

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PARISH Masses

Weekend:

Saturday 7:00pm Vigil
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am

Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

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

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

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

BAPTISMS

RECONCILIATION

FOR THE SICK

MARRIAGES

FUNERALS

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

17 & 18 JUNE 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament
O God, strength of those who hope in you,
graciously hear our pleas,
and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing,
grant us always the help of your grace,
that in following your commands
we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.
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

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 9:36 - 10:8

Jesus said to the disciples, "Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge."

Being a disciple involves mission. Their mission continues in preaching and healing of the sick and caring for others without asking for anything in return.

- *Do I give myself freely without expecting rewards or recognition?*
- *Do I see myself as a disciple or as a "volunteer"?*
- *Is my heart "moved to compassion" when I see people in need around me?*
- *What do I usually do?*



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, I want to give myself freely without expecting any reward. Help me not to be self-centred but to always think of others especially when they are in need. Amen.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: *Exodus 19:2-6 (JB)*

A reading from the book of Exodus

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle's wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading: *Romans 5:6-11 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

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!

The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 9:36 - 10:8 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

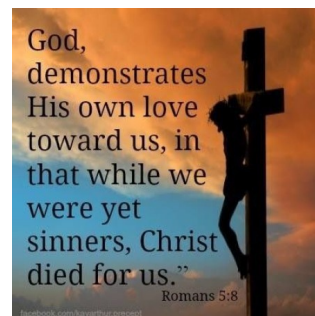
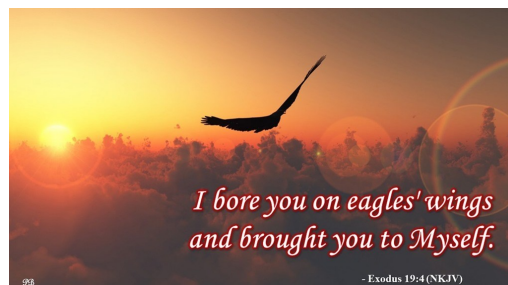
He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

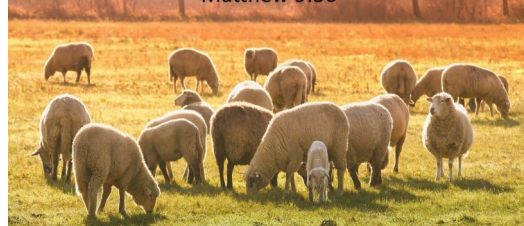
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, June 18

Exodus 19:2-6
Psalm 100:1-3, 5
Romans 5:6-11
Matthew 9:36-10:8

You shall be my special possession. (Exodus 19:5)

Even before God had said these words to Moses on Mount Sinai, the Israelites must have known how special they were to him. Just three months earlier, God had miraculously delivered them from slavery in Egypt. And as they journeyed through the wilderness, he had given them manna from heaven, water from a rock, and victory in battle (Exodus 16, 17). It was abundantly clear that they were “dearer to me than all other people” (19:5).

Yet how quickly the people lost sight of this amazing truth! In a short time, they would think that the Lord had abandoned them and would make a golden calf to worship instead (Exodus 32). Still, despite their sin, God continued to be with them and guide them (34:10-11).

Through Christ, we, too, have become God’s special possession, and it’s abundantly clear just how dear we are to him. Out of love for us, he sent his only Son to suffer and die for our sins so that we could live with him forever. In love, he offers us himself as the Living Bread from heaven to strengthen us, along with the grace we need to obey his commandments.

Yet like the Israelites, we may sometimes think that God has abandoned us. That’s especially true when things go awry in our lives. But the truth is that the Lord could never forget any one of his beloved children. He has called you, the unique, unrepeatable person he created, to be in a personal, intimate relationship with him. And just as he did with the Israelites, he will continue to love you and forgive you even when you fail.

As you approach the altar at Mass today, remember that you are God’s special possession. He has chosen *you*. And when you receive the Eucharist, tell him that *you* are choosing *him*! As you return to your pew, try to sense his delight at spending this precious time so close to you.

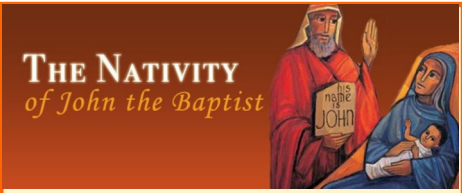
“Father, may I never forget how special I am to you!”

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

June

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Monday 19 | Readings: 2 Cor 6:1-10. Mt 5:38-42.
R: The Lord has made known his salvation.
St Romuald, abbot |
| Tuesday 20 | Readings: 2 Cor 8:1-9. Mt 5:43-48.
R: Praise the Lord, my soul! |
| Wednesday 21 | Readings: 2 Cor 9:6-1. Mt 6:1-6, 16-18.
R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.
St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious. |
| Thursday 22 | Readings: 2 Cor 11:1-11. Mt 6:7-15.
R: Your works, O Lord, are justice and truth.
St John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyrs. |
| Friday 23 | Readings: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30. Mt 6:19-23.
R: From all their afflictions God will deliver the just.
St Paulinus of Nola, Bishop. |
| Saturday 24 | Readings: Jer 1:4-10. 1 Pet 1:8-12. Lk 1:5-17
R: Since my mother’s womb, you have been my strength.
The NATIVITY of ST JOHN THE BAPTIST |



Saint John the Baptist, you were conceived by God’s special grace and given to parents who were barren and advanced in years.

Through your conception and birth, God spoke to the world that He can do anything He so chooses and bring forth His saving grace simply because He wills to do so.

Please pray for me, that I will more fully understand the role you played in the history of salvation and be more open to all that God has revealed to the world through your holy life.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: Ordo 2023

POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2023

FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.



THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

To reverence the old.

PARISH FUNDS

Your support as always is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account here are the details:

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141

Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:

CBA—Catholic Development Fund

PROPERTY REQUEST

We are looking to buy a property in the Arcadia Road or Bay Road area, Arcadia.

If anyone knows of a property going up for sale please call:

Matt 0478 228 539 or email

townandcountry888@outlook.com

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing **FATHER SHANSANA** a very happy birthday!

21st June



As you celebrate your birthday may we give thanks for all that you do for our Parish.



May God give you the power, courage, knowledge and wisdom to continue to spread His words to everyone you may meet.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

is now open, commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in August 2023.

The forms are available in the sacristy, otherwise please email the parish if you would like your child to be added to the list. The form is also available on the parish website.

In the Diocese of Broken Bay, the order of receiving of the sacraments is:

Confirmation, Reconciliation, then Eucharist. Children are usually prepared for these sacraments in Years 3 and 4.



St Vincent de Paul Society

NSW

good works

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies Arcadia Conference will be holding our annual Winter Appeal on the weekend of 10/11 June.

This will be an envelope appeal as well as a hamper appeal. We are hoping to collect any **non-perishable food and toiletries** you may be able to donate.

We also want to express our gratitude for the generous donations we have received through the Poor Boxes in the church. These donations and those from our appeals are hugely appreciated as we are helping so many more families suffering hardship in these difficult times.

We take this opportunity to welcome Marie Endicott as a new member of Arcadia Conference. We are delighted to have her on board.

Rita, Lila, Marie & Karen - Vinnies Arcadia.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

CONGRATULATIONS to the children who received their First Holy Communion on Sunday 11th June at 10.30am Mass.

It was a beautiful Mass and the children were all so lovely.

May God bless you and guide you as you journey through life!



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 **Gina Volpato (John's mum), Tony Takchi, Brother Mario & Brother Terry, Koana Zouein (Rita Sarkis' mum) and Jenny Taylor.**

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially **Carmen Camilleri and Karl Maurer. May they rest in Peace.**



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Educating others on the signs of elder abuse is one of the main ways we can build awareness and prevent elder abuse.

Volunteers are needed to spend an hour once a fortnight to develop friendships, have a chat and share a cuppa with the residents in aged care homes and hostels across the Northern Beaches who may not have family or friends living nearby.

If you are interested, please contact Nicki Bispham on 0418 435 304 or nicki.bispham@catholiccaredbb.org.au

For further information on the support services provided for Seniors

<https://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/aged-care/>

REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of:



KARL MAURER
12/6/2023

(funeral was on the 16th June 2023)



*Eternal Rest grant to him O Lord,
And let the Perpetual light shine upon him,
May he Rest in Peace.
Amen*

Our prayers and thoughts are with all the Maurer family and friends.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

2023/2024

Envelopes are ready for collection for the year 2023/2024. They are in alphabetical order on the front pew of the church. Please collect them ASAP.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA COMMITTEE MEETING

**This Tuesday 20th June,
at 7:00pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

**All committee members and guests
are invited to attend.**

Enquiries please call 0438 521 421.



CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every
Friday nights: after 7pm Mass
Wednesday mornings: after 9.30am Mass.
Everyone welcome. ***Come and meet new people.***
For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.



CATECHISTS' NEWS

Nor can we forget the countless lay men and women who directly took part in the spread of the Gospel through catechetical instruction. Men and women of deep faith, authentic witnesses of holiness, who in some cases were also founders of Churches and eventually died as martyrs. In our own day too, many competent and dedicated catechists are community leaders in various parts of the world and carry out a mission invaluable for the transmission and growth of the faith. The long line of blessed, saints and martyrs who were catechists has significantly advanced the Church's mission and deserves to be recognized, for it represents a rich resource not only for catechesis but also for the entire history of Christian spirituality.

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter 10 May 2021 Instituting the Ministry of Catechist.

The Safeguarding Children training for all Catechists has been postponed to next term. Date to be confirmed.

The term is quickly coming to an end, last day for Term 2 is Friday 30 June. Term 3 will start on Monday 17th July.

If you would like to learn more about being a Catechist or a helper, please talk to myself, or one of our parish Catechists or any of our priests. Training, a Teacher's Manual and workbooks are provided free.

God bless,
Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Coordinator



VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK!

For the nomination this week we would like to thank these people for all their support for the

HOLY COMMUNION DAY

NERIDA WOODBURY - Teaching sessions

GEBRAN AZZI - Teaching sessions

GLENICE LUI - Helped with practice & on the day

MARY ABOOD - Helped with practice & on the day

SOURAYA KAZZI - Helped with practice & the day

LILA BACHA - Organised all the gift bags

MARY CASCUN - Helped with practice

SOPHIE REBULA - Provided morning tea

MELANIE HUME & CHOIR - all the beautiful music

CAITLYN MUSCAT - PowerPoint help

PAUL EL-CHAAR - ACOLYTE and helping



Thank you for all your help and sacrifice for the Holy Communion preparation and day. It was very much appreciated!

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm.

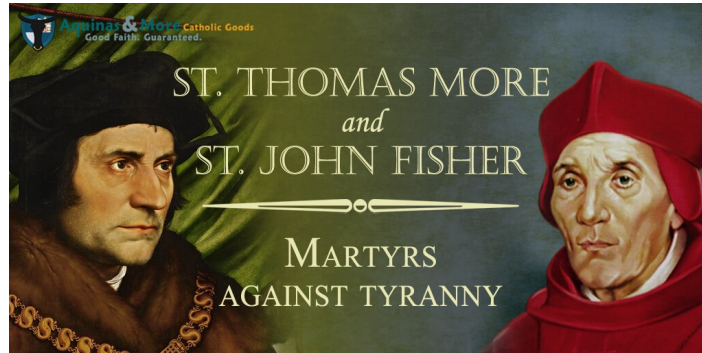
Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano.

Ph: 9653 2312.



**Saints John Fisher, Bishop and Martyr
1469-1535
and Thomas More, Martyr
1478-1535
Feast Day June 22**



Patron Saint of statesman, politicians, lawyers, civil servants, court clerks, adopted children, large families, stepparents, and difficult marriages

Their final words:

I forgive thee with all my heart, and I trust thou shall see me overcome this storm... ~Saint John Fisher
I die the King's good servant, but God's first. ~Saint Thomas More

Throughout the 1400s, the Catholic Church played a central role in the religious, cultural, and political fabric of England. Magnificent churches were built, monasteries thrived, clergy wielded influence, religious holidays were nationalized, and the Catholic Church collaborated with the state, in union with Rome. However, the tide began to shift during the rule of King Henry VIII (1509-1547) when King Henry severed ties between the Church of England and Rome to secure his divorce and remarriage. One year later, in 1535, the king martyred two of England's greatest Catholic saints who opposed him, both of whom we honor today.

John Fisher was born in Beverley, Yorkshire, England, in 1469. At the age of fifteen, Fisher enrolled in the University of Cambridge, where he pursued studies in theology. He was ordained a priest around the age of twenty-two. His academic excellence led to an invitation to remain at Cambridge, where he fulfilled roles as a chaplain, professor, and eventually Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor.

In 1504, when he was approximately thirty-five years old, Father Fisher was ordained a bishop and appointed to the Diocese of Rochester. Despite serving in one of the smallest and poorest dioceses in England, Bishop Fisher became renowned for his preaching, pastoral care, and adherence to orthodox faith.

Thomas More was born in London, England, in 1478. His father, a well-respected lawyer and judge, ensured that Thomas received an education at one of London's finest schools. At the age of twelve, Thomas served in the household of Archbishop John Morton of Canterbury, who was also the Lord Chancellor of England. Thomas' intelligence quickly became evident, leading to his enrollment at the University of Oxford to prepare for future legal studies. During this time, he developed a strong faith, influenced by the witness of the Carthusians monks, and he contemplated a monastic vocation himself. Although he eventually chose a career in law, his life of prayer and penitential practices blossomed.

In 1505, Thomas married Jane Colt, with whom he had four children. He began working in Parliament and gained a favorable reputation. In 1510, he was appointed as an undersheriff of London, one of the city's highest law enforcement positions. Unfortunately, Jane passed away in 1511, leaving Thomas with four young children. He soon married Alice Middleton, who lovingly cared for his children as a mother.

Over the next twenty-one years, Thomas' faith, family, and career thrived. He became a member of the King's Council, was knighted by King Henry VIII, and was elected as Speaker of the House of Commons. In 1529, he became the first layman to hold the post of Lord Chancellor, the highest-ranking legal position in England. After serving for approximately three years, he resigned, citing reasons of health. His primary motivation, however, was his opposition to Henry VIII's actions regarding the Catholic Church.

The seeds of trouble were sewn in 1501 when Arthur, Prince of Wales, the firstborn son of King Henry VII, married Catherine of Aragon. The couple expected to ascend to the throne as king and queen after Arthur's father's death. However, Prince Arthur died five months later, passing the right of succession to the throne to his younger brother, Henry. An arrangement was made for Henry to marry Catherine, his late brother's wife, once Henry came of age. Although such a marriage was typically prohibited, the pope granted a dispensation, based on Catherine's testimony that she and Arthur had never consummated their marriage.

(continued over...)

(continued...)

In 1509, King Henry VII passed away, and his son, Henry VIII, assumed the throne and married Catherine. Over the next twenty years, they had six children, all of whom died as infants except for one daughter, Mary, who would later become queen. In 1527, King Henry VIII sought an annulment of his marriage to Catherine, contending that it was invalid because she had, indeed, consummated her marriage to Arthur, which she denied. Henry further asserted that his lack of a male heir was a consequence of this unlawful union, signaling divine displeasure. The pope rejected Henry's request for an annulment, provoking Henry's anger and intensifying conflicts between him and the pope, along with those who opposed Henry among the clergy and civil servants.

In 1532, King Henry appointed Thomas Cranmer as the Archbishop of Canterbury. Sympathetic to those who sought reform of the English Church and separation from Rome, Cranmer supported Henry's desire for a divorce from Catherine. He declared Henry's first marriage null and void and validated his subsequent marriage to Anne Boleyn in 1533. In 1534, with the backing of Parliament, King Henry VIII proclaimed himself the head of the Church in England, effectively severing ties with the pope and the Roman Catholic Church.

Today's saints, Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, were among the few who refused to accept the king's decisions. Bishop John Fisher firmly defended the bond of marriage, stating that he was willing to die, just as Saint John the Baptist did, for the defense of marriage. This outraged the king. Eventually, the king had Bishop Fisher arrested before he could publicly oppose the new queen's coronation. Though he was initially released, he was arrested again on April 26, 1534, and remained in prison under extremely harsh conditions, deprived even of a priest to minister to him, until his death about fourteen months later. Before Fisher's death, the pope declared him a cardinal as a way of adding pressure on the king to release him, but this only angered the king more. Cardinal Fisher's defense was to remain silent and say nothing from prison. Eventually, he was tricked into speaking, confessing his opposition to the king, which led to his beheading. Every other bishop, except for two, gave their support to the king, bringing a painful end to the Catholic Church in England.

Like Cardinal Fisher, Thomas More refused to support the king's claim that he was the head of the Church of England, and he refused to publicly support the coronation of the new queen. After More refused to attend the coronation, he was arrested and put on trial for treason. His defense was also to remain silent, but he was found guilty and executed about two weeks after Cardinal Fisher. Cardinal Fisher's head had been mounted on London Bridge for two weeks after his death, but it was taken down and replaced by More's upon More's execution.

The fall of the Catholic Church in England is perhaps one of the saddest moments of Church history. However, because of the courage of these two martyrs, it is also one of the brightest. Though they were abandoned by most, they are now honored as saints and martyrs and will forever wear those glorious crowns in Heaven.

As we honor these two great martyrs, ponder their eternal perspective and willingness to endure suffering and death rather than compromise their faith. As you do, pray that you, too, will always live for the glory of God and the salvation of souls, even if it means hardship, suffering, or even death, preferring the glorious crown of righteousness in Heaven.

Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, your fidelity to the truth and your courage left behind a shining example for all to see. Though your deaths appeared to be defeats at the time, your love of God and love for the king who killed you live on. Please pray for me, that I will imitate your courage and fidelity to Christ, going so far as to lay down my life, in every way that I am called, for the glory of God and the salvation of others. Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

As the season of Easter draws to a close for 2023, the Music Ministry of our parish of St Benedict, Arcadia will commence the introduction of a new setting of the sung parts of the mass.

This mass called the **Mass of Saint Benedict** was written by Paul Taylor in 2013.

Why this particular setting?

Paul Taylor has dedicated this composition to the following three Benedictine communities: **The Monks here at Arcadia**; The Good Samaritan Sisters who have had a long association with our parish community here at Arcadia; and the Benedictine community at St John's Abbey in Collegeville (a leading Catholic university in USA). Paul also includes Pope Benedict XVI in his dedication.

Paul Taylor is also the composer of the **Mass of Saint Francis**, which has been a long time Mass Setting in our parish repertoire.

An Invitation to all parishioners

We assure you that the **Mass of Saint Benedict** will be a very singable addition to our current list of known Mass Settings, and we look forward to its regular use in our future liturgies. With every blessing,

The Music Ministry



Please join us for morning tea after the 10.30am Mass

Parish Roster

DRAFT ROSTER NOW ON SACRISTY WINDOW – PLEASE CHECK

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

24/6/23 to 25/6/23

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul E	Jerry L
Reader1	Sr Carol T	Bernadette W	Isabella M
Reader2	Maria G	Paula E	Lorna B
Prayers	Kathryn S	Peter G	Mirko J
TV		Mary A	Xavier F
Music		Mark Q	Mark Q
Music		Keith W	Jack F
Music		Nigel M	Marisa Q
Music		Theresa N	
Morning Tea		Mary A	
 FLOWERS	Angela S		

Thank You!

Thank you to all our volunteers, we really appreciate it!

If anyone would like to join our parish roster please contact the parish.

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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Parish Administrator: Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB
Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com
After hours: 0437 884 233

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia

MONASTERY: 9653 1159



BANK DETAILS for ONLINE only donations:
BSB: 062 784 **Account:** 100002141
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.