

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

2 & 3 AUGUST 2025



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



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

OPENING PRAYER

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored.
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: Stewardship

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus warns against greed and placing too much trust in material wealth. The rich man focuses solely on storing up goods for himself, thinking he can then relax and enjoy life. But God calls him a fool, reminding us that life is uncertain, and what truly matters is being "rich toward God."

This challenges me to reflect on where I put my trust. Am I overly focused on possessions, success, or comfort? Do I sometimes forget that life is a gift, and I am called to use what I have for the good of others and the glory of God? Jesus reminds me to keep my heart set on eternal treasures, not earthly ones.

*Stewardship Security
Kingdom*

Lord, Help me not to place my trust in possessions or worry about storing up earthly treasures. Teach me to be rich in what matters to You—love, generosity, and faith. May I use what I have to serve others and glorify You. Remind me each day that my life is a gift, and my true security is found in You alone. Amen

First Reading: Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23**A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes***What do people gain by all their work?**Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!**For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity***The word of the Lord.****Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R.** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**Second Reading: Col 3:1-5, 9-11****A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians***Seek the things that are above where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and, in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!****Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!****GOSPEL Luke 12:13-21****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke***To whom will all this wealth of yours go?*

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say, to my soul: "My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ecc1 1:2, 2:21-23/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/ Lk 12:13-21

Today's Gospel offers us a sobering parable that challenges us how we view wealth, life, and eternity. Jesus speaks of a man who had great material success but was called a “fool” by God. Was it because of his intellectual limitations? Certainly not. It was his moral blindness, his failure to see beyond the present, beyond himself, and beyond this world. As we reflect on this parable, let us open our hearts to God's wisdom and examine the true source of our security and joy.

The author reflects on the fleeting nature of life and labour. All earthly pursuits, if not directed toward God, are vanity. This reminds us that no matter how much we gain, if it does not lead us to eternal life, it ultimately leaves us empty (Ecc1 1:2, 2:21-23)

St Paul invites us to set our hearts on things above. He urges us to detach from earthly desires and live a life anchored in Christ. We are called to strip away our old selves and embrace the new life that is rooted in God. (Col 3:1-5, 9-11)

The parable in Luke 12:13-21 introduces us to a man who believed he had it all. His land had produced abundantly, his barns were full, and he felt secure. He said to himself, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But that very night, his life was demanded of him. And then Jesus asks the piercing question: “The things you have prepared, whose will they be?” This is not just a story about wealth. It's a story about where we place our trust, and in whom we find our true security. The man thought he owned everything: his possessions, his future, even his soul. But Jesus reminds us that we are not owners. We are stewards. Everything we have - our time, talents, relationships, resources comes from God and belongs to Him. When we live as though we are the masters, we begin to hoard instead of share, to grasp instead of give, to plan selfishly rather than serve generously. But when we truly believe that God is enough, our hearts are freed from fear and our hands are opened in trust.

In our daily lives, this question becomes very practical: *“In what ways can you practice stewardship rather than ownership in my daily life?”*

Source: Breaking the Word, Redemptorist Publications India, Bangalore

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

August 2025

- Monday 4: Num 11:4-15. Mt 14:13-21
R. Sing with joy to God our help.
St John Vianney, Priest
- Tuesday 5: Num 12:1-13. Mt 14:22-36
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major
- Wednesday 6: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14. Lk 9:28-36
R. The Lord is king, the most high above all the earth.
The Transfiguration of the Lord
- Thursday 7: Num 20:1-13. Mt 16:13-23
R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
St Cajetan, Priest
- Friday 8: 1 Kg 17:8-16. Mt 6:25-34
R. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.
St Mary of the Cross, Virgin
- Saturday 9: Deut 6:4-13. Mt 17:14-20.
R. I love you, Lord, my strength
St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin, Martyr



Source: Ordo 2025



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for August 2025:

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES ARE ON THE NOTICEBOARD.

Any suggestions to Parish Pastoral Council or Parish Finance can be given to Fr Shansana.

ROSTER NOW AVAILABLE

The next Roster is now available in the Sacristy for collection.

If you would like to join any of the ministries listed, please speak to Father Shansana.

Your help is essential.
Together, we can bring compassion and care to those in need.

Please contact the parish office.

ANNIVERSARY OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

Father Eugene De Silva

8 August 1992 - 33 years

Congratulations and best wishes on the Anniversary of your Religious profession commitment.

The parish of St Benedict's give thanks to the Lord for Fr Eugene's vocation and his faithful commitment to the Lord.

May God continue to bless and accompany him to be a wonderful instrument in proclaiming His mercy and love.

FREE WILLS SEMINAR & MORNING TEA "PLAN WELL, LIVE FAITHFULLY"

The Clergy and Parishes Broken Bay team invites all parishioners to a special Free Wills Seminar and Morning Tea on
Tuesday 12 August 2025,
held at **Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood.**



This pastoral event is a meaningful opportunity to reflect on stewardship, legacy, and the faithful care of our families. Led by Cecilia Castle, Principal of Castle Lawyers, the seminar will cover essential topics including: Writing or updating a Will; Understanding Power of Attorney; and Enduring Guardianship.

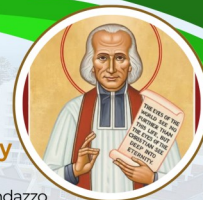
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

04/08/2025



JUBILEE OF PRIESTS

St Mary's Catholic Church, Manly



To celebrate the Jubilee of Priests, Bishop Anthony Randazzo invites you to join him for an evening of prayer and fellowship. This will be a unique opportunity to meet priests from our diocese.

5:00 pm Keynote talk
6:00 pm Mass of St John Vianney
7:00 pm Dinner in parish hall

6 Raglan St, Manly

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

REGISTER



or email us:

VOCATIONS

**ANSWERING
THE CALL:**

*a celebration
of faith and hope*

Seminarians' Benefit Gala Dinner

Date:
Friday 22 August, 2025

Time:
7pm-11.30pm

Venue:
The Epping Club,
45-47 Rawson St, Epping 2121

Cost:
\$120 per person or \$1,000 for table of 10
Dinner & Beverages

AUCTION | PRIZES | MUSIC

Booking:
www.trybooking.com/DDOPW



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF BROKEN BAY

Further information
events@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH E-BULLETIN

The Parish is offering the Parish bulletin electronically in addition to the printed version. If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send your email address to the parish office at: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

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:

Luke Manassa, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana, Vanessa Papandrea, Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry, Colleen Bennett & Helen Facione. ~ **May they rest in Peace.**



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Calling All Children and Families!

We invite all children and families who are interested in getting involved in upcoming parish activities and children Masses to reach out!

If your child would like to participate, please **send an email to the parish office** with the **child's name and a contact number**. We look forward to welcoming more young faces into our parish life!



OUR LADY OF FATIMA DAY

We will be celebrating "Our Lady of Fatima Day"
On 12 October 2025

Fatima Committee Meeting
this Tuesday, 5 August
7pm in the
St Benedict's Parish Meeting Room

All committee members asked to attend, visitors welcome.

(children are invited to take part on the Fatima Day, please phone 0438 521 421 for details)

PIETY SHOP NEWS

We invite you to take a moment to explore our Piety Shop. It offers a wonderful selection of items to support and enrich your spiritual life, including: Religious gifts for sacraments like Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Rosaries, prayer cards, and medals Bibles, missals, and spiritual books for adults and children.

Come and see what's new!

ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

JOIN THE YOUTH GROUP!

Youth group has finished this term! Thank you to all the children who participated. Will let you know when next term is open. Have a wonderful holiday!

Thank you,

Gabe & Jules!



CATECHISTS' NEWS

Congratulations to John Donnelly who supports our parish Catechists as regional coordinator and through our ongoing training, among other 'hats' in the CCD and Diocese, for being awarded the Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great for his service to the church!

Free training continues to be provided by the CCD –

· Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3rd Millennium" continues on Friday 1st August 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic this week is "Renewal in the Church"

RSVP registrations@bbccatholic.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 MAKER'S TABLE

Please join us for our upcoming Maker's Table workshop at St Benedict's!

Pottery Workshop
Wednesday, August 6th, 2025
7.30-9.30pm

Cost: \$10 (covers materials, refreshments and donation for room hire)

RSVP by 3/8/25 so we can set a special place at the Table for you!



This month we will be working with clay! We will learn an easy way to decorate a ready-made pot and also have a go at throwing a cylinder / pot on the pottery wheel! We will provide an apron to wear while using the pottery wheel but this workshop could get a bit messy so it might be best to wear old clothes!

Jeremiah 18:6 – "O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel."

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!

Transfiguration of the Lord - Feast

6 August

c.32



All three Synoptic Gospels record the event of the Lord's Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36). Just prior to the Transfiguration, the three Gospels also record Jesus' trip with His disciples to Caesarea Philippi, about thirty miles north of the Sea of Galilee. Caesarea Philippi was a primarily pagan Greek town occupied by the Romans. The Greek god Pan was worshiped there in a cave thought to be bottomless and often referred to as the gate to the netherworld because of its association with the pagan god. It was there that Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was. Peter declared, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus then blessed Peter and announced His intent to build His Church upon Peter, declaring that "the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it..." (Matthew 16:16–18).

After this exchange, Jesus began revealing to His disciples His impending fate—His journey to Jerusalem to suffer and die. Jesus responded sternly to Peter's resistance, correcting his human thinking with divine wisdom (Matthew 16:22–23).

This is the context of the Feast of the Transfiguration. First, Jesus proclaimed the triumph of His Church over evil. Second, He informed the disciples that this victory would be achieved through His own suffering and death. Although the first message is encouraging, the second one is challenging to accept. According to the Gospels, Jesus allowed His disciples about a week to grapple with these teachings.

Understanding their struggle, Jesus took His three closest companions, Peter, James, and John, up a high mountain. There He was transfigured before them, radiating pure white light, conversing with Moses and Elijah, and being affirmed in His identity by the Father.

This event was likely meant to reinforce the disciples' faith after a week when they pondered Jesus' foretelling of His suffering and death, along with His exhortation that they must follow Him. The Transfiguration affirmed Jesus' divinity and His relationship with the revered figures of Moses and Elijah. Further, the Father in Heaven confirmed Jesus as His divine Son with whom He was well pleased.

After the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, these three Apostles shared their experience of the Transfiguration, fortifying others in the faith. This story is shared today to strengthen us as we bear our own crosses.

The Feast of the Transfiguration is strategically placed forty days before the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. Thus, the Transfiguration should be seen as a preparation for both the Cross of Christ and our participation in that triumph. According to the Gospel, we are called to take up our crosses and follow Jesus for the glory of the Father, the fulfillment of His will, and the good of the Church, which will always prevail against the gates of hell.

*My Transfigured Lord, You promise suffering and death to all who follow You,
but You also promise the hope that awaits those who endure.
Grant me the grace to endure every cross in life,
uniting my sufferings with Yours,
so that I may one day partake in the glory of eternal life in Heaven.*

Jesus, I trust in You.



Incredible SRI LANKA

13 NIGHTS/14 DAYS
DEPARTING AUSTRALIA
22 SEPTEMBER 2025

With your host
Fr. Michael Kelly OSB
Abbot General Emeritus

Colombo, Kandy, Haputale, Yala,
Galle, Key ancient sites &
Benedictine Communities

A\$5,945
Per person twin share
A\$500
Per person deposit

INCLUSIONS

- Economy class flights on Singapore Airlines
- 5 star accommodation for 13 nights
- Daily Breakfast & Dinner
- Dinner from day 2 to Day 14
- Our own Airconditioned 24- seater coach
- First Class train tickets from Kandy to Ella including box lunch
- English speaking guide / Driver throughout the tour
- Entrance tickets to places we visit as in the itinerary.
- A visit to St. Anthony's Shrine
- Visit Benedictine Communities and Anglican sites

Book Now

Terms & Conditions apply - contact johanne@etravel.com.au for more details
Single supplement available upon request.
Land only price available.
Price subject to availability and currency fluctuations.

We will be commencing a

HEALING MASS

the First Thursday of each month

DATE: Thursday, 7 August
9.30am Mass



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

COMBATING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER

Please donate to CatholicCare's homelessness services across the Diocese

Thank you

Donor envelopes available during Mass
Saturday and Sunday 9 & 10 August



DIocese OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE
SAT 29 NOV- WED 3 DEC

FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMODATION + REGO
\$1,645 PER PERSON, INCL GST
Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy
Reducing cost to \$1,145

Day 1	Sat 29 Nov	Departure (Travel Day)
Day 2	Sun 30 Nov	ACYF
Day 3	Mon 1 Dec	ACYF
Day 4	Tue 2 Dec	ACYF
Day 5	Wed 3 Dec	Return (Travel Day)

TO REGISTER INTEREST TO ATTEND ACYF - PLEASE SCAN



BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE ONLINE INFORMATION EVENING
7PM MON 11 AUGUST 2025
TO REGISTER VIA EMAIL - PLEASE SCAN



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL
MELBOURNE 2025

INCLUSIONS

- Economy class return airfare from Sydney
- 4 nights' Accommodation Holiday Inn Express
- Breakfast daily
- Broken Bay Group dinner 29 November
- Return airport coach transfers
- ACYF Melbourne Registration fee
- Broken Bay Pilgrim T-Shirt

Not included:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners on festival days

Pilgrimage is open to young people in Year 9 at school, through to the age of 25, and their leaders and clergy.

 **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY**
mission@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Roster

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

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

**9/8/2025—10/8/2025
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	
Reader1	Margaret B	Judy H	Lorna B
Reader2	Daniel V	Kath M	Matt W
Prayers	Edyn V	Ann L	Mirko J
TV		Mary A	Jutrisa Family
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Keith W	Marisa Q
Music		Marisa Q	Martina J
Music		Teresa G	Keith W
Morning Tea		Sophie R	
FLOWERS	Souraya K		



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 NOTICE

NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Enrolments for the next Sacramental Program are now open. Program commences with Confirmation in October with lessons in August.

Please contact the parish office or collect a form from the Church Sacristy or email:

arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

Planned Giving Envelopes are now ready for collection. They can be found on the front pew in the church, arranged in alphabetical order.

A sincere thank you to all who have already opted in to this important program. If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program, please contact the parish office.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW...

The Chalice is the cup used by the priest that holds the wine which becomes the blood of Christ



PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm
(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