

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 Hilarion for the following:

BAPTISMS

RECONCILIATION

FOR THE SICK

MARRIAGES

FUNERALS

Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 & 27 February 2022

Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion.
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.

EMBER DAYS Prayer & Penance

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has decided that the Australian Church should observe the first Fridays in Autumn and Spring (March and September) each year as special days of prayer and penance.

- Ember days seek God's blessing of favourable weather and a fruitful harvest from the land, interceding in times of drought or flood and giving thanks in better times.
- There is a strong impulse on these days towards the justice of God's kingdom, with attention given to those peoples who are devastated by famine and exploitation.
- Ember days rightly focus on the environment, climate change, and our stewardship of the world's resources. Doing penance reminds us that sustainable use of our resources will cost us in our attitudes and lifestyle.



First Reading**Sirach 27:4-7 (JB)**

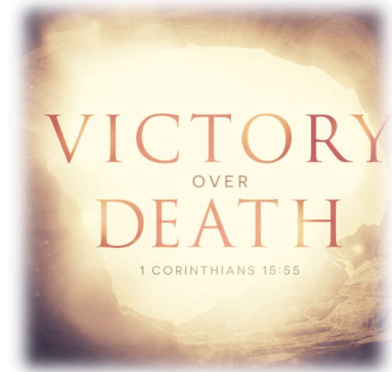
A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
 so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
 The kiln tests the work of the potter,
 the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
 similarly a man's words betray what he feels.
 Do not praise a man before he has spoken,

since this is the test of men.

*The word of the Lord.***Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R.** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**Second Reading****1 Corinthians 15:54-58 (JB)**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

*The word of the Lord.***Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Shine on the world like bright stars;
 you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!**GOSPEL****Luke 6:39-45 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, February 27

Luke 6:39-45

Jesus was a carpenter and was no doubt familiar with the occupational hazard of wood chippings advertently landing in the eye. He draws on this experience to teach us about the all-too-human tendency to judge others harshly. It's part of the human condition to see more readily what's wrong with others (the splinter) before addressing issues in our own lives (the plank). Why is this? It is insecurity, low self-esteem, boredom or even just plain old envy or malice? God knows we all do it frequently, clergy and laity alike.

St Teresa of Calcutta said, "If you judge people, you have no time to love them." Furthermore, Thomas a Kempis stated, "Be not angry that you cannot make others as you would wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be."

Jesus encouraged us to first examine our own lives before we judge anyone else. The Christian way is to put God's spotlight on yourself before you judge someone else. A great mantra to help us with this is: "There but for the Grace of God go I." If we lived like this, we would usher in a spiritual revolution, both in our own lives and in our parishes and wider society. We would gossip less, criticize less and condemn less and have a better understanding that we are all fallen, wounded and prone to darkness, sin and confusion.

Some will protest that we need to judge and discern people and situations—how else can we help? Apart from the self-righteousness of this view, it's wrong because it presumes we know how and what God thinks. God's thinking is as far away from our thinking as the east is from the west. We should practice not judging. The next time you come across a story about someone's fall (through any human weakness), instead of judging them, pray for them, offer them up to God's mercy and love. When we think and act like this, we think and act like the Father.

Lord, teach me to stop sitting in judgement and condemning others; for the measure I dish out is the measure I will receive.

(Source: Word Among Us, India, Daily Reflection)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday March 2, 2022: ASH WEDNESDAY (Mass times: Monastery—7.00am, Parish—9.30am & 7.00pm)

Friday March 4, 2022: AUTUMN EMBER DAY—Special Day of Prayer and Penance

Source: Ordo 2022

AUTUMN EMBER DAY

The first Friday of March, which this year falls on 4th, is designated "Autumn Ember Day" in the Australian liturgical calendar.

Older readers will recall that Ember Days were part of the church year before the reforms of the second Vatican Council. They were four groups of three days (always Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) of fasting and abstinence observed after the first Sunday of Lent, Pentecost Sunday, the feast of the Holy Cross on September 14th and the feast of St Lucy on December 13th. Ember Days corresponded roughly with the beginning of each of the four seasons.

The second Vatican Council retained Ember Days in principle but left it to bishops conferences to determine the time, number, and purpose of Ember and Rogation Days. In 2008 the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference decided that the Australian Church should observe the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) each year as special days of prayer and penance.

All Fridays are days of penance with fast and abstinence anyway, although our bishops conference has substituted other penitential practices such as prayer, self denial and helping others.

The aim of Ember Days is to connect our prayers for favourable weather and good harvests with our responsibility to care for the earth as stewards of the world's resources. For this reason, the bishops ask that emphasis be placed on doing penance, on fasting and abstinence in connection with these Ember Days.

Fasting and abstaining from meat encourage us to be restrained in our exploitation of natural resources. A day of penance expresses our solidarity with those who are disadvantaged, especially those who suffer through famine and the inequitable distribution of the world's goods.

Source: Liturgia Brisbane 2022

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4
To hate no man.

PARISH FUNDS

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

PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK DETAILS

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 100002141

Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:

CBA—Catholic Development Fund

God bless you all!

MEETINGS OF PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Parish Finance Council Meeting

Monday 28th February 7:00pm

All parishioners are requested to contact (via email or in writing) to the PFC regarding any important matters for the growth of the Parish community.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 MASS

Please join us at St Benedict's Parish Arcadia Mass for World Day of Prayer on **Friday 4th of March 2022 10am**

REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of:

NICOLA SCOTTI

on Thursday 24th February 2022



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

***Our prayers and thoughts are with Nicola's family
and all the Scotti families.***

HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY



BIAGIO & NICOLINA ABIGNANO

You have shown us what true love is.
We wish you good health, love and happiness together.
Congratulations on your 60th Anniversary
beautiful couple!

FLOWER ROSTER

Give something beautiful to the Lord. We would like to start a flower arrangement roster in order to have flowers arranged weekly. If we have quite a few people volunteering then we won't expect it more than once a month. Please contact the parish office.

FERTILITY CARE

Are you curious to know more about the FertilityCare System to effectively manage your fertility or infertility issues? Come along to an introductory session on **Saturday 26th March @10.30am. Presented via zoom**, these sessions are a convenient way for you to learn more about your fertility to either achieve or avoid pregnancy, all from the comfort of your home (no babysitting required!).

NURSING APPOINTMENT

Arrupe House Pymble is a small community of retired Jesuits, priests and brothers. An experienced registered nurse is required to work with a small team of nurses. This position is on a permanent part-time or casual basis with AM duties. Please email your CV to Drupathi: Email: arrupehouse@sjasl.org.au

In Our Parish

We welcome into God's family, all who were recently baptised.
We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially *Lyla Abood, Brother Mario, Theresa Gittany (Lila Bacha's mum)*

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially Nicola Scotti.



NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

5/3/2022 to 6/3/2022

1st Sunday of Lent Year C

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte		Paul El-Chaar
Reader1	Miriam Brown	CHILDREN'S
Reader2	Margaret Bensley	MASS
Prayers	Mary Cascun	
TV		Tyrone El-Chaar
Music		Noelle Takchi
Music		Tackhi family
Music		
Music		

NEXT CHILDREN'S MASS



Sunday 6th March 2022:

9am Mass

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Tom Marinov and Paul El-Chaar for all your time and effort to sort out our sound system and TV monitor issues.

We really appreciate it!

FIRST RECONCILIATION

For the children who have made their Confirmation last year, or Confirmed at Baptism and **enrolled** please collect the Reconciliation books from the Parish Office:

Books distribution:

Monday 28th February 2022 - Between 9am to 3pm.

Classes begin:

Monday 7th March 2022 until 28th March 2022
(Every Monday 4.15pm to 5.15pm)

First Reconciliation date on – Saturday 2nd April - 10am

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every

Friday nights:

after 7pm Mass

Wednesday mornings:

after 9.30am Mass.

Everyone welcome.

For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.



CATECHIST NEWS

SRE (Scripture) starting dates –

Middle Dural, Galston & Glenorie Public School – started

Arcadia Public School – Wednesday 2nd March

Hillside Public School – Friday 4th March – please note change in date

Catechist Needed - If you are free on Wednesday mornings and love being with children, why not consider joining this ministry. **A vacancy exists for a Catechist for Year 4 and a helper for Year 5 at Glenorie Public School on Wednesdays 10:10-10:50am.** Training, books and support are provided free. Please call the parish office, contact me or speak to Fr Hilarion if you are interested.

Next Catechist meeting – next Wednesday 2nd March at 12:30pm at the parish. All are invited.

God bless,

Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

ASH WEDNESDAY 2nd MARCH 2022

DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Holy Mass & Distribution of Ashes

Monastery: 7.00am

Parish: 9.30am & 7.00pm



During Lent:

- Stations of the Cross
 - * Wednesdays 9:00am (before 9:30am Mass)
 - * Fridays 6:30pm (before 7:00pm Mass)
- Adoration and Benediction
 - * Saturdays from 10:00—11:00am
 - Confession/Reconciliation available
- Confession / Reconciliation
 - * Wednesday after 9:30am Mass
 - * Friday after 7:00pm Mass
 - * Saturday from 10:00am—11:00am

LENTEN GROUPS

Lenten Prayer Group will be held at Benigna Cascun's home. The leader will be Gebran Azzi.



Location: 726A Old Northern Rd
Dural 2158

Day/Time: Commencing Wednesday 9th March, 7:00pm

Contact: Benigna (phone or text) 0450 311 951

Everyone welcome.

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome.
For more details call Angela Egiziano.

Ph: 9653 2312.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022

Please join us for World Day of Prayer on **Friday 4th of March 2022 10am** at St Benedict's Parish Arcadia.

For more information contact Pauline Honor Ph: 0490 025 759.

Countries presenting are England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Christian ladies in those countries have prepared the service for World Day of Prayer.

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

CATHOLIC YOUTH BROKEN BAY

Young Adults Gather for Glorious

On Wednesday the 16th of March, Catholic Youth Broken Bay (CYBB) launched a new initiative for young adults called *Glorious*. Eighty young people from across the Diocese and further afield gathered at the Light of Christ Centre to meet, mingle and discover what Glorious will look like. As Alex Leach (CYBB Team Leader) explained on the night, Glorious is a community for young adults who want to offer others the chance to encounter Christ through creative arts and events.



The next step for those interested is the first Glorious fortnightly gathering, taking place on Thursday March 3rd in the Nulty Room at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral (just opposite the doors of the Cathedral). For anyone 18-35 who is interested in any of the creative arts, production, events management or hospitality, Alex and Rachel from CYBB would love to see you there.

When: 6 – 9 pm, Thursday 3rd March

Where: Nulty Room, Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, 25 Yardley Avenue, Waitara NSW

Who: 18-35s who want to be part of something special.

More information:

rachel.vala@bbcatholic.org.au or follow Catholic Youth Broken Bay on Instagram and Facebook.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Tuesday 8th March

Started by the Suffragettes in the early 1900's, the first **International Women's Day** was celebrated in 1911.

The theme for International Women's Day 2022 is #BreakTheBias. Recognising that as individuals, we are all responsible for our thoughts and actions, #BreakTheBias challenges us in our communities, workplaces, schools and universities to work together to **break the bias** and stop discrimination. For more information, visit www.internationalwomensday.com.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Feast Day: March 3

C. 1858—1955



***Patron Saint of racial justice and philanthropists
From riches to rags, she lived the Catholic dream***

Today's saint wove in and out of oncoming traffic. She travelled north while everyone else was zooming south. Friends and acquaintances in her refined, educated, upper-class milieu glided past her in search of marriage, children, wealth, travel, security, and leisure. Katharine deftly avoided them and moved forward at her own deliberate pace, looking for poverty, chastity, obedience, solitude, and God. She turned down marriage proposals, rejected a life of luxury, and resisted the expectations of her status. Katharine was deeply rooted in all things Catholic from her youth. She went from riches to rags, starting out immensely wealthy yet becoming progressively poorer with age. The classic American story is to begin with little, work hard, identify opportunity, live frugally, and ultimately attain success through sheer dint of effort. Saint Katharine Drexel's father was immensely wealthy and powerful. He lived, even embodied, the American dream. His daughter lived the Catholic dream.

One of the reasons why Saint Katharine ever became a nun in the first place was because a Pope did his job. In 1887, Katharine and her two sisters went to Rome and were received in audience by Pope Leo XIII. Having come into enormous inheritances upon their father's recent death, the young ladies were financially supporting some Indian missions in the American West. Katharine asked the Holy Father if he could send some missionaries to staff these missions. The Pope responded like a wise and zealous priest. He asked Katharine to send herself. That is, he asked her to consider consecrating her own life to Christ as a missionary sister. The Pope's words were a turning point. She sought spiritual counsel from trusted priests and saw the path forward. In 1889, her local newspaper ran the headline: "Miss Drexel Enters a Catholic Convent—Gives Up Seven Million."

From that point on, Sister Katharine Drexel never stopped giving. Saint Teresa of Ávila said that one man and God make an army. With Saint Katharine Drexel, one woman and a fortune made an army. She founded an order called the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament with the counsel and encouragement of Saint Mother Cabrini. Her order began over a hundred missions and schools for American Indians and African Americans in the American South and West, including one of the first universities to admit racial minorities. Katharine was decades ahead of the civil rights movement which caught fire in the U.S. in the decade after her death. Sister Katharine spent a good part of her life on trains, travelling at least six months every year to visit her apostolates and the sisters who staffed them. Yet amid all this activity, she maintained an intense life of prayer. In this she emulated the balance typical of the greatest saints. Their concern for justice, not social justice, was rooted in a deep love of God present in the Blessed Sacrament. There was no duality in this. It wasn't social work on one side and the sacraments and devotion on the other side. It was contemplation in action, love of God overflowing naturally into love of neighbour.

After a life of generous self-gift, Saint Katharine suffered a major heart attack and spent the last twenty years of her life largely immobile, in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. She had always retained the desire to become a contemplative sister, and it was granted, in a sense, in her last two decades. She died at a venerable age in 1955 and was canonized by Pope Saint John Paul II in 2000. Saint John Neumann, the Bishop of Philadelphia who died just two years after Katharine was born in his diocese, was a poor immigrant from Central Europe. Katharine embodied a succeeding generation of homegrown Catholicism. She was an icon of a new generation of Catholic Americans who would power the incredibly organized and vibrant life of the early and mid-twentieth Church in the United States of America: educated in Catholic schools, socially conscious, pope friendly, sacramentally focused, wealthy, and extremely generous. Saint Katharine lived and died a model nun.

Saint Katharine Drexel, intercede before God to assist all who seek your aid to overcome the temptation to love inordinately the things of this world. Your holy detachment from wealth and comfort freed you for a life dedicated to prayer and service. May we have that same detachment and that same commitment to God. Amen.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

FOR RELIGIOUS SISTERS AND CONSECRATED WOMEN

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

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.

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.

Office Hours:
Mondays & Fridays 9.30am to 2.30pm
Parish Office: 9653 2312
Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB
Email: hilarionfernando@yahoo.com
After hours: 0478 909 541
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia
Address: 2 Fagans Road,
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