CatholicCare assistance, faith education for children in public schools.**

Your gift makes a difference in the lives of people who turn to the Church in times of need — and all donations are 100% tax-deductible.

Envelopes can be found in the pews or at both entrance of the church and Monastery.

Let us continue to work together — in faith and generosity — to bring Christ's love to all.

ST BENEDICT'S PAX YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

LAUNCH NIGHT!

We're excited to announce the first **Young Adults Youth Group for ages 18-25**, kicking off on:

**Sunday the 9th of November
6pm at St Benedict's Parish!**

Join us for an Induction Night - a relaxed evening to meet everyone, share ideas, and help shape the future of our young adults community.

If you'd like to attend or get involved, please contact Amy of Natalia to be added to our WhatsApp group chat and follow our social media for updates and event info. Come along, bring a friend, and be part of something new!

Contact :
Amy - 0459 930 117 Natalia - 0400 872 697
Instagram : @stbenedictsyouth

CATHECHISTS' NEWS

The Spirituality of the Catechist by Michael Tebbutt concludes "**Devotion to Mary.** Mary is a perfect model for a catechist. In the Gospel, there are moments where Mary ponders on what she has heard. At the presentation of Jesus in the temple, she ponders on what Simeon warns her. By pondering events in which we are involved we can see the hand of God at work. Mary's advice for us was spoken at the Wedding Feast in Cana. She said: 'Do whatever he tells you.'

As catechists looking to deepen our spirituality, we could do no better than taking Jesus as our guide in our teaching of the children and pondering events in our lives to see the action of the Father as Mary does each time she is mentioned in the Gospel. Finally, we must follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit."

Free training continues for all Catechists provided by the CCD –

- Ministry Induction training for Provisional Catechists Monday 3rd November from 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Lesson Planning: Teaching the Authorised Curriculum".

- RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Please keep our parish Catechists, and the students that they teach, in prayer. If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a Catechist or helper, please contact myself or the parish office or one of our priests.

God bless,
Miriam Brown
srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Join the fun! Ages 8–12 years

Our Kids Youth Group is back on Friday, 24th October 2025!

A wonderful opportunity for children to grow in faith, make friends, and enjoy fun activities in a safe and welcoming environment.

A big thank you to Gabe & Jules for helping make this possible!

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP



Every Monday 2.00pm.
Everyone 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.

CRAFT GROUP

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!



FEAST OF THE WEEK

ALL SOULS' DAY

Feast Day: November 2

On All Souls' Day, we turn our eyes from those who are in heaven to those who have gone before us in death before being purified of every venial sin and all of sin's effects. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains it this way: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned." (#1030–31).

All Souls' Day first calls us to pray for those who have died and are being purified in preparation for their entrance into the Beatific Vision. By praying for those in Purgatory, we are assured that God lavishes upon them all that they need for their souls' purification. The Mass, and our participation in it, is the ideal way to open the floodgates of mercy for our loved ones who have died and remain unperfected. Our well-intentioned, but erroneous, Western belief that good people go to heaven immediately after death, or become angels, leaves many souls unprayed for. Those souls depend on our prayers because God wants us to pray for them and lovingly share in their purification.

All Souls' Day's second focus is upon our own souls. The commemoration reminds us of the importance of our ongoing conversion. We are called to be saints. Becoming a saint requires everything from us. It means that we diligently seek out and annihilate every sinful attachment within our souls. We seek God's mercy, confess our sins, receive forgiveness, and change our lives.

To understand Purgatory, we can study the teachings of Saints John of the Cross and Teresa of Ávila. These two Doctors of the Church wrote extensively about the process a soul goes through on its way to divine union with God. Saint Teresa describes a series of seven interior dwelling places through which a person must travel, each one requiring a deeper level of purification, culminating with the soul entering the innermost dwelling place, where divine union takes place and the soul is fully purified. Only souls who die in the state of divine union will avoid Purgatory's purification.

Saint John of the Cross wrote of the same process, using different terminology. He described two purifications a soul goes through on the journey toward perfection. The first is the dark night of the senses, by which every bodily sense and appetite is purified. The second is the dark night of the spirit, by which the intellect, memory, and will are fully purified by an infusion of faith, hope, and charity. The soul then enters mystical marriage, the same as Saint Teresa's seventh dwelling place.

The reason for this very broad overview is to emphasize that perfection is a long and difficult process, but a necessary one that must take place either in this life or in the next. Personal sanctity must become our first, and exclusive, mission in life. When personal sanctity is our exclusive mission, every other part of our lives falls into place. Virtues grow, love for family and friends increases, duties are perfectly fulfilled, and God is fully glorified.

Most Holy Trinity, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the angels and saints, I beg for an outpouring of Your Divine Mercy upon every poor soul in Purgatory. Cleanse them all, especially my family and friends who have died, and bring them into the full beauty and splendor of Your presence. Please pour Your mercy down upon my poor soul. Free me from every sin and every attachment to sin. Increase my virtue, and draw me into union with You, my God. Angels and saints of God, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You.



SAVE THE DATE!

St Benedict's Country Fete

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Mark your calendars and get ready!
Our much-loved St Benedict's Country Fete will return next year—bigger, brighter, and full of fun for the whole family.

There will be stalls, games, food, entertainment, raffles, and plenty of parish spirit to enjoy.

This is one of the highlights of our parish year, and we can't wait to welcome parishioners, families, and friends from near and far. Stay tuned for more details—and start spreading the word!

Together, let's make this fete a joyful celebration of community and faith!

ST BENEDICT'S COUNTRY FETE

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED!

Our **Parish Fete** is coming up soon in March next year, and we need your help to make it a great success!

Volunteers Needed:

We're looking for enthusiastic helpers to assist at various stalls on the day. If you can lend a hand, please contact **Tania Tassone, Fete Coordinator**, on **0401 597 278**. Your time and support will make a big difference!

Donations Welcome:

We're also seeking **donations of prizes** for the **raffle** and **chocolate wheel**.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Only **brand new**, quality gifts will be accepted.
- **No second-hand items or books**, please.
- Think of prizes people would love to win — **homewares, hampers, toys, gift cards, beauty items, etc.**

Your generosity and support help make our fete a joyful community celebration. Thank you for your kindness and participation!

Catholic Vocations Broken Bay
Young Adult Event

ENCOUNTER

Holy Hour, Dinner & Fun!

Please join us for our end of year gathering on
Friday 14th November, 7pm

at
St Agatha's Church
Trebtor Road, Pennant Hills



RSVP: 10th November to
vocations@bbcatholic.org.au
or 0448 741 392

ABORIGINAL DESERT ART ART EXHIBITION

ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY
121 Arcadia Road, ARCADIA
9am to 5pm Sunday 9th November 2025

A free public lecture 'Tingari: Sacred Secrets in
Aboriginal Desert Art'
Will be presented at 2-3pm - All welcome!

ST BENEDICT'S RADIATE TEENS YOUTH GROUP

"Let your light shine"

Calling all teens aged 13 to 18!

Our parish is excited to launch RADIATE, a youth group designed for fun, friendship, and faith. This is a space where young people can come together to grow closer to God, learn more about their faith, and enjoy social activities in a supportive and welcoming environment.

Next Meeting: Friday, 7 November
After the 7pm Mass until 9pm.

Location: St Benedict's Parish Hall

Who Can Join: All teens aged 13–18 (high schoolers)

Bring your friends and get ready for engaging activities, games, discussions, and a chance to make new friends!

Contact: Sophia – 0432 605 054
for more information.

Come and let your light shine!

Parish Roster

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS**

**NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER
8/11/2025 to 11/11/2025
DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA -
YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Sr Carol T	Gabrielle W	Gabrielle W
Reader2	Mary C	Ann L	Leanne A
Prayers	Natasha S	Matt W	Mirko J
TV		Jules O	Leon J
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Theresa N
Music		John T	Martina J
Music			
Morning Tea		Mary A	
FLOWERS	Tania T		



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

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

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM UPDATE



NEXT NEW SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS - mid 2026

For any queries please email the parish office:
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
FATHER BERNARD!**
October 30th



Wishing you a blessed and joyful birthday.
May God continue to bless your ministry
and fill your days with peace, love, and
happiness.



DID YOU KNOW...

The Catholic Church teaches that every human life is sacred, from conception to natural death.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm
(School holidays only open Fridays)

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



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