

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



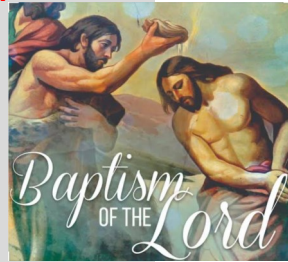
To desire eternal life with all spiritual longing.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

Church Attendance:
*One person per 4sqm,
maximum 100 people.*

Masks must be worn

*Please use QR CODE provided or
write your name and phone number when you
enter Church after sanitizing and wearing a mask.
Contact Paula on 0423 078 282.*



PARISH MASSES

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession
First Friday of the month 6.30pm Adoration

MONASTERY CHAPEL Mass

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Fr Bernard: 0416 032 497

Baptism of the Lord Year B

9 & 10 January 2021

Entrance Antiphon

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened,
and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
*Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well
pleased.*

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-6

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-9

A reading from the first letter of St John
The Spirit, the water and the blood give witness.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:
This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:7-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Communion Antiphon

Behold the One of whom John said:
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Gospel reading for this Week**Mark 1:7-11**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit'.

It was this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Jerusalem Bible translation of Scripture is used in the Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). Acknowledgement: The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. Liturgia Copyright 2020

GOSPEL REFLECTION**Mark 1:7-11**

Why was Jesus baptized by John? The immersion of Jesus in the Jordan revealed his place, his power, and his mission. Since his baptism was witnessed by John's audience, sinners, his place was with the sin-filled, his power was for the sinner, and his mission was to the sinner. Jesus came to save the lost. So, he began his ministry in an act of solidarity with the lost.

His baptism colored the rest of his life. It foreshadowed his ministry as the "Suffering Servant" (see Isaiah 53). Being counted with sinners in baptism, he would die as a sinner. As he rose from the water, he would rise from the grave.

If we were to really answer the question of Jesus' baptism, however, we could sum it up in one word: Spirit. Jesus' baptism released God's Spirit in a new way. No longer was God's Spirit reserved for the few he chose. Through Jesus, the Spirit would be offered to all.

When we were baptized, God offered us the same revelation he made to Jesus: a flood of his very life, his indwelling Spirit, and the status of beloved and well-pleasing child.

Have you had any moments of clarity about your relationship with God? What moments of grace have you experienced? How have these moments changed you? How did those moments affirm your baptism and your life as a Christian?

While our moments of focus come in a private manner, our moment of revelation, baptism, is public. While it may not have been an overwhelming experience (indeed, we may not have even remembered it), baptism does loom over us as a turning point. God offered us the same relationship he had with Jesus. He gave us (and continues to give us) a choice for the Spirit and for divine childhood. The baptism of Jesus is our template.

The choice for baptism means to act as God's child. How can you act as His child? Choose one or two ways for this coming week.

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

16/1/21 to 17/1/21 – 2nd Sunday Ord. Time Year B

	7.00 p.m.	9.00 a.m.
Acolyte	Need help	Paul El-Chaar
Reader1	Miriam Brown	Karen DeSouza
Reader2	Maria Gambino	Helen Facione
Prayers	Mary Camilleri	Gebran Azzi
TV		
Music		Karen Takchi
Music		Takchi Family

The Roster is now available in the sacristy. Please pick up your copy.

A THANK YOU FROM VINNIES

As you will remember, COVID restrictions made it difficult for your Conference members to pack the usual Christmas hampers in 2020. Instead, we used your financial donations to purchase gift vouchers that could be redeemed for groceries and for clothing and gave these vouchers to our clients, with a Christmas card. We had just over \$1000 in donations left over and we have passed this money on to be used by needy Vinnies clients in the wider Sydney area.

Interestingly, our clients were most delighted with the gift vouchers for clothing. Many of you will understand how good buying some new clothes can make you feel!

FRESH FLOWERS

Thank you for the volunteers bringing in the fresh flowers for our altar. If anyone can bring **fresh** flowers from their garden for the Church altar it would be greatly appreciated. Vases are available in the kitchen.



Please remember there are no flowers on the altar during Lent until Easter Day. However, small plants or simple bunches made up of leaves and branches are permissible during Lent. God bless you!

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every Friday night after 7pm Mass, and Wednesday mornings after 9.30am Mass. Everyone welcome. For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CATECHIST NEWS

Wishing all our Catechists and families a very happy new year and a safe and restful holiday season.

God bless,
Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

PARISH SWEETS STALL

Since the Christmas stall was so successful, Lila Bacha has decided to do a sweets, cakes and biscuits stall every month, 50% of all sales will be donated to the parish. Any donations of money or items for sale will be 100% to the parish.



First stall date: Weekend of the **5th to the 7th February 2021** (after Mass on Friday 7pm, Saturday 7pm, Sunday 7am Chapel, 9am and 10.30am, and 4.30pm Latin Mass.)

Please feel free to bring items for sale to help the parish.

For any queries or donations please call Lila Bacha on 96521113 or 0418360024.

BIBLE IN A YEAR with Fr Mike Schmitz

If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you.

Ascension's *Bible in a Year* Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting January 1st, 2021.

Each 20-25 minute episode includes:

- two to **three scripture readings**
- a **reflection** from Fr. Mike Schmitz and **guided prayer** to help you **hear God's voice in his Word**.

Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's *Bible in a Year* Podcast for Catholics follows a reading plan inspired by the Great Adventure *Bible Timeline*® learning system, a **groundbreaking approach to understanding Salvation History** developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins.

Tune in and live your daily life through the lens of God's word!

Subscribe here:
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome. For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.

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.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor,

c. 310–c. 367

Feast Day: January 13

Patron Saint of lawyers



Today's saint was born a pagan, to pagans, in a pagan city. But his broad and deep education brought him into contact with Holy Scripture, where he found the truth he did not know he was seeking. He became a Catholic through reading. He was to then spend his adult life defending Catholic truth with his pen. The convert converted others and preserved the orthodoxy of the Nicene Creed against the Arian heresy. Saint Athanasius called St. Hilary a "trumpet" of orthodoxy against theological error.

St. Hilary was elected the Bishop of Poitiers, France, about 350. His learning and intelligence inevitably placed him at the center of the violent theological battles of the fourth century. The Council of Nicea of 325 had left some theological definitions open to incorrect interpretation. A man named Arius caused immense confusion by just such misinterpretation. Arius argued that the words of the Nicene Creed meant that Jesus was less than God the Father, had a beginning in time, and was of like substance to the Father instead of the same substance. Saint Hilary was the first theologian from Western Europe, as opposed to the more theologically mature theologians from Egypt, Turkey, and the Middle East, to see what a grave threat the Arian heresy truly was.

St. Hilary spent the better part of his adult life studying, writing, speaking, and arguing to ensure that the Nicene Creed was understood and adhered to throughout the Church. He was even sent into exile by the Emperor for not conforming his views to Arian teachings. But he used his time in exile to read and write extensively, eventually becoming such a thorn in the side of the Emperor that he restored St. Hilary to his diocese. Saint Hilary went on to attend various synods of bishops in an effort to maintain the truth of the Nicene Creed against determined opposition at the highest levels.

The life of St. Hilary proves that good theology matters. Bad theology easily leads to bad worship, bad morality, and the decline of true Christian community. To disrupt or correct bad theology is to disrupt or correct bad community. And it is sometimes the obligation of the Church to break up false ideas of the church, of marriage, of family, of government, etc... When certain things are built up, their opposites inevitably are broken up. Saint Hilary knew all of this. He knew that bad theology was not just bad in and of itself but that it also had negative repercussions in the lived reality of the Church. When St. Hilary defended theological truth, he defended many other truths too.

St. Hilary, through reading and study you came to love the truths of the Catholic faith. Your love then showed itself in your willingness to suffer for that truth. Help us to know, love, and serve God by knowing, loving, and serving the instrument of His truth on earth—the Catholic Church. AMEN.

COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

**Please use QR CODE or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at both entries.
Please adhere to social distancing guidelines of 4sqms and sanitize your hands at the door.
Also wipe seats down afterwards with wipes provided at both entries.**

**MASKS MUST BE WORN.
IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS,
PLEASE STAY HOME, ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.**

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.

Office Hours: Mondays 10.30am to 2.30pm

Fridays 10am to 3pm

Parish Office: 9653 2312

Parish Priest: Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB

After hours: 0416 032 497

Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

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

**Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd,
Arcadia 2159**

Monastery: 9653 1159

Good Samaritan Sisters: 9653 1231

Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

**For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and
Safeguarding Children matters**

Contact: Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 1446 8001