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 Daily 7:00am 7:00am

Please contact Father Hilarion for the following:

BAPTISMS RECONCILIATION FOR THE SICK MARRIAGES FUNERALS

Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

Fourth Sunday of LENT

26 & 27 March 2022

Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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.*

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage



Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last.

to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Looking at Mary with her Son in her arms, I think of young mothers and their children fleeing wars and famine, or waiting in refugee camps. They are many!

May the Mother of God, Queen of Peace, obtain harmony in our hearts and in the entire world.

Amen

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12 (Year C) (JB) A reading from the book of Joshua The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded

work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (Year C) (JB) A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;

old things have passed away;

behold, all things have become new.

through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's

one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (Year C) (JB) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say. Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about, "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening.

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found." The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



GOSPEL REFLECTION Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Jesus attracted those outside of conventional society; tax collectors and prostitutes clearly enjoyed his company, and were drawn by his acceptance of them. This made them open to hearing what he had to say. The Pharisees, in contrast, were scandalized by the company he kept, and they harshly judged those they saw as morally bankrupt or spiritually inferior.

Typically, Jesus seized the moment to teach about his Father, which is the essence of his mission. Our image of God is often tainted or distorted, and we can fall into two extremes: on one hand, we imagine God as a tyrannical judge who's constantly angry: on the other, we feel he's overindulgent and avuncular, and it's easy to pull the wool over his eyes. We may feel that God's teachings and commandments have little bearing on our lives.

Jesus' parable brings us right into the heart of his Father. God has given each of us free will and we're at liberty to follow or reject him. However, this carries with it a profound responsibility as we're accountable for our actions and decisions. The son in the parable exercised his freedom and chose to leave the safety of his father's house. At the dawn of creation, humankind also freely chose the path leading away from God. Removed from the love, security and protection of the Father's house, we lost our way. Sin, death and corruption robbed us of the dignity we once possessed. Like the prodigal son new became slaves of our passions and drives.

The image of the chastened son returning home is deeply moving. We'd do well to ponder and meditate upon this picture of profound human abjection encountering divine mercy. Jesus' teaching about our Father exposes us to a love so divine and compelling that it has the power to melt the hardest of hearts. As we journey through this Lent, we too can experience the warm embrace of our heavenly Father. Pope Francis writes in *Evangelii Gaudium: "Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace." How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.' (para.3)*

(Source: Bible Alive—UK—Daily Gospel Reflections p. 41)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday

April 2, 2022: St Francis of Paola, hermit.

Source: Ordo 2022



THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4 To relieve the poor.

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

As we are slowly becoming a cashless society we would like to remind you that we have a Tap N Go facility available. All you have to do is wave your credit or debit card on the scanner which are located close by to both entry doors. You are also welcome to create an automatic debit to help out our parish. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISM MASS 2022

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 12 April** at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

The priests of our Diocese gather for this celebration with Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitment.

During Mass, the oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and then taken back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year.

Parishioners are warmly invited to join together in this celebration. Please contact the parish office before Monday 4 April should you wish to attend.



THANK YOU

Thank you to Robin Barbara who has been the main organiser for Greg Lucas' memorial service on Saturday.

God bless you always!

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Lorraine & Phil Dailey

We salute two true partners in life. Cherish this blessing and through God's grace, we pray for you many more years of joy and happiness together. Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary!

PROJECT COMPASSION



From her life as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rosalie is a now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope

For All Future Generations.

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 <u>lent.caritas.org.au</u>,or by calling 1800 024 413.





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 Greg Lucas.





NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER			CATECHIST NEWS
2/4/2022 to 3/4/2022			Free training for Catechists continues next Monday from 10am -12:30pm via Zoom. This week's session on Monday 28 th March is Introduction to the Bible. The
5th Sunday of Lent Year C			
	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am	following week, Monday 4 th April will be the final session
Acolyte		Paul El-Chaar	on Lesson Planning: Using Digital Resources. Please register via email on registrations@bbcatholic.org.au
Reader1	Miriam Brown	CHILDREN'S	If you are able to be available on Wednesday or Friday
Reader2	Mary Cascun	MASS	mornings to be a Catechist or a helper and would like to be involved in this wonderful ministry please contact Fr
Prayers	Ann Lomas	children	Hilarion or myself.
тν		Tyrone El-Chaar	God bless, Miriam Brown <u>srearcadia@gmail.com</u>
Music		Mark Quirk	Parish Catechist Co-ordinator
Music		Marisa Q.	PIETY STALL
Music		Teresa Gambino	
Music		Helen Facione We are holding the Piety stall on all Masses this weekend including:	
CHILDREN'S MASS			Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday night, Sunday Morning and Sunday afternoon (Latin Mass). Also Sunday 7am at Monastery Chapel.
Sunday 3rd April 2022 9am Mass			
FIRST RECONCILIATION			All profits will go to the parish.
This Sunday 27th of March the children will be presented to the parish at the 9am Mass prior to			We will have puzzles, blankets, night lights, statues, prayer books, prayer cards, Rosaries etc.
their Reconciliation date next week.			Please support our parish!
Please pray for these children.			
FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION			For any further information please call Lila Bacha on 0418 360 024.
			RELIGIOUS GIFTS
parish this year will be held on:		year will be held on:	
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Satu	Saturday 2 nd April	
10am		10am	
STATIONS OF THE CROSS			
Every Friday night 6.30pm followed by Mass 7pm			
Everyone welcome.			
			LENTEN GROUP
			Lenten Prayer Group are held at
			Benigna Cascun's home. The group
CCC PRAYER GROUP			Location: 726A Old Northern Rd Dural 2158
Prayer meeting held every			Day/Time: Commencing Wednesday 9 th March, 7:00pm Contact: Benigna (phone or text) 0450 311 951
Friday nights: PRAY			Everyone welcome.
after 7pm Mass together			ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP
after 9.30am Mass.			60 ⁰⁰⁰ 882
Everyone welcome. Come and meet new people.			Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome. For more details call Angela Egiziano.
For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.			Ph: 9653 2312.

POPE'S ACT OF CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO OUR LADY

Pope Francis will consecrate humanity, Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary during the usual Friday Lenten Penitential service at St Peter's tomorrow, the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. The Pope has invited the whole Church to join with him and to pray the Act of Consecration throughout the day.

"This Act of Consecration is meant to be a gesture of the universal Church, which in this dramatic moment lifts up to God, through His Mother and ours, the cry of pain of all those who suffer and implore an end to the violence, and to entrust the future of our human family to the Queen of Peace," the Pope said.

Act of Consecration

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns. We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer. Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war. Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation. Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world. Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness. Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons. Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love. Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity. Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world. O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons,

may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion



and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (In 19:26). In this way he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (v. 27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history. At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The "Fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the "Fiat", on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our "living fountain of hope", water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen

Legio Marite

Legion of Mary :: Melbourne Senatus 456 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne 3051 Ph: +61 3 9328 4757 | president@legionofmary.net.au www.legionofmary.net.au

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit

Feast Day: April 2

C. 1416-1507

Patron Saint of Calabria, mariners, and naval officers

He lived a perpetual Lent



The first followers of Saint Francis of Assisi were known as the "Mendicants from Assisi." Yet as the group attracted men and women from all over Italy and beyond, a new name, not specific to Assisi, was needed. Saint Francis named his brotherhood the Ordo Fratrum Minorum (O.F.M.). This is typically translated from the Latin as the Order of Friars Minor, implying that there is an Order of Friars Major. A better translation might be the Order of Lesser Brothers. Saint Francis wanted himself, and all of his brothers, to be less in everything—less prideful, less well known, less wealthy, and less well nourished than anyone else.

Today's saint, the Padre Pio of his era, was a holy priest from the town of Paola in Southern Italy. He was baptized as Francis by his parents when, after several years of going childless, they made a vow to name any son that might be born to them in the great saint's honor. Francis of Paola was worthy of his namesake from a young age. His parents took special care with his religious upbringing and brought him to live for a year in a Franciscan monastery when Francis was just twelve. The young Francis developed a reputation for holiness even when just a teen. By the age of twenty, he was living as a hermit in a cave near Paola when local men began to gather around him. The fledgling group adopted the name "the Hermits of Brother Francis of Assisi," a name later changed to the "Friars Minims," or just "Minims," meaning "less" or "least," in the spirit of the "Lesser Brothers" that Saint Francis of Assisi had founded centuries before.

Francis of Paola desired humility, nothingness, and total self-abnegation. He and his followers lived a perpetual Lent. All Minims took the usual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. But they also took a special fourth vow to abstain, all year long and all life long, from meat, eggs, butter, cheese, milk, and all dairy products. The fast never ended. This was mortification on a heroic scale. Vegetarianism, much less veganism, was a step beyond what Saint Francis of Assisi himself had lived. Saint Francis of Assisi ate what was set before him, including meat. He even criticized vegetarian brothers who refused meat, saying such an attitude questioned God's providence and presumed the future, when a brother should instead gratefully accept whatever dish was placed on the table before him.

Francis of Paola's veganism was united to a strict moral code, a community life built around the Sacraments, and a deep spirituality centered on Jesus Christ. To be "one with nature" does not mean to be morally ambiguous or to break with religious traditions. A diet should not be a creed. Saint Francis was organic in that he lived one with God, with nature, with his religious brothers, and with the Church. Francis was perennially concerned with the moral laxity of the Church of his era, and purposefully fasted and did penance in reparation for its sins. While Francis of Assisi lived austerely and suffered debilitating illnesses, he was nevertheless cheerful and animated in his dealings with others. No one ever accused Francis of Paola of being ebullient. He was a fully armed spiritual warrior of the most serious kind. He went barefoot. He slept on a board. He was a desert father without the sand.

After a very long life of fasting, prayer, miracle working, and wide fame for his holiness even outside of Italy, Saint Francis of Paola died in France. His order had by then spread throughout Europe. His reputation for sanctity was such that he was canonized in 1519, only twelve years after his death. In 1562, Protestant Calvinists in France unsealed his tomb and found his body incorrupt. They then descrated the saint, scattering his remains. Saint Francis of Paola, after sacrificing everything in life, was not allowed to rest in peace. He was strewn about like trash, ensuring that only trace relics of him remained. Saint Francis wanted to be treated as the least of all. His desire was fulfilled both in life and in death.

Saint Francis of Paola, you lived an integrated life deeply united to God, nature, and your fellow man. Intercede before the Trinity in heaven on our behalf, assisting us to grow closer to God through death to self, through prayer and through a deep attachment to Christ. Amen.

Source: mycatholic.life

Vinnies Flood Appeals



In response to the devastating floods impacting across NSW the St Vincent de Paul Society has launched an emergency flood appeal to assist residents with their immediate needs as well as longer-term recovery. Donate at <u>https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswfloodappeal</u>

Catastrophic floods in particular have impacted Lismore and many towns across north-eastern NSW. To help those affected in the Diocese of Lismore from the unprecedented disaster, Bishop Greg Homeming OCD has launched a fundraising appeal for support.

More information and to donate at <u>https://www.lismorediocese.org/</u>



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 & Fridays9.30am to 2.30pmParish Office:9653 2312Parish Priest:Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSBEmail:hilarionfernando@yahoo.comAfter hours:0478 909 541Email:arcadia.parish@bigpond.comPostal address:121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact: Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882. Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159

Monastery: 9653 1159

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations: BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141 (NEW BANK DETAILS) Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank: CBA—Catholic Development Fund