

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PALM SUNDAY



**PALM SUNDAY
OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD
YEAR A
1 & 2 APRIL 2023**

PARISH HOLY WEEK MASSES

Thursday April 6, 2023:

HOLY THURSDAY

PARISH: 7.30PM (*Confessions after service*)

Friday April 7, 2023:

GOOD FRIDAY

STATIONS of the CROSS -

PARISH: 10.30AM

PASSION of the LORD -

PARISH: 3PM (*Confessions after service*)

Saturday April 8, 2023:

HOLY SATURDAY - Easter Vigil

PARISH: 7.30PM

Sunday April 9, 2023:

EASTER SUNDAY

MONASTERY: 7AM

PARISH: 9AM

PARISH: 10.30AM LATIN

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

BAPTISMS

RECONCILIATION

FOR THE SICK

MARRIAGES

FUNERALS

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches,
went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying:
Hosanna in the highest.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow
caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

REFLECTION: THE PASSION

On Palm Sunday we begin with the end. We read our way backwards. It is not possible for any Christian to think of Jesus Christ divorced from how His earthly life ended.

This is the story we hear every Palm Sunday. This is how a great man's life came to an end. It is also the story of how the Son of God conquered death and opened the gates of heaven to all who not only believe in Him but who belong to Him through the Catholic Church.

The narrative read at Mass on Palm Sunday is the oldest, truest, and most well-remembered portion of one of the most fully preserved and extraordinary documents from the ancient world—the New Testament. The Passion of Christ is theologically significant because it is historically true. It is also the story of how the Son of God conquered death and opened the gates of heaven to all who not only believe in Him but who belong to Him through the Catholic Church.

Prayer:

Lord of the Passion, You suffered calumny and humiliation, You bore the Cross and did not complain. Intercede before Your heavenly Father that we may bear whatever crosses we must with fortitude. With Your grace, Lord, we can emulate You. Without Your grace, we are no better than Godless pagans, in search of frivolous signs to lend meaning to life.

Source: mycatholic.life

First Reading**Isaiah 50:4-7 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech.

Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;

I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my Face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?****Second Reading****Philippians 2:6-11 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation**

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

Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.

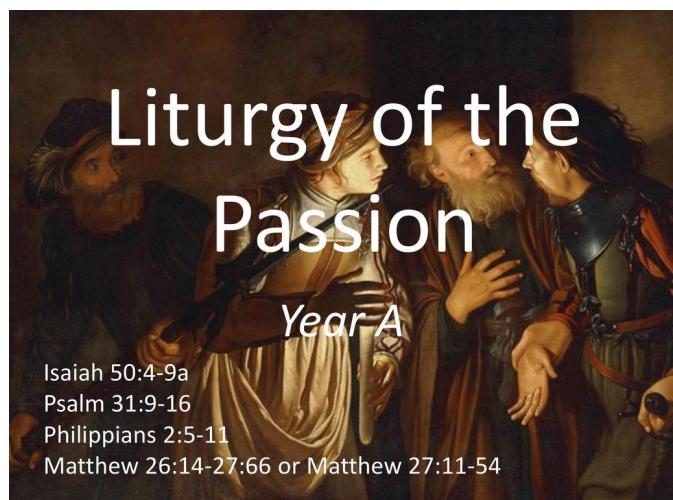
Therefore God raised him on high

and gave him a name above all other names.

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

GOSPEL**Matthew 26:14 — 27:66 (JB)***The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

.....

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - Year A
Gospel before pro. Mathew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalms 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Who is this? (Matthew 21:10)

Who is this, who enters the holy city "meek and riding on an ass" (Matthew 21:5)? This is "Jesus the prophet from Galilee" (21:11), a wonderworker who preaches the good news of the kingdom of God. Today at Mass, we cry out with the crowd: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (21:9-10).

Who is this, who consecrates bread and wine so that it becomes his Body and Blood and then offers himself for our forgiveness (Matthew 26:27-28)? This is Jesus, the Lamb of God, who enters our lives every time we receive him in the Eucharist.

Who is this, who in the Garden of Gethsemane prays to his Father, "Let this cup pass from me," and then surrenders to his Father's will (Matthew 26:39)? This is God incarnate, fully human and fully divine, who understands our suffering because he himself has suffered.

Who is this, who refuses to defend himself when accused of blasphemy (Matthew 26:63-65)? This is the One who is "seated at the right hand of the Power" and "coming on the clouds of heaven" (26:64), the One we will one day meet face-to-face in all his glory.

Who is this, who is mocked and spat upon and hailed as "King of the Jews" (Matthew 27:29)? This is the King of the universe, and our King, too. May he reign in our lives more and more each day!

Who is this, who is beaten, whipped, and crucified, and who cries out and then gives up his spirit (Matthew 27:46-50)? "This [is] truly the Son of God!" (27:54), who loved us so much that he took our sins upon himself to save us.

Who is this, whose battered body is laid in a tomb (Matthew 27:60)? This is Christ the Lord, who will burst from the grave on the third day and defeat sin and death forever. May he be forever praised!

"Jesus, as I begin this Holy Week, may I come to know you ever more deeply."

Source: Word Among Us India Apr-May23 pg.2



Thursday April 6, 2023: **HOLY THURSDAY**—Mass of the Lord's Supper (gift of the Holy Eucharist & Priesthood).
PARISH: 7.30PM (*Confessions after service*)

Friday April 7, 2023: **GOOD FRIDAY** of the PASSION of the LORD (Day of fasting and abstinence).
STATIONS of the CROSS - PARISH: 10.30AM
PASSION of the LORD - PARISH: 3PM (*Confessions after service*)

Saturday April 8, 2023: **HOLY SATURDAY**—Easter Vigil.
PARISH: 7.30PM

Sunday April 9, 2023: **EASTER SUNDAY** of the RESURRECTION of the LORD.
MONASTERY: 7AM
PARISH: 9AM
PARISH: 10.30AM LATIN

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2023

FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

To reverence the old.

PARISH FUNDS

Your support as always is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account here are the details:

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141

**Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund**

CATHOLIC CARE PARENTING PROGRAM

Before we become parents, most of us expect to face some tough times. But the overwhelm and the strange mix of love, worry, anger, frustration, fun and defeat that comes with raising children is not something anyone can prepare us for. It can be a tough gig!

CatholicCare's Family Support program have trained caseworkers who offer a range of parenting programs, many free, which can support and guide you through any difficulties you are facing with your children and young people.

For more information call 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/family-youth-children/parenting-programs/.



1800 324 924

www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

CHRISM MASS

All are welcome to attend this year's Chrism Mass which will be celebrated on

Tuesday, 4 April

7.30PM

at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.



THE GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is one of the most precious gifts we can receive in life. It's the bond that connects us to others and enriches our experiences, both good and bad. Friends bring us joy, laughter and support during the tough times, and they celebrate with us during the happy moments.

The gift of friendship is not something to be taken lightly. It requires effort, commitment and a willingness to be there for each other through thick and thin, but the rewards are immense. A good friend can provide a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on or a source of laughter and inspiration.

It's important to cultivate and cherish our friendships, to show our appreciation for the people who make our lives better, and in turn, we can be a good friend to others, offering our own support and kindness. The gift of friendship is one that keeps on giving, bringing warmth and love to our lives and the lives of those around us.

"Dear God, thank you for the gift of friendship. Help me to be a good friend, showing kindness, compassion and understanding to those around me. May my friendships be grounded in love, trust and mutual support, and may they bring joy and fulfillment to my life. Bless all of my friends and help us to continue to grow in our relationships with one another. Amen."

Source: Majellan.org.au



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 **Tony Takchi, Brother Mario & Brother Terry and Koana Zouein (Rita Sarkis' mum)**.

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



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week's nomination we would like thank:

LORRAINE DAILEY

for all her help in our parish!

Lorraine is our OH&S and Safeguarding Coordinator. It's a very big job making sure our parish is a safe place to be. Lorraine also organised the Fete at some stage which is huge job and is also an acolyte. Lorraine is always there for us when we need her.

Thank you Lorraine for everything you do for us!



*Is there someone you would like to nominate?
Please mention it to Fr Shansana or Paula.*

EASTER WEEKEND ROSTER

AND NEXT QUARTER ROSTER

Easter weekend Rosters and next quarter roster are out on the Sacristy window. Please check them as this is the final weekend for checking.

THANK YOU!

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Congratulations to the children who have received their first Reconciliation on Saturday.

Jesus searches for us when we go astray and brings us back home with joy. May you know the greatness of God's love and forgiveness on this special day.

OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM will be announced in May, commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in August 2023.

Please email the parish if you would like your child to be added to the list.

In the Diocese of Broken Bay, the order of receiving of the sacraments is:

*Confirmation, Reconciliation, then Eucharist.
Children are usually prepared for these*



CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every
Friday nights: after 7pm Mass
Wednesday mornings: after 9.30am Mass.
Everyone welcome. **Come and meet new people.**
For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.



CATECHISTS' NEWS

Term 1 finishes this week. Term 2 SRE (Scripture) will recommence Wednesday 26th April and Friday 28th April. Wishing all a very holy and blessed Easter!

Free training continues (to register email registrations@bbccatholic.org.au) –

- For new Catechists or those on Provisional Authorisation cards this week 3rd/4th April Monday 10am – 12:30pm and Tuesday 6:30pm – 8:30pm via Zoom – final session on 'Lesson Planning Using Digital Resources'.
- For all Catechists there will be a Classroom Management training unit being held during the April school holidays on Monday 17 April 6.30 - 8.30pm via Zoom and on Wednesday 19 April 10am - 12.30pm at Pennant Hills.
- Also for all Catechists Level 1 Training is available starting in May. The first session will be 'Prayer in the Classroom'.

If you are interested in becoming a Catechist or helper and joining this ministry of bringing God's love and Word to children in our local schools, talk to myself, one of our Catechists or any of our priests. Training, a Teacher's Manual and workbooks are provided free.

God bless,
Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Coordinator



CHURCH BULLETIN FUNNIES

After an atheist died, a friend looked at him in the casket, shook his head, and remarked:

"All dressed up and no place to go."



QUILTING GROUP



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

Everyone welcome!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

You are all invited to Stations of the Cross for prayer, reflection and meditation on Christ's Passion inside the Parish Church:

Wednesday morning 9am

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm.
Everyone welcome.
For more details call Angela Egiziano.
Ph: 9653 2312.



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY 1

HEAD & HEART IMMERSION Course (Online)

This offering is an opportunity to study Pope St John Paul II's Theology of the Body in an online format. The course will take place over a 2-week period, via video content and supported by live engagement with the instructors and fellow students within our Australian timeframes. **Completing this course can count towards Certification.**

Offered by the Theology of the Body Institute in partnership with the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Date: 17-28 April 2023

Ph: 0403 062 255

CHRISTOPHER WEST
THEOLOGY of the BODY I
HEAD & HEART IMMERSION
17-28 APRIL 2023
Join us for an online course run by Theology of the Body Institute in partnership with the Archdiocese of Sydney.

ABOUT THE COURSE
Following his landmark visit to Sydney in January, Dr Christopher West invites you to learn more about our human desire and fulfillment as revealed by God through St John Paul II's masterwork. By partnership with Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, these course are now more accessible to Catholics in Sydney and across Australia. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to embark on a 'head to heart' journey and enrich your life and relationships!

This first online course will introduce students to the key themes of the 129 Wednesday audience addresses that comprise John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

IMAGO DEI • FALL AND REDEMPTION • CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND ETHOS
FREEDOM AND PERSON • GENDER AND VOCATION

LIMITED PARTIAL SUBSIDIES ON OFFER!
More information in the registration link

WWW.SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/TBI

REGISTER NOW!
Scan the QR code or visit our website for more information.

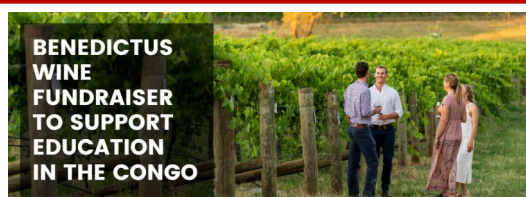
DR CHRISTOPHER WEST | THEOLOGY OF THE BODY INSTITUTE

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.

Cheers, Cathy Holling Ph: 0403 062 255



1. For each case purchased, BenedictUs Australia receives \$100
2. Go to the link below or scan the QR code
3. Purchase 1 case (12 bottles) of the mixed case below
4. Enter discount code: BENEDICTUS at checkout to receive \$66 discount



Fundraiser runs until Easter Day 2023

www.groveestate.com.au/shop/fundraise/

Each case contains

3 x Hilltops Shiraz 2020

Ranked No.1 Shiraz in Australia for 2021 in The Real Review.

3 x Think Outside the Circle Cabernet Sauvignon 2016

Gold Medal Winner 2017 NSW Wine Awards and 2017 NSW Small Winemakers Show.

3 x Al Dente Rosé 2022

Gold Medal Winner 2022 NSW Wine Awards.

3 x Wherehaveyou Bin Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2022

Tropical, vibrant and light bodied.

USUAL PRICE: \$306 plus shipping
WITH "BENEDICTUS" CODE: \$240 plus shipping



FATHER MICHAEL KELLY'S BENEDICTUS FUNDRAISER

BenedictUs is a charity set up by Fr Michael while based in Rome as Abbot General.

Its aim is to support projects of our monasteries in India, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Congo.

The present project is to extend a school run by the Benedictine monastery at Butembo, Congo (DRC). The school includes technical skills so students will have a better chance of finding work. Butembo is in the troubled North Kivu province where locals are subjected to guerrilla warfare and have also suffered bouts of Ebola virus.

The offer by Grove Estate of discounted wine is an opportunity to stock up for Easter and help these kids at the same time.

Your help would be appreciated!

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Easter Triduum is a term used by the Roman Catholic Church to denote the three days from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and ends after evening prayers at sunset on Easter Day.

The term was used at the Second Vatican Council, when the revised liturgical calendar set the final part of Holy Week apart from Lent proper. Previously, these three days had already gained distinction from the rest of Holy Week with an observance of silence, which were also known as "the still days." During Mass, music was not to be played and all church bells were silenced. People were also encouraged to observe silence in their homes during this time.

Holy Thursday

The first celebration of the Triduum is the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. This Mass celebrates the last meal Jesus shared with his Twelve Apostles and disciples before his death. (cf. Paul the Apostle recounted in 1 Corinthians 11:23–26, as well as the synoptic Gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke)

After the homily on Holy Thursday, we imitate our master in the washing of feet. This ritual reminds us that our baptismal commitment means we are to be servants of one another. In the time of St. Ambrose in Milan, those who were baptized also had their feet washed, because of Jesus' words to Peter: "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed" (Jn 13:10). Many scholars have seen a baptismal reference in those words.

The evening's celebration concludes with a "stripping of the altar" in which not only are all decorations removed, the Blessed Sacrament is taken from the tabernacle on the main altar and processed to an altar of repose outside the main body of the church. The sanctuary candle or paschal candle is extinguished or darkened, and not relit until the Easter Vigil. Eucharistic Adoration is common after the Holy Thursday Mass and continuing until midnight. It is reminiscent of waiting with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Also in Roman Catholicism, images of saints are either kept or veiled until the Easter Vigil. Votive lights before these images are not lit. Crucifixes that are movable are hidden, while those that are not movable are veiled until the Easter Vigil.

Good Friday

On this day, Christians ritually recall the Passion and crucifixion of Jesus. Mass is not celebrated on this day, however, Holy Communion (reserved in the tabernacle on the altar of repose from the previous evening) is distributed at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. The celebration traditionally occurs at 3 pm and consists of three parts: liturgy of the Word, veneration of the cross, and Holy Communion. A cross is solemnly displayed to the congregation and then venerated by them, individually if possible. The third and last part is Holy Communion. The Eucharist, consecrated at the Mass of Holy Thursday is distributed at this service. At the conclusion, the priest and people depart in silence, and the altar cloth is removed, leaving the altar bare.

Holy Saturday

Following Good Friday, Holy Saturday is a commemoration of the day that Jesus lay in his tomb.

Easter Vigil (Saturday after sunset)

Held after nightfall of Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Day, in anticipation of the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. The Easter Vigil consists of four parts: The Service of Light, The Liturgy of the Word, Christian Initiation and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows, Holy Eucharist

The Service of Light

The Vigil service begins outside the church around a large fire. This new fire symbolizes the radiance of the Risen Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death. The Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. This Paschal candle will be used throughout the season of Easter, remaining in the sanctuary of the church or near the lectern, and throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals, reminding all, that Christ is "light and life."

Once the candle has been lit there follows the ancient and dramatic rite of the *Lucernarium*, in which the candle is carried by a priest through the nave of the darkened church, stopping three times to chant an acclamation such as 'Christ our Light' to which the assembly responds 'Thanks be to God.' As the candle proceeds through the church, the baptized light their candles from the flame of the Paschal candle. As this symbolic "Light of Christ" spreads throughout those gathered, the darkness is dispersed. Once the procession has reached the sanctuary of the altar, with the church lit only by candle light, the *Exultet* (Easter Proclamation) is intoned.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word consists of seven readings from the Old Testament, although it is permitted to reduce this number for pastoral reasons (if reduced, it is customary to use readings 1, 3, 5 and 7). Each reading is followed by a psalm and a prayer relating what has been read in the Old Testament to the Mystery of Christ. After these readings conclude, the *Gloria* is sung for the first time since before Lent (with the exception of Holy Thursday, which is the only time it is heard during the 40 days of Lent), and the church bells and the organ, silent since that point on Holy Thursday, are sounded again. The Alleluia is sung for the first time since the beginning of Lent. The Gospel of the Resurrection is proclaimed. The Easter Vigil then concludes with a Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Please join us for supper after the Vigil Mass

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

8/4/2023 to 9/4/2023

EASTER ROSTERS

SEE SEPARATE ROSTERS FOR:

Easter Triduum



- HOLY THURSDAY
- GOOD FRIDAY
- EASTER VIGIL
- EASTER SUNDAY

Parish Roster

*Thank you to all our volunteers, we really appreciate it!
If anyone would like to join our parish roster please contact the parish.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St Benedict's Parish are committed to fostering a community of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help. These people in our parish can help:

Fr Shansana 0437 884 233 - Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882 - Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

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

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia

MONASTERY: 9653 1159



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

**For all parish Occupational Health & Safety
and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:**
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.