

# *St Benedict's Parish*

## *Arcadia*

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



### PARISH MASSES

#### Weekend:

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

#### Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6.30pm Adoration  
7:00pm Mass & Confession  
(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 10am to 11am  
Adoration & Confession  
(Reconciliation)

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### MONASTERY CHAPEL MASSES

Sundays 7:00am  
Daily 7:00am

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Please contact Father Hilarion for the following:

**BAPTISMS  
RECONCILIATION  
FOR THE SICK  
MARRIAGES  
FUNERALS**

**Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541**

**Christmas  
The Holy Family  
New Year's Day  
Epiphany**

**Year C**

24th December 2021 to 2nd of January 2022



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**Joy to the world,  
the Lord Has Come!**

**On behalf of St Benedict's Parish Arcadia  
we would like to wish you all a very  
Merry Christmas!**

**May the infant Jesus bless you all and fill you  
with His love and Joy!**

**Have a blessed and safe Christmas!**

**CHRISTMAS**

***The Nativity of the LORD***

***24th & 25th December 2021***

***Entrance Antiphon***

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;  
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,  
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

***First Reading***

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of  
our God.*

***Responsorial Psalm***

*Ps 97:1-6*

**R.** All the ends of the earth have seen  
the saving power of God.

***Second Reading***

*Hebrews 1:1-6*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
*In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.*

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come you nations and adore the Lord.  
Today a great light has come upon the earth.  
Alleluia!

***Gospel***

*John 1:1-18*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we saw his glory.*

***Communion Antiphon***

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.



**THE HOLY FAMILY**

***Of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

***26th December 2021***

***Entrance Antiphon***

The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary and Joseph  
and the Infant lying in a manger.

***First Reading***

*1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 (JB)*

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
*For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.*

***Responsorial Psalm***

*Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (JB)*

**R.** How happy they who dwell in your house,  
O Lord.

***Second Reading***

*1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 (JB)*

A reading from the first letter of St. John  
*He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.*

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

***Gospel***

*Luke 2:41-52 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the  
learned men listening to them.*

***Communion Antiphon***

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**  
 1st January 2022

**Entrance Antiphon**

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King,  
 who rules heaven and earth for ever.

**First Reading**

*Numbers 6:22-27 (JB)*

A reading from the book of Numbers  
*They will call down my name on the children of Israel  
 and I will bless them.*

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (JB)*

**R.** May God bless us in his mercy.

**Second Reading**

*Galatians 4:4-7 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians  
*When the appointed time came,  
 God sent his son, born of a woman.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors  
 through the prophets;  
 now he speaks to us through his Son.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel**

*Luke 2:16-21 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the infant  
 lying in the crib ... When the eighth day came they gave  
 him the name of Jesus.*

**Communion Antiphon**

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.



**THE EPIPHANY  
 OF THE LORD**  
 2nd January 2022

**Entrance Antiphon**

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;  
 and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

**First Reading**

*Isaiah 60:1-6 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The glory of the Lord shines upon you.*

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 (JB)*

**R.** Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Second Reading**

*Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians  
*The revelation means that pagans now share the same  
 inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
 and have come to adore the Lord.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel**

*Matthew 2:1-12 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

**Communion Antiphon**

We have seen his star in the East,  
 and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.



## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

**Saturday December 25 2021**

### **NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98:1-6 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18**

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. (John 1:14)*

Today we join Christians all over the world in celebrating the birth of Jesus. Today we rejoice that God has come to save us. And today we kneel before the manger in awe and gratitude. *O come, let us adore him.*

*The Word.* . . This child in Mary's arms is no ordinary infant. No, he is the Word who existed from the beginning. He is the image of the invisible God! Jesus, the unseen Word who created everything, has become visible in human flesh. Now we can see this God who loves us and made us. Not only that, but we can know him personally. Through Jesus, the God who made the world is now remaking it. He is making all things new, including our relationship with God. *O come, let us adore him.*

*became flesh.* . . Jesus, the divine Word, has emptied himself to take on our human flesh. He came to do for us what we could not do on our own. We could not enter heaven; we could not become like him; we could not save ourselves. So in his mercy, the eternal Son descended to us in order to save us from sin and death. By freely choosing to share our human condition, he embraced all our weakness and suffering. The world has never seen such love before! *O come, let us adore him.*

*and made his dwelling among us.* Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. He has come to earth to live and walk alongside us. He has come to bring us strength and comfort, wisdom and hope in this troubled world. Even now he dwells within us through his Holy Spirit. We are never alone, never without help, never without his grace. *O come, let us adore him.*

Wherever you are today, Jesus is close to you. He looks at you with great love and he invites you to come to him. *O come and adore him.*

***"Jesus, Son of God, I worship you! Thank you for becoming man for me."***

Source: Word Among Us. India pg. 25

**Sunday December 26 2021**

### **THE HOLY FAMILY**

**Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Psalm 128:1-5 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:41-52**

*Put on love. (Colossians 3:14)*

A wise man once joked, "It's called *HolyMatrimony* because so many holy martyrs are made there!" When you add children into the mix, the opportunities for "martyrdom" rise exponentially.

Jokes aside, the Holy Family was holy because each member decided to put on love— to sacrifice their own preferences and give of themselves to one another. Whether it was Mary and Joseph's patience in the face of anxiety or misunderstanding or Jesus' humble, obedient return to Nazareth, their holiness shone through their care for one another (Luke 2:48-49, 51).

As you celebrate the Holy Family today, know that you grow in holiness *through* your vocation to family life, not in spite of it. God designed us to be part of a family, whether as a spouse, parent or child. That means you can become holy as you imitate the Holy Family in your own family.

Even more, you are called to build a "civilization of love," as St. John Paul II said in his "Letter to Families." It's a civilization that starts with that foundational building block of the family and reaches outward. It grows as each member gives themselves to God, and then in love, gives of themselves to other people. John Paul said that when we're faithful to our vocation, whether as a married person, or as a single person, priest, or religious, our witness of love affects everyone around us.

So take some time today to reflect on how your family can help you grow in holiness. Think about how you can put on the virtues St. Paul describes in today's second reading, and, over them all, love (Colossians 3:12-14). And then allow yourself to dream of how your decisions to love might just change civilization.

***"Mary and Joseph, pray that your son Jesus will help me to be holy in the vocation he has given me."***

Source: Word Among Us. India pg. 25

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

**Saturday January 1 2022**

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

**Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21**

*Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. (Luke 2:19)*

Happy New Year! All of us here at *The Word Among Us* pray that God will shower you and your loved ones with many blessings in 2022.

Today is also the day when we honor the Virgin Mary with the title Mother of God. We honor her not only as the earthly mother of Jesus of Nazareth, but as the God-bearer, the immaculate Virgin who gave the Son of God flesh and blood. This feast tells us that Mary is not just Jesus' biological mother; she is his Jesus' spiritual mother as well. Think of all the spiritual lessons that Mary taught Jesus. It was from her that he first heard the words, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Just imagine the child Jesus drinking in these words and turning them into his own prayer: "Your will be done" (Matthew 6:10; see John 8:29; Matthew 26:42). Or think of how Mary taught him humility as well as openness to the Holy Spirit and unbending trust in his heavenly Father. Just imagine how many other ways this holy, loving, and prayerful woman helped to guide his early life!

Not all of us have mothers, spiritual or otherwise, to guide us in our faith. But we all have Mary, the perfect spiritual mother. Through her prayers of intercession, she continues to care for us. Through her example in Scripture and her messages in places like Lourdes and Fatima, she continues to teach us how to reflect on the word of God. And through her motherly love, she is always ready embrace us and draw us closer to her Son. Truly, she is blessed among women—and we are blessed to have her!

***"Jesus, thank you for sharing your mother with us! Holy Mary, pray for us! May this be a year of blessing and growth for all your children!"***

Source: Word Among Us. India pg. 25

**Sunday January 2 2022**

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12**

*They . . . offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)*

Gold, frankincense, and myrrh: these are gifts fit for a king. Through them, the magi were not only acknowledging Jesus as Israel's king, but they were also showing Mary and Joseph how honored they were to be in the presence of royalty.

Today is the feast of the Epiphany. At Mass on this special day, you'll also be in the presence of royalty: Jesus, the King of all creation. So how can you honor Jesus? You won't have gold, frankincense, and myrrh to offer, but here's what can you give him:

"Jesus, King of kings, in place of *gold*, I honor you as my king by offering you my obedience and making you the Lord of my life. Out of love for you, I want to be your loyal subject by spreading the good news and building your kingdom on earth. Help me to listen to the promptings of your Holy Spirit, and give me the grace and courage to carry out your every command.

"Jesus, Son of God, instead of *frankincense*, I offer you my praise. Let it rise as incense to your throne (Psalm 141:2). I praise you for coming to earth as a human being so that you could save me. I praise you for suffering and dying for me so that I could live with you forever. Give me the grace to praise you not just in good times but in my difficulties and challenges as well.

"Jesus, Lamb of God, in place of *themyrrh* that anointed your body (John 19:39), I offer you myself, body and soul, along with all my joys and sorrows. I trust that as I surrender myself to you, you will carry me through every temptation and trial and one day bring me safely home to your eternal kingdom.

***"Jesus, you are my King, Lord, and Savior. May these gifts honor and glorify you!"***

Source: Word Among Us. India pg. 25

## FATHER HILARION WRITES

### A BIG THANK YOU TO:

- *All our dear parishioners.*
- *Benefactors and donors and volunteers.*
- *Fundraisers, especially Lila Bacha for her wonderful stall and Robin Barbara.*
- *Parish staff: Karen Price, Mary Cascun, Joe Gatt and Paula El-Chaar.*
- *Catechists, especially Miriam Brown.*
- *Members of the Pastoral Parish Council and Parish Finance Committee.*
- *Our wonderful musicians, choirs and especially Josephine Cali for the computer work.*
- *Sacramental Program helpers especially to Theresa Neely and Colleen Appino for all their hard work.*
- *Let us never forget Reverend Fathers, David, Alberic, Michael, Bernard and Brother Terry, for their willingness to assist us in all our parish needs and may God bless them.*

*Let us join hands once again in 2022 to raise our parish community up both spiritually and socially.*

*May God bless your generosity!*  
*Fr Hilarion Fernando OSB*

**Please note the parish office will be closed during Christmas and New Year's.**

**During January office hours will vary.**

**For anything urgent contact Fr Hilarion on 0478 909 541.**

## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday	December 25, 2021:	The Nativity of the Lord.
Sunday	December 26, 2021:	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.
Monday	December 27, 2021:	St John, apostle, evangelist.
Tuesday	December 28, 2021:	The Holy Innocents, martyrs. (Special blessing of children at 9.30am Mass).
Wednesday	December 29, 2021:	St Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr
Friday	December 31, 2021:	St Sylvester I, Pope.
Saturday	January 1, 2022:	Mary, the Holy Mother of God.
Sunday	January 2, 2022:	The Epiphany of the Lord.
Monday	January 3, 2022:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus.

Source: Ordo 2021

## In Our Parish

**We remember in our prayers, all our dearly beloved who have died, especially Emanuele Monardo.**

**We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Lyla Abood, Brother Mario, and Theresa Gittany (Lila Bacha's mum).**



## ***Glory to God in the highest!***

My precious Lord, Jesus,  
I adore You with profound love and rejoice in  
the celebration of Your birth.

Your love for us is unfathomable,  
it is glorious  
transforming,  
awe-inspiring,  
and deeply personal.

You chose to come and dwell among us,  
being born into poverty,  
rejection and humility.

Yet Your mother knew whom she bore,  
Her heart was filled with the tenderest love  
as she adored her Child and her God.

Help me, dear Lord,  
to come to love You with the heart of Your mother.  
Invite me to adore You with St. Joseph and the poor shepherds.  
Reveal to me the glorious power of Your birth  
and change my life on account of this perfect gift of Yourself.

I love You, dear Lord Jesus.  
Help me to love You with all my heart.

Newborn Savior of the World,  
I trust in You.

Mother Mary and St. Joseph,  
Pray for me and for all.

Amen.

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES



### PARISH:

Christmas Eve Friday 24th Dec 2021: 7pm & 11.30pm (*Midnight Mass*)

Christmas Day Saturday 25th Dec 2021: 9am

25th Dec 2021: 10.30am (*Latin Mass*)

25th Dec 2021: 7pm (*Vigil feast of The Holy Family*)

Sunday 26th Dec 2021: 9am & 10.30am Feast of Holy Family

New Years Day Saturday 1st Jan 2022: 9.30am Feast Mary Mother of God  
7pm Vigil Mass for Epiphany

Sunday 2nd Jan 2022: 9am & 10.30am Feast of Epiphany

Sunday 9th Jan 2022: 9am & 10.30am Feast Baptism of the Lord

### MONASTERY:

Christmas Day Friday 25th Dec 2021: 7am

New Year Day Saturday 1st Jan 2022: 7am



## COVID 19 SAFETY RULES UPDATED

### MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED

Please continue to use QR CODE or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at entries.  
IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS,  
PLEASE STAY HOME AND ISOLATE.

## 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 Hilarion 0478 909 541, Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882, Office for Safeguarding 83791605.

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: **VARIES DURING DECEMBER & JANUARY.** For anything urgent call Fr Hilarion on his mobile.

Website: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia)  
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia  
Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159

Parish Office: 9653 2312  
Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB  
Email: [hilarionfernando@yahoo.com](mailto:hilarionfernando@yahoo.com)  
After hours: 0478 909 541 (Fr Hilarion)  
Email: [arcadia.parish@bigpond.com](mailto:arcadia.parish@bigpond.com)  
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Monastery: 9653 1159

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: 100002141 (**NEW BANK DETAILS**)  
Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:  
CBA—Catholic Development Fund