

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



I Am
the True Vine
My Father
is the
Vinedresser

John 15:1

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

27 & 28 APRIL 2024

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 10:00am to 11:00am
Adoration & Confession (Reconciliation)

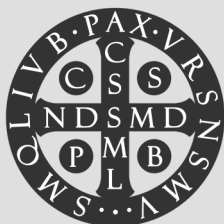
MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

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



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

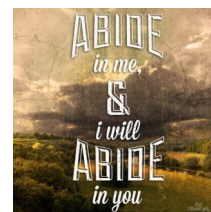
Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SELF REFLECTION: ABIDE

Sundays' Gospel, John 10:11-18, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you."

Abide meaning: to await

- How do I abide in the Lord?
- Do I pray by raising my heart and mind to God?
- Do I abide in Jesus and draw strength from him?



On this the feast day the example of St Joseph the Worker can enrich us. He said 'Yes' to God's call in difficult circumstances. He opened himself to God's pruning and abandoned his own preferences. I ask him to help me do likewise. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 9:26-31 (JB)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, April 28

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm 22:26-28, 30-31

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

Ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. (John 15:7)

Have you ever heard of snake oil salesmen? They sell a product that they promise will solve all of our problems, cure all of our ills, and guarantee a happy life. It's a tempting offer. But we know deep down that the salesman's promises are empty.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we can come to him and ask for whatever we want. Does that mean that, like a snake oil salesman, he is promising to give us whatever we desire, even if it's riches, fame, or power? Not at all.

When Jesus makes this promise, he begins by saying "If you remain in me and my words remain in you" (John 15:7). That's the key: abiding in Jesus. He wants us to be like branches that are constantly fed and sustained by a vine. That means staying connected to him so that he can feed us and form us (15:5). The closer we are to Jesus and the more we let his words shape us, the more our hearts can become like his own. Our desires and dreams start to reflect his desires and dreams for us. As a result, it's more likely that we'll be "asking" according to God's will.

Of course, this doesn't happen overnight. Even as we strive to align ourselves with God's will, we should still keep bringing our needs or desires to Jesus. We should always come to him with the confidence of children who trust in their loving father. After all, we have a good God who wants to give us good things. But in the end, prayer is not an exercise in trying to get *him* to bend to *our* will. It's a process of freely embracing his will.

Jesus is promising us that we can ask and receive as we align ourselves with him and hold onto his words. He himself will dwell within us and lead us to our heavenly Father. And that's not an empty promise!

"Jesus, help me to abide in you!"

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

APRIL

Monday 29 Readings: Acts 14:5-18. Jn 14:21-26.
R: Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.
St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor

Tuesday 30 Readings: Acts 14:19-28. Jn 14:27-31.
R: Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.
St Pius V, pope.

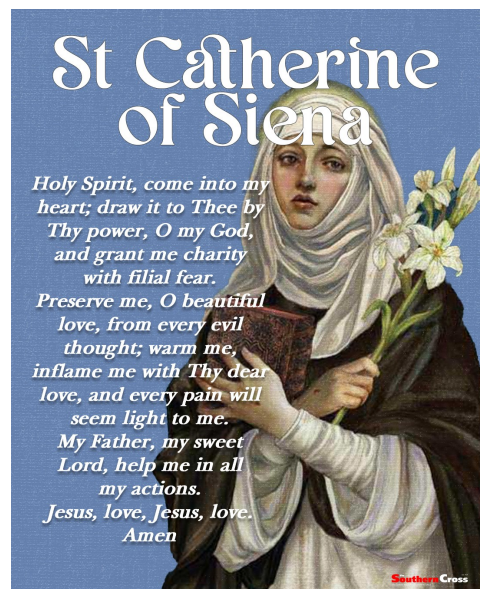
MAY

Wednesday 1 Readings: Acts 15:1-6. Jn 15:1-8.
R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
St Joseph the Worker.

Thursday 2 Readings: Acts 15:7-21. Jn 15:9-11.
R: Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.
St Athanasius, bishop, doctor.

Friday 3 Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-8. Jn 14:6-14.
R: Their message goes out through all the earth.
Sts Philip and James, apostles.

Saturday 4 Readings: Acts 16:1-10. Jn 15:18-21.
R: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.



Source: Ordo 2024



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2024

For the Formation of Religious and Seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

4/5/2024 TO 5/5/2024
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

	Saturday 7.00pm	Sunday 9.00am	Sunday 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	Paul E
Reader1	Sr Carol T	Ann L	CHILDREN'S
Reader2	Miriam B	Peter G	CHILDREN'S
Prayers	Mary C	Teresa G	CHILDREN'S
TV		Trey O'C	Xavier F
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Pauline H	Theresa N
Music		Keith W	Martina J
Music		Marisa Q	Adam F
Morning Tea		Sophie/Andrea	Robin B
 FLOWERS	Tania T		

OFFICE CLOSED SCHOOL
HOLIDAYS

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

FROM FRIDAY 19TH OF APRIL

RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 29TH APRIL.

FOR ANYTHING URGENT PLEASE
CONTACT FATHER SHANSANA ON
0437 884 233.

ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!



We are excited to announce that St Benedict's Youth group for **8-12yr olds** will be held **every Friday during school days only**.

START DATE: Friday 3rd of May 2024
TIME: 4pm to 5.30pm

To register your child please email the parish office:
arcadia.parish@bigpond.com with your child's name, age and parent's phone number.



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

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

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@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Priest: 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](https://www.facebook.com/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.