

# St Benedict's Parish

## Arcadia



To prefer nothing to the love of Christ.  
*Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*

### COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

**Church Attendance:**  
**One person per 4sqm,**  
**maximum 150 people.**

**Masks are strongly**  
**recommended by the Bishop.**

**ONLINE Booking:**  
<https://www.trybooking.com/BJSGK>  
**Or call Paula on 0423 078 282**



## Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe Year A

21 & 22 November 2020

### Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and divinity,  
and wisdom and strength and honour.  
To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

### First Reading

*Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel  
*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 22:1-3, 5-6*

**R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father,  
so that God may be all in all.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

*Matthew 25:31-46*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*He will take his seat on his throne of glory,  
and he will separate men one from another.*

### Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever.  
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

### 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**

**Gospel reading for this Week****Matthew 25:31-46**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

I Needed Clothes And You  
Clothed Me, I Was Sick  
And You Looked After Me,  
I Was In Prison And You  
Came To Visit Me.'

Matthew 25-36

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****Matthew 25:31-46**

The Final Judgment is just that, final judgment. We better get it right. There's no excuse; the rules are clear and simple. Those who do good deeds in their lives will be rewarded by being invited into the Kingdom of heaven, but those who fail to do good will be condemned. These good deeds are far from mysterious: **feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving shelter to the homeless, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and giving drink to the thirsty.** According to Matthew, all humanity will be judged; acts of kindness performed for the poor and suffering will be the focal point of the Final Judgment. Those who will be rewarded with eternal life are those who have responded to those in need.

Our commitment to the poor is part of our profession of faith in Jesus Christ. When we encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, we encounter those whom he loves the most: the poor, the disadvantaged. We will never know Jesus if we cannot recognize him in the poor of our world.

The hope of every Catholic who gathers for the Eucharist is that Jesus will come to us in his body and blood on the altar. It is the Eucharist that provides spiritual nourishment as well as an antidote to death. The Eucharist makes it possible to live forever in Jesus, to enter the Kingdom of heaven.

Faith demands every aspect of our lives: our minds, hearts, and daily activity. How have you exercised faith lately? How has the exercise of faith made you more empathetic and compassionate to others in need?

*God gives us a clear choice. Do we hear his call, as the sheep hear the shepherd? Or, do we stand fast like the stubborn goats?*

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## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

**c. Late third–early fourth centuries**  
**Feast Day: November 25**

**Patron Saint of philosophers, apologists, and all who work with *wheels***

Devotion to Saint Catherine began in the late first millennium among the Orthodox. Her cult migrated to the West with the crusading knights when they returned from the Holy Land in the twelfth century.

Devotion to Saint Catherine exploded in popularity throughout the High Middle Ages until she was one of the most commonly invoked saints in all of Europe. Even a college at England's Cambridge University was established in Catherine's honor in 1473.

It is said that Catherine was a beautiful young woman from a noble Alexandrian family who had a miraculous conversion to Christianity, compelling her to make a vow of virginity. Her erudition and persuasive gifts convinced fifty of the Emperor's most able philosophers of the truth of Christianity. Catherine then had further successful forays in converting the Emperor's own household and soldiers. When she rejected the Emperor's romantic entreaties, he sentenced her to be shredded to pieces on a spiked wheel. But Catherine's bindings were miraculously loosened and she survived the ordeal, only to then suffer beheading, thus earning the double crown of both virgin and martyr.

In the summer of 1425, a young French girl named Joan, standing in her parent's garden, gazed into the mist closely enveloping her and saw something. It was Saint Michael the Archangel and two women wearing rich crowns. One of these women was Saint Catherine of Alexandria. Catherine spoke sweetly and softly to young Joan, saying that she would be Joan's counsel, guide, and protector. She even promised to one day lead Joan to paradise. Years later, when Joan acquitted herself well under questioning by theologians, just as Catherine had done when questioned by philosophers, the townspeople said that Joan of Arc was none other than Saint Catherine of Alexandria come down to earth again.

*Saint Catherine of Alexandria, your intelligence and devotion led you to be outspoken for Christ. Intercede on behalf of all Christians, making them fearless in their advocacy for, and defense of, the truths of our faith, even to the point of death.*

## THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

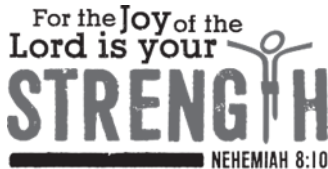
### Chapter 4

*In the first place, to love the Lord God with all one's heart, all one's soul, and all one's strength.  
Then, one's neighbour as oneself.*

## POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2020

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**We pray that the progress of robotics and  
Artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.  
AMEN**



## CATHOLIC MISSION

Next weekend our parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Cambodia, which is reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope and support to live a fulfilling life.

Chen was just 16 years old when he lost both his legs in a landmine accident. Knowing that his life would never be the same, he felt hopeless, until he and his family were approached by the Arrupe Centre. Led by Bishop Enrique Figaredo Alvargonzalez, the Arrupe Centre provides children like Chen with support and opportunities they may not access otherwise.

Next week you will be offered the opportunity to personally partner with the Church in Cambodia as a monthly giving partner, with all gifts specifically directed to support community and child-focused programs in Cambodia. Please come prepared to give generously. You will find envelopes on the pews or just see below:



Freecall: 1800 257 296 [catholicmission.org.au/cambodia](http://catholicmission.org.au/cambodia)

## GIFTS OF FAITH

A Gift of Faith is a Christmas present given in place of a material gift. You can arrange multiple Gifts of Faith for children, grandchildren, godchildren, siblings, cousins, co-workers, friends and parishioners.



Aid to the  
Church in Need  
ACN AUSTRALIA

You choose the gifts and the quantity and we send you the matching cards to distribute. Once you receive your matching cards and envelopes simply complete them and put them under the tree for Christmas!

Will you help us keep the faith alive by giving a Gift of Faith this Christmas? Find out more:

[www.thatcatholicshop.com/giftsoffait](http://www.thatcatholicshop.com/giftsoffait)

## 2021 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

The 2021 Columban Calendars are now available for purchase at the main entrance for \$9 donation each.



2021 Columban Art Calendar

**Please contact parish office if you would like us to add to the below to pray for someone**

**Call 9653 2312 or email: [arcadia.pariah@bigpond.com](mailto:arcadia.pariah@bigpond.com)**

## 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, especially *Sister Clem and Nancy Kazzi.***

## A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS AT VINNIES THIS YEAR

Because of Covid regulations and restrictions, your Conference members will **not** be packing grocery hampers this Christmas. Instead, we hope to give our few clients Gift Vouchers. We will use any money that you place in the **Poor Boxes** at the Church during November/early December to buy these vouchers and send what money is not used on to Vinnies head office, as usual.

If you need a receipt for your donation, please leave the details in an envelope in the box or let Paula at the Parish Office know.

## SISTER CLEMENT'S FUNERAL

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Sister Clement on the 18th of November 2020.

Sr Clement's funeral will be celebrated next Wednesday, the 25th of November, at St. Scholastica's Chapel, Glebe. Attendance is limited because of Covid-19 to the Sisters and Clement's family only.

On Tuesday evening at 7.00pm there will be a Vigil Service in the Parish Church at Arcadia. All are welcome to attend. Bookings can be made by phoning Paula on 0423078282 or book online: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJSJK>

May Clement rest in peace.

Peace  
Fr David Orr

## MASS OF INCLUSION - SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

The annual Mass of Inclusion will be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on Sunday, 6 December 2020 at 11.00am. This Mass marks the International Day of Disability (on 3 December) and recognises the ability and dignity of all.

This year, we encourage all to join via the live stream at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwfl7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ>

Due to the current restrictions, there are very limited places available for people to attend in person. Should you wish to enquire please contact Nicholas Weir at [nicholas.weir@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:nicholas.weir@bbcatholic.org.au) or phone 8379 1632.

## CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the group of volunteers for making time to scrub and polish! If you can spare an hour every month to help clean please join the awesome team of volunteers!

***Many hands makes the load light!***

If you are interested in helping out please call the office on 9653 2312 or just take up a broom and sweep it up.

## 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

Our teaching year is coming to an end! **Final SRE dates** are Glenorie this Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November; Arcadia Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December; Hillside Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December and for Galston and Middle Dural Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Our **Year 6 students** are invited to **9am Mass next Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** to celebrate their final year in primary school. All Year 6 children present at this Mass will be presented with a Bible. If your child is in Year 6 and will be present at this Mass, please let me know, to ensure there are sufficient Bibles.

If you are interested in becoming a Catechist next year or learning more about this special ministry, please give me a call or talk to Fr Bernard or one of our Catechists.

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or [srearcadia@gmail.com](mailto:srearcadia@gmail.com)  
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

## MONKS ON RETREAT

The monks will be on retreat at the Monastery from the evening of Sunday, the 22nd of November till the following Friday evening.

Each day during the week there will only be Mass at 12.00pm each day. There will be no mass at 7.00am or 9.30am weekdays.

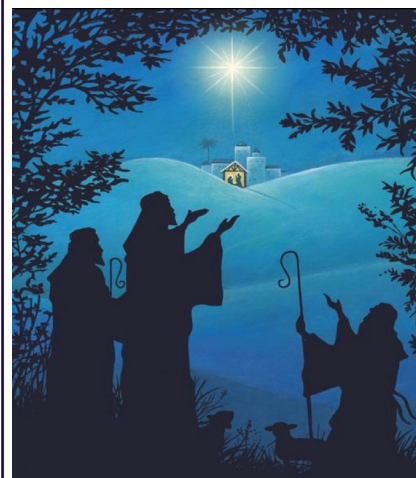
All are welcome to join us for the midday Mass at the Monastery.

Keep us in prayer.  
Fr. David

## VERBUM DEI ADVENT ONLINE RETREAT

We would like to invite you to an online Advent Retreat, "WE LONG TO SEE YOUR FACE", on 28th Nov.

If you are interested please contact Verbum Dei Missionaries (Louise or Maria) on [verbumdeisydney@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdeisydney@gmail.com) or call 0402 452 342 for more information. All welcome!



 verbum dei  
Sydney

ADVENT ONLINE RETREAT

**WE LONG  
TO SEE  
Your face**

**28 NOV 2020**

Saturday | Cost \$30

[verbumdeisydney@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdeisydney@gmail.com)

(02) 9341 5848

## ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo  
Bishop of Broken Bay

Message for BBNeighbourhoods

17 November 2020

## **Vox Populi - The Voice of the People**

*This week we hear from our other Plenary Council Delegate for Broken Bay, **Mr Raj Rajasingam**.*

*Raj is an active parishioner of the Cathedral Parish of Hornsby at which he exercises a range of ministries. He serves as the National Missions Director of Couples for Christ Australia. He has considerable national and international experience in programs of Evangelisation and works extensively in lay formation throughout Australia. He also brings his rich multicultural experience to bear on the matters before the consideration of the Plenary Council.*

### **The courage to share God's Word**

This weekend is the anniversary of the turning point of my faith journey. 20 November happens to be my baptism and confirmation Day.

My parents, both teachers in Christian schools, were practicing Hindus. My sister and I grew up attending temples and saying prayers at home. Though we attended the Christian school, no one approached us to talk about Christ or His love and mercy. Conversion was never mentioned.

It was my classmates in the Methodist high school, who were Anglicans and Methodists, who used to come to my house in the afternoons after school and share bible tracts with me. They would ask me questions and try to explain the Gospels to me.

In 1978, I arrived in Sydney to complete high school and met up with two other Malaysian Chinese Students, who were not Christians. I remember that on the first day of walking into the gates of the university, I was given a bible by Campus Crusade. The persistence of my classmates in Malaysia, who shared the Scriptures with me, instilled in me a hunger for God's word. I was faithful to reading the Scriptures every night for the next seven years, even if I got home after midnight!

Over time, I lost track of my two Malaysian Chinese friends. It was many years later that we were able to reconnect through the internet and discovered the path that God had led each of us. My sister invited me to a Pentecostal church and eventually I moved to the Anglican church where I was baptised and confirmed in 1988.

I was chosen by the Anglican church to go to Taize in 1989. I ended up spending eight months in Taize, being sent by the brothers to Scandinavia and Poland to speak to young people and adults, sharing my faith and what God had done in my life. It was during my stay in Taize, that I met my future wife, Roslyn, a Catholic. I was received into the Catholic Church, we married in 1991 and have been blessed with two boys.

As a husband and a father, I have continued my thirst for God's Word and take time each day to read scripture and spend time in prayer, and regularly attend retreats and teachings. I have always looked for opportunities to serve and share God's love in various ministries within the Church such as altar serving, ministry of the Word, social justice, ecumenical and interfaith events and the Vinnies Van.

In my involvement with Couples for Christ Australia, my passion is to encourage Catholic families to be grounded in God's love and mercy and having Him at the centre of their lives and to then share this with other families. We meet weekly to pray, discuss scripture and faith-related topics and fellowship with one another. I regularly give talks on prayer, scripture and evangelisation.

There is a need to be courageous in sharing the Good News. You will never know when the grace of God or the Holy Spirit will guide and lead a person to Christ, but we must step out in faith. The courage of my Christian classmates to share God's Word led me to discover God's love for me. But it was up to me to cultivate my own courage and recognise the presence of God working through me.

As my life journey continues, I trust that the Holy Spirit will guide me to reach out to others who need to hear and experience God's love.

Raj Rajasingam

## POSITIONS VACANT

Join the Team at Broken Bay Diocese: New positions vacant  
Are you keen to part of a renewed vision for Evangelisation in the Diocese of Broken Bay?

After celebrating one year as Bishop of Broken Bay, Bishop Anthony Randazzo is announcing a call out to enthusiastic, faith filled and appropriately skilled people who might help implement his dynamic vision with the following invitation:

*“As the Bishop of the Diocese of Broken Bay, I am shaping a team of people who can meet the challenges of our time with a bold and authentic vision to accomplish the will of God,”*

There are six new roles available in the Chancery at Broken Bay:

- Team Leader - Catholic Youth;
- Team Leader - Life, Marriage & Family;
- Sacramental Life, Liturgy & RCIA Coordinator;
- Executive Assistant (job share / part time 2 days); and
- Diocesan Pastoral Project Facilitator.
- Diocesan Director, Communications

To apply for these roles or for more information go to [www.bbcatholic.org.au/jobs](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/jobs)

## COVID RESTRICTIONS UPDATE (from Broken Bay Diocese)

We have sought clarification around the current COVID-19 restrictions for Places of Public Worship and Religious Services. This interpretation of the *Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gatherings and Movements) Order No.5* is disappointing, particularly for those who have been making preparations for outdoor Christmas Masses. This interpretation (Clause 22, Subclause e) has been confirmed by NSW Health officials. As it currently stands the restrictions are interpreted as follows:

### **Places of Public Worship (defined as a premises/building)**

The Minister directs that the occupier of a place of public worship must ensure -

for a place of public worship with more than 1 separate area, the maximum number of persons in each of the areas is the lesser of—

the number of persons that is equivalent to 1 person per 4 square metres of space in the area, or

300 persons, and or any other place of public worship, the maximum number of persons on the premises is the lesser of the number of persons that is equivalent to 1 person per 4 square metres of space on the premises, or 300 persons.

The Minister directs that the occupier of a place of public worship comprised of more than 1 separate area must ensure that a religious service, activity or event conducted in 1 separate area does not commence or end at the same time as another religious service, activity or event in another separate area in the place.

### • **Outdoor Public Gatherings (including Outdoor Religious Services)**

The Minister directs that a person must not participate in an outdoor public gathering of more than 30 persons.

This clause does not apply to the following:

a gathering **for** a wedding, a funeral, a memorial service or a religious service or a gathering immediately after a wedding, a funeral, a memorial service or a religious service,

**NOTE: this subclause is specifically in relation to the gathering that takes place outside a Place of Worship, before and after a Religious Service and is NOT an exception to hold Outdoor Religious Services for more than 30 people.**

Significant questions are being asked by the NSW Bishops about these current restrictions. They are also working closely with our Ecumenical and Interfaith counterparts, to advocate for equity across sectors.

We hope to update you as soon as possible if these restrictions or their interpretation change.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### **PARISH:**

**Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December 2020: 7pm & 12am Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day Friday 25th December 2020: 9am & 10.30am**

**Latin Mass—To Be Advised.**

### **MONASTERY:**

**Christmas Day Friday 25th December 2020: 7am**



## COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

**Bookings is still essential 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 ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.  
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](mailto:arcadia.parish@bigpond.com)**

**Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159**

**Website: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia](http://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**

**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**