

# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



## PENTECOST SUNDAY

### YEAR A

20 & 21 MAY 2023

#### 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 **NO ADORATION OR  
CONFESSION Saturday 3rd June  
2023**

#### MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am  
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

**BAPTISMS**

**RECONCILIATION**

**FOR THE SICK**

**MARRIAGES**

**FUNERALS**

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world  
and that which contains all things  
understands what is said, alleluia.

#### SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. 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: *RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT*

*Sunday's Gospel, John 20:19-23*

*Jesus says "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained."*

*Jesus is not just saying goodbye and good luck! He equips his disciples to go and spread the good news. Too many mistakes have been made in the past, now it's time to let people know, they need to know right from wrong. They have a choice to make.*

- *Do I personally sense I have been sent into the world to continue the mission of Jesus?*
- *How can I depend more fully on the Holy Spirit in day to day life?*
- *How are doubt and faith at work in my life?*
- *What do I need from Jesus to help me believe?*



#### PRAYER:

*Dear Lord, help me feel your presence to continue your mission. Help me depend on the Holy Spirit in my everyday life. Help strengthen my faith and deep love for you. Amen.*

**First Reading: Acts 2:1-11 (JB)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**



**Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 (Year A) (JB)**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!



**GOSPEL: John 20:19-23 (Year A) (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, May 28

### PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-11

Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

John 20:19-23

... from every nation under heaven. (Acts 2:5)

Today's first reading makes it pretty clear. The Holy Spirit wants *everyone* to hear the good news and come together through faith in Jesus. Men and women from all over the known world were in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost, and they didn't all speak the same language. But when the Spirit came upon the believers gathered in the upper room, that massive crowd heard the disciples proclaiming God's mighty works in their own languages, and that manifestation of God's power helped them come to believe!

That miracle of God gathering people from all over the world wasn't limited to the first Pentecost. Consider Philip preaching to the Ethiopian court official (8:26-40) or Peter preaching to the Roman centurion Cornelius (10:34-48) or Paul preaching to the philosophers of Athens (17:22-34). The Spirit came in power both upon both those who preached and those who heard. He broke down barriers and brought people together through the gospel.

The Holy Spirit still wants to dismantle walls between people from all walks of life and bring them together. And by virtue of your Baptism, you are called to participate in that mission.

How? You can start right where you live. You're sure to encounter someone who might not "speak your language." Maybe someone in your family or among your neighbors has a different worldview than you do. Maybe there are people who come from a different country or from a different generation. Bring Jesus to them. Just say a prayer, open your mouth, and trust the Spirit to work through you to bring them together.

The Holy Spirit is still eager to bring us all together in Christ. Let him fill you on this special day!

***"Holy Spirit, give me the words to proclaim the good news wherever I go."***

Source: Word Among Us India Apr-May23 pg.58

## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

### May

Monday 29 Readings: Gen 3:9-15, 20. Jn 19:25-34.  
**R:** Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!  
**The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.**

Tuesday 30 Readings: Sirach 35:1-12. Mk 10:28-31.  
**R:** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Wednesday 31 Readings: Zeph 3:14-18 or Rom 12:9-16. Lk 1:39-56.  
**R:** Among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.  
**The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**  
**Mary Star of the Sea.**

### June

Thursday 1 Readings: Sirach 42:15-25. Mk 10:46-52.  
**R:** By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.  
**St Justin Martyr.**

Friday 2 Readings: Sirach 44:1, 9-13. Mk 11:11-26.  
**R:** The Lord takes delight in his people.  
**St Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs.**

Saturday 3 Readings: Sirach 51:12-20. Mk 11:27-33.  
**R:** The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.  
**St Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs.**

Source: Ordo 2023

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2023

### For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world. Amen.



## 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**



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
NSW  
*good works*

### ST.VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

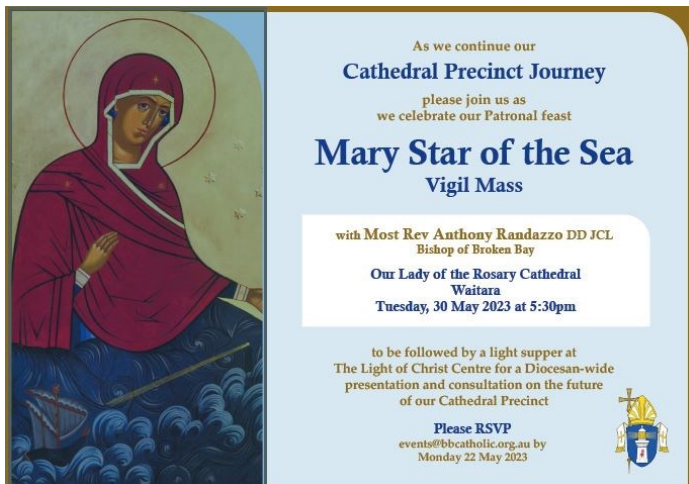
Vinnies Arcadia Conference will be holding our annual Winter Appeal on the weekend of 10/11 June.

This will be an envelope appeal as well as a hamper appeal. We are hoping to collect any **non-perishable food and toiletries** you may be able to donate.

We also want to express our gratitude for the generous donations we have received through the Poor Boxes in the church. These donations and those from our appeals are hugely appreciated as we are helping so many more families suffering hardship in these difficult times.

We take this opportunity to welcome Marie Endicott as a new member of Arcadia Conference. We are delighted to have her on board.

Rita, Lila, Marie & Karen,  
Vinnies Arcadia.



As we continue our  
**Cathedral Precinct Journey**  
please join us as  
we celebrate our Patronal feast

**Mary Star of the Sea**  
Vigil Mass

with **Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL**  
Bishop of Broken Bay

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral  
Waitara  
Tuesday, 30 May 2023 at 5:30pm

to be followed by a light supper at  
The Light of Christ Centre for a Diocesan-wide  
presentation and consultation on the future  
of our Cathedral Precinct

Please RSVP  
events@bbccatholic.org.au by  
Monday 22 May 2023

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

### OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

is now open, commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in August 2023.

The forms are available in the sacristy, otherwise please email the parish if you would like your child to be added to the list. The form is also available on the parish website.

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

*Confirmation, Reconciliation, then Eucharist.*  
*Children are usually prepared for these sacraments in Years 3 and 4.*



### REMINDER

**Holy Communion practice session will be on Saturday 3rd of June 8am to 10am.**  
**First Holy Communion will be on Sunday 11th June at the 10.30am Mass.**  
**Adoration & Confession will not be on Saturday 3rd of June.**

### MEMORIAL MASS

There will be a Memorial Mass for:



**JOHN CAMILLERI**



What would have been his 100th Birthday

**On Sunday 28th May 10.30am**

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

**Our prayers and thoughts are with  
All the Camilleri families**

## VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!



For the nomination this week we would like to thank:

**NATALIE GEORGES!**

Thank you for all your help with the children's Masses and everything you and your family do for our Parish!

## In Our Parish

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

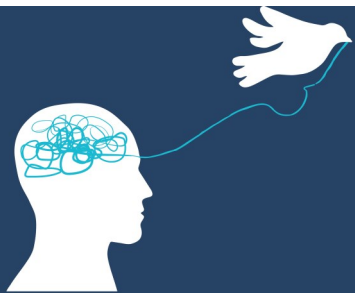
We welcome into God's family, all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially **Karl Maurer, Gina Volpato (John's mum), Tony Takchi, Brother Mario & Brother Terry, Koana Zouein (Rita Sarkis' mum) and Jenny Taylor.**

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially **Mania BouMerhe.**







## FEELING BLUE?

Counselling \$60 per hour  
No referral needed

**1800 324 924**

[www.feelingblue.au](http://www.feelingblue.au)

Do you feel stuck – like there's something you just can't resolve on your own? Counselling supports with CatholicCare Broken Bay are now available. We offer face-to-face sessions at our Artarmon, Brookvale, Tuggerah and Waitara based Family Centres as well as via telehealth. Short wait lists.

## CATECHISTS' NEWS

From the beginning, the Christian community was characterized by many different forms of ministry carried out by men and women who, obedient to the working of the Holy Spirit, devoted their lives to the building up of the Church. At times, the charisms that the Spirit constantly pours out on the baptized took on a visible and tangible form of immediate service to the Christian community, one recognized as an indispensable *diakonia* for the community. The Apostle Paul authoritatively attests to this when he states that "there are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit; to another mighty deeds; to another prophecy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes" (1 Cor 12:4-11). Pope Francis Apostolic Letter 10 May 2021 Instituting the Ministry of Catechist

Free training available for all Catechists (to register email [registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au)) –

- Level 1 Training – final session "Music, Stories and Drama in the Classroom" on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 9.30am - 2.30pm at Pennant Hills
- Safeguarding Children training for all Catechists Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 9.30am – 12.30pm in the parish

If you would like to learn more about being a Catechist or a helper, please talk to myself, or one of our parish Catechists or any of our priests. Training, a Teacher's Manual and workbooks are provided free.

God bless,  
Miriam Brown [srearcadia@gmail.com](mailto:srearcadia@gmail.com)  
Parish Catechist Coordinator



## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

**2023/2024**

**Envelopes are ready for collection for the year 2023/2024. They are in alphabetical order on the front pew of the church. Please collect them ASAP.**

## 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.



## ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

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



## PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL  
Bishop of Broken Bay

### Thank you for your generosity

Your generosity means the Church can be there during times of great need, renewing and rebuilding their lives. Your donations support two key diocesan ministries:

**Confraternity of Christian Doctrine**  
Catechists taking the gospel to State school students.

**Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners**  
Helping those who are vulnerable, experiencing loneliness or are sick in hospital.



**St Lucy's School**  
Serving year K-12 students with disabilities.

**St Edmund's College**  
Serving year 7-12 students with disabilities.

**Ephpheta Centre**  
Pastoral care, sacraments and advocacy for the deaf community.



All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. ABN 67 849 944 998  
To donate, complete the form in the envelope available in your parish and return to your parish.  
Or go online by scanning the QR code or visiting: [bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks). Thank you.

## PASTORAL WORKS

Your support and generosity are vitally important. It has made a huge difference in the past to many people and the May appeal will do so again.

You may decide to contribute this weekend or next or perhaps later in the month. At any time, we can support each other and our community.

There are some envelopes in the Church which is separate to the parish Collection.

Or you can donate online by visiting the Diocese of Broken Bay website or the QR code featured on the envelopes. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. **These donations contribute to our Parish target for these ministries to amount to a little over one million dollars.**

Everyone's gift you give makes a difference.

Thank you and God bless you for your time and generosity.



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY

## **Vox Episcopi**

### **Voice of the Bishop**

**25 May 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

When Saint Paul wrote to the Corinthians instructing them about gifts, he was not just reminding them of how talented they might be, but rather that they were gifted by God for a purpose. And that purpose could only be realised if each one lived in a full and wholesome relationship with God. In the Letter to the Romans, Saint Paul reminds us that the Spirit is not just some force or power of God the Father, but a person who works along with the Son and in relation to the Father.

The Spirit teaches us to be authentic in our relationship with God. Not to see God as a force or power, but as a person who thinks about us and loves each one of us and works for us and redeems us.

As sons and daughters of God we are led by the Spirit. As Catholic Christians we believe that the Holy Spirit is the ultimate preview and pledge of our salvation.

Some years ago, during one of his catechetical teachings Pope Benedict XVI spoke with conviction when he said, "One of the greatest evils of our time is mediocrity in matters of faith. Either we are Catholic, or we are not. If we are then this must be manifested in every aspect of our lives" (Visit to Croatia 7 June 2011). These challenging words are a reminder of the vocation that lies before all of the baptised.

They are an even more sober reminder of the vocation of the bishop, the priest, and the deacon, whose lives must be spent at the service of the faithful, who in turn, having been nourished by Word and Sacrament, will be God's presence in the world, not by way of mediocrity, but with excellence, enthusiasm, and distinction.

My dear people, the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church and indeed in each one of us in Broken Bay. As we prepare for the great feast of Pentecost, may we be strong in our faith and confident in our hope as together we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit! Come, light of our hearts. Make us witnesses before the world so that God may be all in all and our joy may be complete.

Amen.

+Anthony



## Saint Justin Martyr

Feast Day June 1

C. 100-165

***Patron Saint of philosophers***

On one of his first missionary journeys, Saint Paul found himself in Syria. He was at a crossroads and needed to decide where he would travel to preach the Gospel. Do I head east and bring the Gospel to the gentiles of Mesopotamia, Persia, India, and China? Or do I travel west, to the Greeks, Romans, Franks, and the people on the rim of the Roman Sea (the Mediterranean)? The Acts of the Apostles relates the mystical event that happened next: "During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them" (Acts 16: 9–10). Macedonia is in Greece. So Saint Paul's sails opened and he tacked west. The rest is history.

In the person of Saint Paul, the Church herself turned toward Greece and her philosophical tradition. It was the plan of God that His Church would decisively encounter philosophical truth, not myth and custom, as its partner in dialogue. This intellectual engagement began the long process of melding philosophical truth with theological revelation, which transformed early, Jewish-based Christianity into something new—the powerful synthesis of theology, philosophy, spirituality, and structure known as Catholicism.

Today's saint was a philosopher in the Greek tradition, born around 100 A.D. in Samaria to Greek parents. Saint Justin wrapped himself in the white, toga-style cloak of a Greek philosopher even after his conversion. He is the most well-known apologist of the second century, the only true Christian thinker known between the time of Saint John the Evangelist and Origen in the first half of the third century. Justin mercilessly criticized the intellectual dead end of the ancient paganism in which he was raised, seeing it as not merely neutral but as an obstacle to discovering the truth.


Justin loved the idea that Christ the Logos was the same in substance but different in person from the Father. Theological truth expressed in the concepts of Greek philosophy was very satisfying to him, because it was very true. Justin also provided some of the very first words on the Holy Eucharist outside of the New Testament itself: "And this food is called among us the Eucharist...we (have) been taught that the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by transmutation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh." What a clear and remarkable testament to Christianity's early belief in the Eucharist!

Justin moved to Rome to teach philosophy and spent decades there writing and interacting with the higher echelons of Roman society. But even a thoughtful intellectual was not immune from persecution for being a Christian. Sometime between 162 and 168 A.D., Justin and six companions were called to answer for their beliefs before the Prefect of Rome. The record of the trial has been preserved and shows the Prefect demanding that Justin sacrifice to the gods of Rome. Justin and his friends refuse and are threatened with torture and death. They respond: "Do as you wish; for we are Christians, and we do not sacrifice to idols." What bravado! They sternly refused to be idolaters. They were duly led away, scourged, and beheaded.

Justin chose, as the Church chose, the God of the philosophers over the false gods of paganism. This was a choice for truth over illusion. As Tertullian would later write: "Christ has said that he is truth, not custom" (*De Virgin.* Vol. 1, 1). The Christian God is both Father and the Prime Mover; the God of Jesus Christ and the Uncaused Causer; the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and thought thinking itself. He is Father and He is Almighty. He is everywhere, because He is nowhere. He is paternal and close at hand but forever mysterious and inaccessible. He gives a name, "I am Who am," which is a riddle. We take this complex understanding of God for granted today. But the labor of early Christians like Saint Justin Martyr dug the deep intellectual foundations into which were later driven the piers of sound doctrine. It takes very smart people to make simple points.

***Saint Justin, you surrendered your life rather than worship an idol. Your refusal to abjure your faith gives an example to all Christian intellectuals and teachers that the deepest truths are not found only on a page but must be lived, and sacrificed for, even unto death. Amen.***

*Please join us for morning tea after the 9am Mass*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER</b>  <b>3/6/2023 &amp; 4/6/23</b>  <b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY YEAR A</b></p>			
	<b>Saturday 7pm</b>	<b>Sunday 9am</b>	<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>		Nigel M	Paul E
<b>Reader1</b>	Mary C	Ann L	CHILDREN'S MASS
<b>Reader2</b>	Matt W	Judy H	CHILDREN'S MASS
<b>Prayers</b>	Sr Carol T	Lorraine D	CHILDREN'S MASS
<b>TV</b>		Roderick R	Tyrone E
<b>Music</b>		Melanie H	Karina S
<b>Music</b>		Marisa Q	Noelle T
<b>Music</b>		Teresa G	
<b>Music</b>		Theresa N	
<b>Morning Tea</b>		Tania T	Robin B
 <b>FLOWERS</b>	Rose G		

Parish Roster

*Thank You!*

*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](http://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.**