

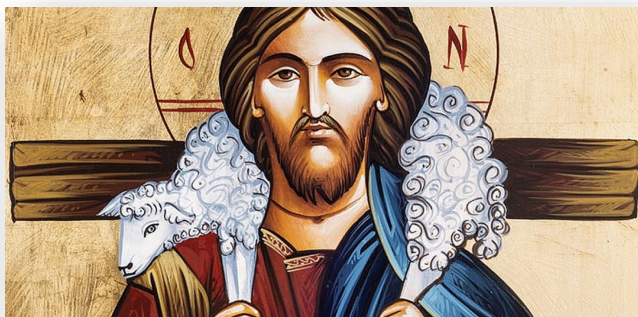
St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

9 & 10 AUGUST 2025



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 9:00am to 10:00am
Adoration & Confession (Reconciliation)

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am

Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana or Parish
Office for the following:

Baptisms
Reconciliation
For the Sick
Marriages
Funerals

Parish Priest:
Fr Shansana 0437 884 233
Parish Office 9653 2312



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised.

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: Trust

In the Gospel passage, Jesus reminds us not to be afraid, for we are deeply valued by God, who desires to give us His kingdom. He calls us to be ready, like servants waiting for their master's return, alert and faithful. Jesus warns that much is expected of those who have been given much.

Am I living my life ready for the return of the Lord? Am I using the gifts God has given me wisely and faithfully? This passage challenges me to live each day with purpose, generosity, and faithfulness, knowing that my actions reflect my readiness and trust in God. I am reminded to seek the eternal rather than cling to temporary things, and to be a servant who is always prepared, honest, and responsible.

Watchfulness Faithfulness

Dear Lord, Thank You for reminding me not to be afraid, for I am precious in Your eyes. Help me to stay awake and ready, living each day with faith and purpose. Teach me to be a faithful and wise servant, using the time, gifts, and responsibilities You've given me to serve You and others. May I never grow careless, but always live with a heart full of love, watchfulness, and trust in You. Amen

First Reading: Wis 18:6-9 A reading from the book of Wisdom
Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you

That night had been foretold to our ancestors,
 so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in,
 they would joyfully take courage.
 This was the expectation of your people,
 the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;
 for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes
 you made us glorious by calling us to you.
 The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret
 and this divine pact they struck with one accord:
 that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike;
 and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.



Second Reading: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
You know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 12:32-48 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful. 'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 18:6-9/ Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/ Lk 12:32-48

At every Eucharist, Jesus invites us to a deeper relationship of trust in Him, simply because He loves us deeply. The more we believe in Him and in His constant presence, the greater our trust and the deeper will be our faith in Him. But there are times when our focus is not on Jesus—and our faith wavers. We ask pardon, but more than that, we open ourselves to his healing mercy and so deepen our trust in Him. Our faith should be so firm as to make us trust in the word of Jesus. How ready and alert are we to His presence?

We trust people in different ways. When two people decide to get married, they entrust their lives into each other's hands. We see that in a family and among friends, too. The way we relate to someone indicates how much we are willing to trust them. If it is a positive relationship of love and acceptance, then we are willing to trust, knowing that whatever other person does to us and for us, are in our best interests. But when we look at the other with fear, suspicion and doubt, then we will think that the other is bound to do something to make our life miserable, even destroy us. We see how marriages can be destroyed and friendships broken ... when we no longer trust.

So, what does it mean to trust God? What does it mean to believe? What does it mean to have faith in God? Many think of faith as a belief merely in a set of truths or following certain religious practices. Faith cannot be reduced to our attendance at Mass. Faith is a gift, but it is also a response, exercising this gift. Faith is a personal response to a personal God and is an invitation to trust God. A Christian believes in a personal God who is revealed in the person of Jesus.

We all go through dark periods. How do we keep up our efforts to be faithful disciples especially when, not only our world, but our own church has disappointed us? There is violence, corruption and injustice in the world, sinfulness in the Church, tragedy in my life, failure in so many areas. In our pain, we ask: Where is God to be found? Sometimes we have been so bitter and angry with self, others and above all God... that we miss seeing signs of God's presence. Instead of receiving strength from our faith when we need it the most, there is a great temptation to become cold and cynical, reluctant to believe. But the time of crisis, is a reminder to place our trust in God, knowing God alone is faithful.

Source: Breaking the Word, Redemptorist Publications India, Bangalore

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

August 2025

- Monday 11: Deut 10:12-22. Mt 17:22-27
R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
St Clare, Virgin
- Tuesday 12: Deut 31:1-8. Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
R. The portion of the Lord is his people.
St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
- Wednesday 13: Deut 34:1-12. Mt 18:15-20
R. Blessed be God who filled my soul with life!
Sts Pontian, Pope, Martyr and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyr
- Thursday 14: Josh 3:7-11, 13-17. Mt 18:21-19:1
R. Alleluia!
St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest, Martyr
- Friday 15: Rev 11:19, 12:1-6, 10. 1 Cor 15:20-26. Lk 1:39-56
R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday 16: Josh 24:14-29. Mt 19:13-15.
R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.
St Stephen of Hungary



Source: Ordo 2025



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for August 2025:

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES ARE ON THE NOTICEBOARD.

Any suggestions to Parish Pastoral Council or Parish Finance can be given to Fr Shansana.

ROSTER NOW AVAILABLE

The next Roster is now available in the Sacristy for collection.

If you would like to join any of the ministries listed, please speak to Father Shansana.

Your help is essential.
Together, we can bring compassion and care to those in need.

Please contact the parish office.



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Friday, 15 August

Mass Times

7:00 am Monastery
9:30 am Parish Church
7:00 pm Parish Church

Note: This is a holy day of obligation

FREE WILLS SEMINAR & MORNING TEA "PLAN WELL, LIVE FAITHFULLY"

The Clergy and Parishes Broken Bay team invites all parishioners to a special Free Wills Seminar and Morning Tea on
Tuesday 12 August 2025,
held at **Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood.**



This pastoral event is a meaningful opportunity to reflect on stewardship, legacy, and the faithful care of our families. Led by Cecilia Castle, Principal of Castle Lawyers, the seminar will cover essential topics including: Writing or updating a Will; Understanding Power of Attorney; and Enduring Guardianship.

VOCATIONS

ANSWERING THE CALL:

*a celebration
of faith and hope*

Seminarians' Benefit Gala Dinner

Date:
Friday 22 August, 2025

Time:
7pm-11.30pm

Venue:
The Epping Club,
45-47 Rawson St, Epping 2121

Cost:
\$120 per person or \$1,000 for table of 10
Dinner & Beverages

AUCTION | PRIZES | MUSIC

Booking:
www.trybooking.com/DDOPW



Further information
events@bbcatholic.org.au

SEMINARIANS' BENEFIT GALA DINNER Friday, 22 August 2025

The Epping Club
45-47 Rawson Street, Epping
7pm to 11.30pm
Cost \$120 per person

The purpose of the dinner is to connect our seminarians with parishioners and to raise awareness within our Diocese of the ongoing need to assist Catholic men in answering the call to the priesthood.

The Diocese is hoping to secure sponsorships for the event to cover the cost of the evening, and whatever is raised that evening will be used to assist with seminary education and support for current and future seminarians over a 7 year formation programme.

This event will provide us with the opportunity to support young men on their vocational journey.

In Our Parish

(please let us know if you would like someone added here)

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

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Vincent Bacha, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died:

Luke Manassa, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana, Vanessa Papandrea, Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry, Colleen Bennett & Helen Facione. ~ **May they rest in Peace.**



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Calling All Children and Families!

We invite all children and families who are interested in getting involved in upcoming parish activities and children Masses to reach out!

If your child would like to participate, please **send an email to the parish office** with the **child's name and a contact number**. We look forward to welcoming more young faces into our parish life!



OUR LADY OF FATIMA DAY

**We will be celebrating
"Our Lady of Fatima Day"**

On 12 October 2025

Please keep this day in your diary.

We invite everyone from St Benedict's to attend this beautiful celebration. Details to come.

We invite children to be part of the Fatima Play and the Procession (please phone 0438 521 421 for details)

PIETY SHOP NEWS

We invite you to take a moment to explore our Piety Shop. It offers a wonderful selection of items to support and enrich your spiritual life, including: Religious gifts for sacraments like Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Rosaries, prayer cards, and medals. Bibles, missals, and spiritual books for adults and children.

Come and see what's new!

ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

JOIN THE YOUTH GROUP!

Youth group is back on this term!

**Time: 4pm to 5.30pm
each Friday during school term.**

**Everyone welcome
(8 to 12 year olds)**

Thank you,
Gabe & Jules!



CATECHISTS' NEWS

Free training continues to be provided by the CCD –

- Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3rd Millennium" continues on Friday 15th August 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic this week is "Catholic Sacraments of Initiation."

- Level 1 training – Tools for the Classroom – final 3 sessions in a one day workshop encompassing 'Music, Stories and Drama in the Classroom' will be held on Monday 18th August at Chatswood Parish from 9:30am – 2:30pm.

RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Please keep our parish Catechists, and the students that they teach, in prayer. If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a Catechist or helper, please contact myself or the parish office or one of our priests.

God bless,

Miriam Brown
srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

Please join us for our
Maker's Table workshops
at St Benedict's!

Details of our next workshop
coming soon



themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

Martine 0458-533-250 / Nerida 0425-834-017

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every **Monday 2.00pm.**
Everyone welcome.



For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.

CCC PRAYER GROUP



Prayer meeting held every
Wednesday morning:
after 9.30am Mass.

*Come and meet new people and
have a cuppa!*

For more details call
Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CRAFT GROUP

The quilting and craft group will
meet every **4th Tuesday** of the
month at 10.30am in the parish
meeting room.

Bring your craft and come and
join us!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Clare of Assisi, Virgin - Memorial

Feast Day: August 11

c. 1193–1253

**Patron Saint of the Poor Clares, embroiderers, goldworkers,
laundry workers, needleworkers, telephones, and television
Invoked against eye diseases and for good weather
Canonised by Pope Alexander IV in 1255**



Clare Offreduccio, born to a noble family in the Italian town of Assisi, was the eldest of three daughters. Raised in luxury, the girls led lives of prayer and were nurtured in their faith by their devout Catholic parents. When Clare was twelve, she persuaded her parents to postpone arranging a marriage for her to a wealthy nobleman.

As Clare neared age eighteen, she attended a Lenten mission at the church of San Giorgio in Assisi. The preacher, Brother Francis, had undergone a radical conversion after being captured in battle and imprisoned for a year. After being ransomed by his father, Francis renounced his inheritance and received papal approval for himself and a small group of followers to live lives of poverty, prayer, penance, and itinerant preaching. During the mission, Clare felt God calling her to form a women's branch of Francis' new order. Aware that her family would not approve, Clare spoke to Brother Francis in secret. With the local bishop's approval, Francis agreed to welcome her on Palm Sunday evening at the chapel of the Portiuncula. Accompanied by her aunt and a friend, Clare arrived at the chapel that night dressed as a bride. She surrendered her noble attire for a coarse habit, allowed Brother Francis to cut her long hair, and covered her head with a veil.

Clare's family tried to convince her to return home, promising wealth and all the privileges of nobility, but she refused. When they attempted to force her to return, she clung to the altar and showed them her cut hair, a symbol of her dedication to God. Her family reluctantly backed down, marking a pivotal moment in Clare's life and the birth of a new women's order. Soon, Clare's sister Caterina joined her, was accepted into the order, and took the name Agnes. In time, even their other sister and mother joined Clare and Agnes at the small house that Brother Francis had built for them next to the church of San Damiano. Brother Francis provided the rule for their new life, and they became known as the Poor Ladies of San Damiano, later, the Poor Clares.

The Poor Ladies of San Damiano led a life of extreme poverty, manual labor, and almost complete silence. The Poor Ladies remained cloistered, instead of traveling and preaching as the friars did. At the time, their austerity was new to religious women; most convents were wealthy, with large tracts of land tended by others for their needs. Clare became the community's abbess. Humble and shy, she found giving orders challenging and often took up the most menial and unwanted chores. God's protection shielded the new order. When Muslim invaders surrounded the convent and prepared to attack Assisi, Clare went to the chapel and took the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament to confront them. Overwhelmed, the invaders retreated and never returned.

After Francis died, Mother Clare wrote a rule for her sisters that received Pope Innocent IV's approval days before her death in 1256 at age fifty-nine. This marked the first time that a pope approved a rule for religious life written by a woman. Despite her hidden life, Clare's holiness was well known, and the pope came to Assisi to celebrate her funeral. She was canonized two years later.

*Saint Clare, God called you into poverty where your true nobility was found.
God called you to live radically, and you never turned back.
Please pray that I will respond to God's calling in my life with radical fidelity.
May nothing stand in the way of my willing adherence to the will of God.*

Saint Clare of Assisi, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in You.

Incredible SRI LANKA

13 NIGHTS/14 DAYS
DEPARTING AUSTRALIA
22 SEPTEMBER 2025

With your host
Fr. Michael Kelly OSB
Abbot General Emeritus

Colombo, Kandy, Haputale, Yala,
Galle, Key ancient sites &
Benedictine Communities

A\$5,945
Per person twin share
A\$500
Per person deposit

INCLUSIONS

- Economy class flights on Singapore Airlines
- 5 star accommodation for 13 nights
- Daily Breakfast & Dinner
- Dinner from day 2 to Day 14
- Our own Airconditioned 24- seater coach
- First Class train tickets from Kandy to Ella including box lunch
- English speaking guide / Driver throughout the tour
- Entrance tickets to places we visit as in the itinerary.
- A visit to St. Anthony's Shrine
- Visit Benedictine Communities and Anglican sites

Book Now

Terms & Conditions apply - contact johanne@etravel.com.au for more details
Single supplement available upon request.
Land only price available.
Price subject to availability and currency fluctuations.

HEALING MASS

the First Thursday of each month

**NEXT DATE: Thursday, 4 September
9.30am Mass**



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

COMBATING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER

Please donate to CatholicCare's homelessness services across the Diocese

Thank you

Donor envelopes available during Mass
Saturday and Sunday 9 & 10 August

 **DIocese OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE**
SAT 29 NOV- WED 3 DEC

FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMODATION + REGO

\$1,645 PER PERSON, INCL GST
Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy
Reducing cost to \$1,145

Day 1	Sat 29 Nov	Departure (Travel Day)
Day 2	Sun 30 Nov	ACYF
Day 3	Mon 1 Dec	ACYF
Day 4	Tue 2 Dec	ACYF
Day 5	Wed 3 Dec	Return (Travel Day)

**TO REGISTER INTEREST TO
ATTEND ACYF - PLEASE SCAN**



BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE ONLINE INFORMATION EVENING

**7PM MON 11 AUGUST 2025
TO REGISTER VIA EMAIL -
PLEASE SCAN**




AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL MELBOURNE 2025

INCLUSIONS

- Economy class return airfare from Sydney
- 4 nights' Accommodation Holiday Inn Express
- Breakfast daily
- Broken Bay Group dinner 29 November
- Return airport coach transfers
- ACYF Melbourne Registration fee
- Broken Bay Pilgrim T-Shirt

Not included:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners on festival days

Pilgrimage is open to young people in Year 9 at school, through to the age of 25, and their leaders and clergy.

 **CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**
mission@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Roster

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS**

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

**16/8/2025—17/8/2025
20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Mary C	Gabrielle W	Sandra M
Reader2	Natasha S	Ann L	Leanne A
Prayers	Miriam B	Matt W	Fogarty family
TV		Jules O	Fogarty Family
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Adam F
Music		John T	Hannah F
Music			Sandra M
Morning Tea		Mary A	
FLOWERS	Tania T		



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

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.

**For all parish OH&S and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.**

MONASTERY CHAPEL

Liturgy of the Hours

"Seven times a day I will praise you"

Psalm 119:164

The liturgy of the hours is a set of prayers (psalms, hymns, readings and other prayers). It is recited in the Monastery Chapel daily at the following times:

5.45am Office of Readings
6.30am Morning prayer - Lauds
12.45pm Midday prayer
6.00pm Evening prayer - Vespers
8.00pm Night prayer - Compline

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM NOTICE

Please pray for all children and their families as they commence the sacramental process for Confirmation.

For any queries please email the parish office:
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

Planned Giving Envelopes are now ready for collection. They can be found on the front pew in the church, arranged in alphabetical order.

A sincere thank you to all who have already opted in to this important program. If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program, please contact the parish office.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW...

Every time we partake
in the Eucharist it makes present the one
sacrifice of Christ on Calvary



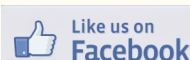
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm
(School holidays only open Fridays)

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia 2159
Email: arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Parish Priest: Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB
Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com
After hours: 0437 884 233

Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia



MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159
 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

**PARISH BANK DETAILS for
ONLINE only donations:**
BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund