

St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia



To listen gladly to Holy reading.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

Church Attendance:
*One person per 2sqm,
maximum 300 people.*

**Please use QR CODE provided or
write your name and phone number when you
enter Church after sanitizing.
Contact Paula on 0423 078 282.**

PARISH MASSES

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession
First Friday of the month 6.30pm Adoration

MONASTERY CHAPEL Mass

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Fr Bernard: 0416 032 497

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B

13 & 14 March 2021



Entrance Antiphon

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

First Reading

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 (Year B) (JB)
A reading from the second book of Chronicles
*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile
and liberation of his people.*

Responsorial Psalm

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:4-10 (Year B) (JB)
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 3:14-21 (Year B) (JB)
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved
through him.*

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.

Gospel reading for this Week**John 3:14-21 (Year B) (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

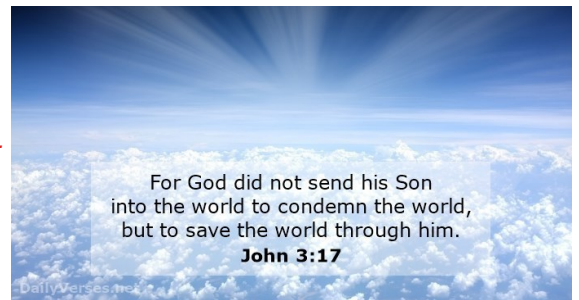
God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
 'The Son of Man must be lifted up
 as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
 so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
 Yes, God loved the world so much
 that he gave his only Son,
 so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost
 but may have eternal life.
 For God sent his Son into the world
 not to condemn the world,
 but so that through him the world might be saved.
 No one who believes in him will be condemned;
 but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
 because he has refused to believe
 in the name of God's only Son.
 On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
 that though the light has come into the world
 men have shown they prefer
 darkness to the light
 because their deeds were evil.
 And indeed, everybody who does wrong
 hates the light and avoids it,
 for fear his actions should be exposed;
 but the man who lives by the truth
 comes out into the light,
 so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Jerusalem Bible translation of Scripture is used in the Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). Acknowledgement: The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. Liturgia Copyright 2020

**GOSPEL REFLECTION****John 3:14-21 (Year B) (JB)**

What does the phrase "son of God" mean? Simply, God gave his creature a special relationship. The phrase recognised that special, "adopted" status. The title was given to angels, his People, and the kings of Israel.

However, when Peter acknowledged Jesus as "the Christ, Son of the Living God" (Matthew 16:16), he responded to a revelation. Jesus had a divine Sonship that was unique. He was the "only begotten" Son of God the Father. The Father revealed the divine Sonship when he addressed Jesus as "my beloved Son" at the Baptism and the Transfiguration.

The Church recognises the divine Sonship in three ways: the pre-existent Word, the Incarnated human, and the Risen Lord. God's Word was the instrument of the Father in creation and, with the Spirit, revealed God's will to his people. When the time was right, the Word took on flesh in Jesus of Nazareth. After his death, Jesus rose from the dead as the Risen Lord. His adopted humanity will forever be united with his divinity in his glorified body. In all three ways, the Son revealed the Father's love for his creatures, and his willingness to raise all humanity to the status of "adopted" sons and daughters.

How does faith in Christ make life a little clearer? How has God guided you through dark times and murky waters?

Throughout this study, we have seen analogies. Light vs. dark. Acquitted vs. judged. Saved vs. condemned. Analogies make understanding easier, especially in the moving themes of John. Unfortunately, analogies sometimes break down when we are faced with real life. There is, however, one constant, unchanging factor in our faith life: God's faithfulness to us. God invites us to respond in kind. His invitation is his Son, the One he gave to the world. Do we accept the faithfulness we find in his Son? Do we commit ourselves to return his faithfulness? These are the questions the gospel of John asks us.

Reflect on God's faithfulness to you. How has his faithfulness opened your eyes? How will it guide you this next week?

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Feast Day: March 19 Solemnity

Patron Saint of the Universal Church, fathers, carpenters and a happy death

The husband of Mary had a perfect spouse, untouched by original sin. He was also the foster father to a boy who was the Son of God and the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. Yet Saint Joseph, the least perfect member of his household, was still the head of the family. Authority does not always flow from moral or intellectual superiority. Authority in the Church, in particular, is God given. Because God chooses a certain person to fulfill a task in His household of faith, that person acts with a divine mandate to teach, sanctify, and govern the people and things entrusted to him. Saint Joseph is a model for how God uses imperfect instruments to exercise His perfect will. God does not want robots, machines, or zombies to mindlessly implement His plan for mankind. The history of the Church is replete with imperfect tools who have caused scandal and division. Wayward leaders have cost the Church entire countries. Yet despite all these unworthy instruments in the hands of the Divine Master, truth and shelter and grace continue to be provided to those baptised into the Church, the Master's family.

God wants personality. God wants us to have character. God's angels are created spirits who lack the restrictions imposed by a human body. But in not having a body, the angels also lack what makes us unique. They lack the spit, vinegar, and spark that make a man a man. Every man is an enfleshed soul, the coming together of a body and a spirit. When copper and zinc are welded together they are superficially united into one larger piece of metal. But the union is not total and does not create something new. The copper is still copper and the zinc is still zinc. But when copper and zinc are each melted down and then mixed together, they form brass. Brass is not just the joining of copper to zinc but an entirely new material with unique properties. In a similar way, the union of a body and a soul together composes a human person with unique properties, a child of God unlike any other. The saints, in particular, were unique people often possessing hot tempers, forceful personalities, and unbending wills. They placed their uniqueness at the service of God and His Church and helped to change the world.

Saint Joseph was, like all the saints, unique. He probably had personal traits which were less than perfect. These imperfections were absolutely no obstacle to Mary and Jesus obeying him, loving him, and ceding to his authority in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Mary and Jesus would have happily bent to the will of their God-given guide, despite their metaphysical, moral, spiritual, and intellectual superiority.

Ancient traditions hold that Saint Joseph was considerably older than the Virgin Mary. Scripture tells us he was a carpenter and that Jesus was known as the "carpenter's son" (Mt. 13:55). Joseph may have been more precisely a builder, who worked with the native stone so common to Palestinian construction. A Jewish ritual bath made of stone discovered beneath the church of Saint Joseph in Nazareth, a church which long tradition says was built over the Holy Family's home, may be Joseph's very own handiwork. A firm tradition teaches that Saint Joseph died long before his Son's death. This is based not on biblical evidence but on the lack of it. It can be reasonably presumed that Saint Joseph would have been present at his Son's crucifixion, as was Mary. Yet no mention is made of him being there. From this absence, biblical scholars have, from the beginning of the Church, surmised that Saint Joseph was by then dead. Thus, Saint Joseph is the Patron Saint of a Happy Death, because he presumably died with Jesus and the Virgin Mary at his side. This is how all of us want to die, with Christ holding our hand on one side of the bed and the Virgin Mary seated beside us on the other side. Saint Joseph died in the best of company. May we do so as well.

Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, guide all those under the care of their pastors to see not their imperfections but their God-given obligation to fulfill God's plan. May your humble and faithful service inspire all fathers to lead their flocks with tenderness, wisdom, and strength. AMEN.

Source of content: mycatholic.life

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers, all our dearly beloved who have died, especially Donald Winning.

We welcome into God's family to all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

*In the first place, to love the Lord God with all one's heart, all one's soul, and all one's strength.
Then, one's neighbour as oneself.*

PARISH LENTEN GROUPS

Lenten groups will be meeting in homes or at Church for about an hour reading and reflecting together on the Sunday Gospel readings during Lent.

Miriam Brown:

Wednesdays 1pm at the Parish during Lent.
(last session 31st March 2021)

Benigna Cascun with Gebran Azzi:

Friday nights 6pm during lent (last session 26th of March 2021).

Address: 726A Old Northern Road, Dural (Benigna's house).



ST BENEDICT'S LENTEN RETREAT

*The 15 Stations of the Cross
and What It Means to Me*

RETREAT DAY:

ONLY A FEW MORE SPOTS REMAINING!

Date: Saturday 20th of March 2021

Where: St Benedict's Parish

Time: 9am to 2pm

Morning tea and light lunch provided.

Cost: FREE

Please join us for a day of prayer and reflection. Together with Fr Hilarion, we will explore each of the 15 stations of the cross and what it means to us in our daily life. Booking for this event is essential.

Seats are limited so please book early through:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BOTXG>

For more information or to book, you can also call Glenice on 0428 859 568 or parish office.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays 6.30pm during Lent

During Lent, until Friday 26th of March 2021, we will be holding the Stations of the Cross in our Parish on Friday nights at 6.30pm and take a few moments at each station to pray or meditate. This tradition continues until Good Friday. Mass will be afterwards at 7pm as usual every Friday night followed by Reconciliation.

REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of:



DONALD WINNING



Don passed away on the 5th of March 2021.

Our condolences to the family and friends. The funeral was held on the 12th of March 2021. He will be greatly missed.

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

PROJECT COMPASSION



Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet, so he and his family always had to walk into the forest to an open defecation area.



His family was often sick and open defecation caused many neighbourhood disputes.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner, Laz Harfa, Arsad took part in hygiene, sanitation and financial management training. He then funded the building of a toilet in his house and helped other community members to save for toilets.

Now Arsad's family is healthier. Their community no longer practices open defecation and is more harmonious. Arsad inspired his community to 'Be More.'

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity.

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



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

203/21 to 21/3/21		
Third Sunday of Lent Year B		
	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte	Need help	Paul El-Chaar
Reader1	Miriam Brown	
Reader2	Mary Camilleri	Peter Goodwin
Prayers	Mary Cascun	Lorraine Dailey
Music		Mark Quirk
Music		Keith Wallace
Music		Helen Facione

DRAFT QUARTERLY ROSTER and EASTER DRAFT ROSTER is now at the sacristy window. Please peruse it and make any changes. If you are interested in to be added to the Reading Ministries please add you name and phone number.

We also would like everyone's email addresses please, if you can add it to bottom of draft roster, or email it to:

arcadia.parish@bigpond.com.au

NEEDED—ACOLYTES - for Saturday 7pm Mass.
Our Priests need YOUR help.

READERS - for all Masses.

If you can help out please contact parish office on 9653 2312.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: Across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because of their faith.

Could you help stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters and help ease their heavy burdens?

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/refugees

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

This week's free Ministry Induction training continues on Monday 15th March (Classroom Management) as a morning course 10am-12pm OR an afternoon course 1pm-3pm via Zoom. The following week's topic will be "Introduction to the Bible". Please contact me for further information.

Catechist Vacancies:

Helper for Glenorie PS Wednesdays 10:10am – 10:50am
Hillside PS Fridays 8:50am-9:45am

If you are available and interested to know more, please talk to Fr Bernard or give me a call or send me an email. Training is provided.

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



Catechist Commissioning last Sunday Mass

PARISH SWEET STALL

Thank you Lila Bacha and family for working so hard and giving up your time for the stalls once a month! Also thank you to everyone purchasing and helping the Parish!



The next Parish Sweet Stall will be held on the Holy Easter weekend.

Please feel free to bring items for sale to help the parish.

For any queries or donations please call Lila Bacha on 96521113 or 0418360024.

PLAYGROUP

Every Monday 10am to 12pm.

This is a gathering for parents and carers with children under school age. It's perfect for children to learn and develop through play and interaction with others. It's also great for parents and carers to chat, socialise and make new friends! We meet every Monday during school terms 10am to 12pm. No need to book just turn up.

Everyone welcome!

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.



TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.

The Broken Bay Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information, please phone the Tribunal Office on **9307 8309** or email tribunal@bbcatholic.org.au

Two Schools: One Family



Personalised.

1 on 1 Mentoring founded on inspiring example and a partnership with parents.

OPEN DAY

Saturday 13th March 2021



Includes:

Presentation by Principal / Headmaster and guided school tours.

Session 1: 10am - 12pm
Session 2: 1pm - 3pm

TANGARA School for Girls

77-97 Franklin Rd, Cherrybrook

Tangara is co-ed from Preparatory to Year 1 & Girls only from Year 2-12.

www.tangara.nsw.edu.au
enrol@tangara.nsw.edu.au
(02) 9651 0360

Session 1: 10:00am - 12:30pm
Session 2: 12:30pm - 2:30pm

REDFIELD College

855 Old Northern Rd, Dural

Redfield is Prep-Yr 12. Preparatory to Year 1 attend classes on Tangara Campus

www.redfield.nsw.edu.au
enrol@redfield.nsw.edu.au
(02) 9651 0381

**DUE TO COVID-SAFETY MEASURES YOU MUST BOOK IN ADVANCE TO ATTEND
PLEASE CONTACT EACH SCHOOL**

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

Stella Maris Seafarers, a Catholic organisation helping seafarers, would appreciate any donations of second hand men's clothing, as well as any personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste etc.

Please leave the items in the meeting room near the kitchen and they will be picked up weekly and taken to Sr Mary Leahy and I can tell you she will be most excited. Many Thanks for your kind Generosity.

(That's Sr Mary in the yellow helmet and one of the crew. She boards every ship that pulls into Botany Bay and checks on the welfare of the sailors, she is also a trained nurse and if she sees sick, injured or suspects abuse etc she is onto it.)

Cheers,
Cathy Holling
Ph: 0403 062 255



SLAVERY-FREE EASTER

This Easter, let's celebrate with clear consciences and buy slavery-free chocolate. This is a small change that can make a huge impact worldwide on the lives of many children forced into slave labour.

When buying your Easter eggs (or your daily dose of chocolate, as the case may be), look for these logos:



It means the chocolate you are buying is certified slavery-free.

Here is some information on the slavery-free Easter campaign, which is well worth a read:

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>

[Download Easter Chocolate Shopping Guide \(PDF\)](#)

POSITIONS VACANT

Two part time (3 day a week) positions at Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia (JISA) National Office, Pymble.

Would you like to be part of a new national team to shape and grow the ministry of the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, Retreats and Formation throughout Australia?

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia are looking for two part time (3 days a week) executive and administration assistants to support the leadership from their national office in Pymble NSW.

FOR MORE INFO <https://jisa.org.au/work-with-jesuit-and-ignatian-spirituality-australia/>

Applications close Friday 26 March 2021

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

(Composed by Pope Francis in [Patris Corde](#).)

EASTER WEEKEND MASS TIMES



Holy Thursday	April 1st 2021	7.30pm Parish Church
Good Friday	April 2nd 2021	10.30am - Stations of the Cross 3pm - Passion of the Lord
Easter Saturday	April 3rd 2021	7.30pm - Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	April 4th 2021	7am - Monastery 9am - Parish Church 10.30am - Latin Mass

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR MARCH

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

*Let us pray that we may experience the
sacrament of reconciliation
with renewed depth,
to taste the infinite mercy of God.*

AMEN



COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

**Please use QR CODE or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at both entries.
Please adhere to social distancing guidelines of 2sqms and sanitize your hands at the door.
Also wipe seats down afterwards with wipes provided at both entries.**

**IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS,
PLEASE STAY HOME, ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.**

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:
10.30am to 2.30pm**

Parish Office: 9653 2312

Parish Priest: Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB

After hours: 0416 032 497

Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 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](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictsarcadia)

**Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd,
Arcadia 2159**

Monastery: 9653 1159

Good Samaritan Sisters: 9653 1231

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 1446 8001