

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



First Sunday of LENT
5 & 6 March 2022
Year C

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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.**

SOMETHING MORE FOR THE LORD

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
- **Listen to St Benedict, our Parish Patron:**

In these days...let us add something beyond the wonted measure of our service, such as private prayers and abstinence in food and drink. Let each one, over and above the measure prescribed for him, offer God something of his own free will in the joy of the Holy Spirit.' (St Benedict)



First Reading**Deuteronomy 26:4-10 (JB)**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.****Second Reading****Romans 10:8-13 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Alleluia!**GOSPEL****Luke 4:1-13 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him, 'throw yourself down from here, for Scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you
to guard you,

and again:

They will hold you up on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him to return at the appointed time.

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

If you declare
with your mouth, "JESUS
is LORD"
and believe
with your heart that
God raised him from the DEAD
you will be
SAVED.

ROMANS 10:9



GOSPEL REFLECTION
Sunday, March 6 2022
Luke 4:1-13 First Sunday of Lent

The Spirit led Jesus into the Desert for 40 days to be tempted and tested. During Lent we too are tested and tempted, although it's different for each of us. Some find food an overwhelming temptation, whilst others struggle instead with envy and jealousy. In this sense temptation are a mystery: 'By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.' (CCC540). So, during this holy season we too can expect to be tempted and tested.

The Scriptures make clear that Jesus was tempted by Satan and so are we! The name Satan means 'adversary'. In the Book of Job, we're given a vivid picture of Satan in God's heavenly court, along with other angels, where he has the role of accuser or prosecutor (see 1:6-12;2:1-7). The Scriptures also identify Satan as the serpent who tempted Adam and Eve (Gen.3) and thus as the origin of sin and temptation.

Therefore, the Scriptures and tradition clarify that we have a mortal enemy who, although created by God, is in a desperate struggle to overthrow God's reign and lead his creation into darkness and death.

Over Easter, we will recite and renew our baptismal promises. Bear this in mind as we move through Lent, because, as you know, this renewal involves us actively and freely rejecting Satan. Lent is also a time for us to discover anew the Gospel, the 'good news', which Jesus began to proclaim immediately after his time of testing. The good news is a message of two parts: firstly, to repent, and secondly, to believe in the Gospel.

We walk together on this road marked out for us by the Church and take up our call to stand firm and resist Satan, knowing that he will flee, embrace freely and with love the Gospel, which is Christ with us and in us, the hope of salvation.

(Source: Bible Alive UK—Daily Gospel Reflection pg.20)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Monday	March 7, 2022: Sts Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs
Tuesday	March 8, 2022: St John of God, religious
Wednesday	March 9, 2022: St Frances of Rome, religious

Source: Ordo 2022



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO BIOETHICAL CHALLENGES

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4
To deny oneself, in order to follow Christ.

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!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Thank you to Pauline Honor for hosting the World Day of Prayer. We had so many attend from different parishes as well as other Churches. It was a lovely service.

CATHOLICARE'S COUNSELLING SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE

CatholicCare, our dedicated social services agency in the Diocese offers Government funded, fee for service and NDIS approved therapy options for yourself, your children and as a family unit. **We offer a welcoming, inclusive environment and a safe space for all ages.**

At the heart of your journey with us, you and your best interests are the focus. We walk alongside you, providing a genuine and non-judgmental space. You can be assured our counsellors will meet you where you are at, go at your pace and we will not jump to conclusions. You can expect to receive kindness, empathy and compassion.

Accessing our counselling services is very simple. Simply call 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccareddb.org.au.

We have Family Centres in Artarmon, Brookvale, Tuggerah and Waitara, and offer sessions in-person and online.

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.

GCEA - Galston Christian Education Association

Thanks for your ongoing support of the GCEA and the work that God is doing through Lachlan Gage at Galston High School.

A reminder of the details for the upcoming **Term 1 Prayer Meeting...**

When: Monday 14th March @ 7.30pm

Where: St Benedict's Catholic Church

We'd love to see you there :-)

Grace and peace,

Roger Hokin
Youth and Young Adults Minister
Dural District Anglican Churches
GCEA Secretary
roger@duralanglican.org.au
0413 067 770



CARITAS UKRAINE URGENTLY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Caritas Australia is currently raising funds to support communities impacted by the conflict in Ukraine.

Visit caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/ or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

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!).

Please [download flyer](#) and RSVP katie.fullilove@bbcatholic.org.au for details and/or zoom link.

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

12/3/2022 to 13/3/2022

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte		Nigel Morgan
Reader1	Mary Cascun	Rebecca Raad
Reader2	Miriam Brown	Ann Lomas
Prayers	Maria Gambino	Bernadette Watt
TV		Teresa Gambino
Music		Melanie Hume
Music		Keith Wallace
Music		Michael Greenwell

CHILDREN'S MASS COORDINATOR NEEDED

Our parish holds a Children's Mass on the first Sunday of each month in school term planned to be during the 10.30am Mass. A coordinator is required to organise this. It would involve organising readers for the Mass and providing them with the reading or prayers and being present during the Mass to help to direct the children when to read. If you are interested please contact Fr Hilarion or the parish office.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia.

Through your generosity you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

FIRST RECONCILIATION

For the children who have made their Confirmation last year, or Confirmed at Baptism and **enrolled** classes commence this Monday 7th March 2022.

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

Welcome to all families attending our first Children's Mass for the year!

As our Catechists begin another year of teaching Special Religious Education (Scripture) in the local public schools of the parish, let us give thanks for this ministry and pray that it will bear fruit in the hearts and minds of the children and their families.

This year our Catechists and helpers are:

At Arcadia PS – Rose Granata, Lucy Sorbello, Fr Bernard and Miriam Brown

At Galston PS – Paula El-Chaar, Bernadette Watt, Tony Jasprizza and Paul El-Chaar

At Glenorie PS – Mary Abood, Violet Boumerhe, Glenice Lui, Natalie Kazzi, Rita Sarkis, Denise Youl, Colleen Appino and Miriam Brown

At Hillside PS – Marinka Marinov and Sally Souma

At Middle Dural PS – Pauline Honor and Delel Touma

Our Reserve Catechist - Teresa Gambino and our Catechists currently on leave – Gebran Azzi, Josephine Letteri and Virginia Tanna

The CCD is currently holding free Ministry induction training on Mondays from 10am to 12:30pm via Zoom. This week's session, Monday 7th March, is Lesson Planning: Teaching the Authorised Curriculum. The following week, Monday 14th March will be Development of the Child and Adolescent. Please register via email on registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Catechist Vacancies:

A reserve Catechist and helper for Glenorie PS
Wednesdays 10:10am – 10:50am

If you are available and interested to know more, please contact Fr Hilarion or myself.

God bless,

Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

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.



CATHOLIC YOUTH BROKEN BAY



6 WEEK COURSE

HOW TO DATE WITH PASSION AND PURPOSE

Wednesday March 23rd to April 27th 2022

6.30 - 9.30pm

Cost: \$60

Enquiries: rachel.vala@bbcatholic.org.au

Fire Up Ministries bringing *The Dating Course* to Broken Bay

Young father-of-two Simon Carrington is a gifted speaker on relationships and Theology of the Body. Having studied Theology and Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame and currently working closely with other speakers such as Jason Evert and Christopher West, Simon has a wealth of knowledge and experience in delivering wisdom and clarity on how to have flourishing relationships for today.

For more information, see [Catholic Youth Broken Bay](#) via [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

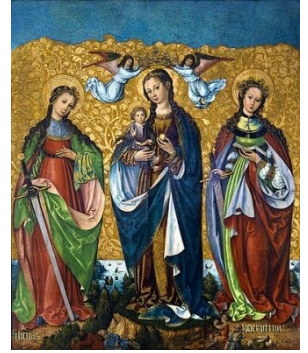
Saint Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Feast Day: March 7

C. Late Second Century—203

***Patron Saints of expectant mothers,
widows, and butchers***

Young mothers bleed to death in the arena as pagan eyes drink in the spectacle



Many centuries ago, in the desert lands of North Africa now populated by tens of millions of adherents of Islam, there was once a thriving Catholic Church. Dioceses, bishops, theologians, shrines, cemeteries, schools, monasteries, convents, and saints filled the towns hugging the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. This vibrant Catholicism gave birth to, and was inspired by, the witness of numerous martyrs. Many of their names are known, among them today's saints, Felicity and Perpetua. Few documents in Church history can match the raw power of the first person, eye-witness account of the assassination of Perpetua and Felicity. It is a gripping narrative filled with breathtaking dramatic detail. The reader can almost feel the hot sand of the arena warming his feet, a gentle sea breeze caressing his cheeks, and the sweaty crowd pressing against him, their roar for bloodlust echoing through the dry air.

Vivia Perpetua, twenty-two years old, was married, a noblewoman, and a new mother whose baby was still nursing. Her pagan father begged his favorite daughter to renounce her Christian faith, but to no avail. Felicity was a slave and pregnant when jailed. She gave birth a few days before her martyrdom. Her child would be raised by Christian women in Carthage. Perpetua, in her own hand, recorded the events leading up to her martyrdom, while an eye-witness to her death completed the text later. When they were first thrown into the arena, Perpetua and Felicity were attacked by a rabid heifer, which was chosen because it shared the same sex as its victims. The young women were grievously injured by the mad cow and then momentarily removed from the arena until gladiators were brought in to conclude the day's spectacle. The executioners carried out their duties quickly, though Perpetua had to guide the gladiator's sword to her throat after he first painfully struck a bone instead of a vein. As the narration states, "Perhaps such a woman...could not die unless she herself had willed it." Perpetua and Felicity were imprisoned together, suffered together, and died together in 203 A.D. in Carthage, North Africa, along with other noble martyrs whose names are preserved in the same account.

The vivid description of their deaths was so moving that it was faithfully preserved down through the centuries and has come to us largely intact. Apart from the New Testament writings themselves, only a few documents from the early Church pre-date the passion narrative of Perpetua and Felicity. It invites tantalizing reflection on how many similar first hand testimonies of famous martyrdoms from the early Church have been lost! What could have been known about the final moments of Saints Paul, Cecilia, Irenaeus, and so many apostles and popes! The accounts of Perpetua, Felicity, and Polycarp must fire our imagination for all the rest. The Church in North Africa so often read the account of Perpetua and Felicity in its public liturgies that Saint Augustine, a North African bishop living two hundred years after their martyrdoms, had to remind his faithful that the narrative was not on a par with Scripture itself.

The fact that women and slaves, both mothers who loved their children, were willing to die rather than renounce their faith, is a testament to the revolutionary message of Jesus Christ. The Son of God gave us a true religion. But He also gave us a true anthropology. He has revealed to man his true origins, his high dignity, and his ultimate purpose. Jesus reveals man to himself. So when early Christians, or even present-day Christians, understand that they are made in God's image and likeness, and that His Son died for them as much as He died for anyone else, they stand a little taller. If a Christian is told he is garbage, property, a slave, old, a prisoner, or a foreigner, he shouldn't flinch at the insult, because under such denigrations is a deeper identity: "child of God," "made in God's image and likeness," and "worthy of the blood of the Lamb." These are the titles of a citizen of the Kingdom of God, whose shadow covers the earth and comforts all those who live in its shade. Felicity and Perpetua clung to their identity as Christians in the face of imprisonment, ridicule, torture, and pain. The newness of the faith, and the dignity it imparted, fortified them to accept death rather than a return to rough paganism. May our faith be as fresh to us today.

Saints Felicity and Perpetua, your martyrdom was an act of bravery, which moved the Christians of your age and continues to move us today. Give all who invoke your names similar courage, fortitude, and faith to overcome timidity in witnessing to Christ in difficult circumstances. Amen.

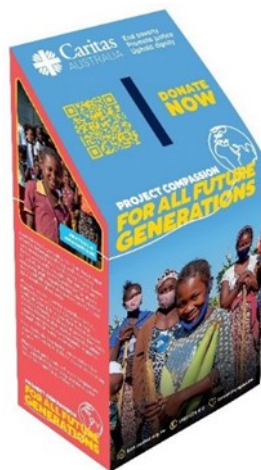


Anatercia 12, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father died. Then she participated in Caritas Australia-supported training and gained access to psychosocial supports.

Now, Anatercia can easily access clean drinking water, community members are able to grow healthy crops all year round, and there is enough nutritious food to eat. Anatercia feels better supported by her community, has more time to study and do her homework, and hopes to fulfil her dream of becoming a nurse.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.



You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au,

or by calling 1800 024 413.

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