

# St Benedict's Parish

## Arcadia

*To fulfil God's commandments daily in one's deeds.*  
*Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4*



**COVID 19 STAGE 1 RE-OPENING:**  
**CHURCH ATTENDANCE BOOKINGS**  
**ESSENTIAL**  
**ONLY 10 people maximum allowed.**

Contact Paula for:  
Parish bookings  
on 9653 2312 (Mondays & Fridays)  
or 0423 078 282  
Online Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJSGK>

### PARISH Weekend Mass

Saturday 7:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am  
Sunday 11:00am  
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

### Weekday Mass

Mondays to Saturdays 9:30am  
Confession Saturday after 9.30am Mass

### PRIVATE PRAYER by appointment

**ADORATION -**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Every Friday 7:00pm to 7:30pm

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### MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Contact Father David for:

Monastery Bookings on 0400 371 260

Sundays 7:00am  
Daily 7:00am

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Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS**  
**RECONCILIATION**  
**FOR THE SICK**  
**MARRIAGES**  
**FUNERALS**

Father Bernard: 0416 032 497

## Pentecost Sunday Year A

30 & 31 May 2020

### First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
2:1-11

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

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103:1-34 R v.30

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

### Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of  
St Paul to the Corinthians 12:3-13  
*In one Spirit we were all baptized, making one body.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

### Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to John 20:19-23

**Gospel reading for this Week**  
**Pentecost Sunday - Year A**



**A reading from the holy Gospel according to**  
**John 20:19-23**

*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.

**Gospel reading for next Week**  
**The Most Holy Trinity**  
**Sunday after Pentecost - Year A**

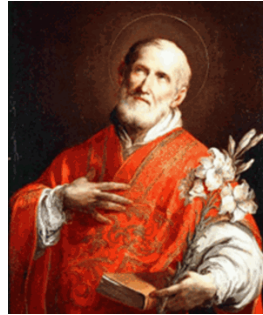
**A reading from the holy Gospel according to**  
**Matthew 28:16-20**

*Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### St. Philip Neri

Feastday: May 26

Birth: 1515

Death: 1595

Canonized: March 12, 1622 by Pope Gregory XV

Born in Florence (Italy) in 1515. Died at Rome on this day in 1595. An outstanding proponent of Church reform after the Council of Trent. Worked among the young and the poor in Rome and founded the Congregation of the Oratory. Remembered as a spiritual director, for his pastoral initiatives, and for his humour, simplicity, and charity.

He is the patron saint of Rome, US Special Forces, humor and joy.

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#### **Prayer:**

***Dear Lord, teach us to be like St Philip Neri, to live a simple life full of joy and charity.***

***AMEN.***

## REFLECTION - PENTECOST

Pentecost is both a private and a public event. Jesus breathes the Spirit of God upon the disciples, which not only renews the lifeless spirits of the disciples but also causes them to go forth and renew the world—to breathe life into a spiritless world.

The Acts of the Apostles records this in a dynamic way (see 2:1–11). The gift of the Holy Spirit that Jesus gives to the disciples manifests itself by transforming a group of cowering individuals into a vital force that boldly proclaims the Gospel of Jesus the Christ. Emboldened and accompanied by the Spirit of God, the disciples preach the Good News to anyone who will listen, without allowing the consequences to diminish their zeal.

Like the disciples, we are sent out to preach, teach, heal, and prophesy—using all our gifts, strengthened by the Holy Spirit—to renew the world.

We are to make God, who is love, apparent to the world through our words and deeds.

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### THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those who are unable to make sacramental Communion with Christ by participating in the Eucharist, can express the desire to receive him in their spirit with these words that help to make spiritual communion with him:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.  
 I love you above all things and desire to receive You into my soul.  
 Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.  
 I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.  
 Never permit me to be separated from You.  
 Amen

*Saint Alphonsus Liguori*

### Prayer to Mary Help of Christians Patroness of Australia & of the Military Ordinariate Feast Day May 24th

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts Our love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, May the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Bless especially the men and women Of the Australian Defence Force and their families.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

***Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.***



### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 24 - 31 May 2020

This coming week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a week to remember our common faith in Jesus Christ and pray for unity with each other through the Holy Spirit.

Our theme is "*They showed us unusual kindness*" (Acts 28:2), which is taken from the kindness experienced by St Paul when shipwrecked in Malta and calls us to a greater generosity to those in need.

We recognise that we cannot face the storms of life alone. A boat moves forward when all row together. In the face of difficulties, we recognise the need to pull together and to unite our efforts.

We pray that all churches fix their course on Christ, the True Light, and that God will transform the many separations amongst our churches and faiths into harmony and our mistrust into mutual acceptance.

### POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR MAY 2020

#### For Deacons

We pray that deacons,  
 faithful in their service to the Word and the poor,  
 may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church. **AMEN**



### In Our Parish

**We remember in our prayers** - all our dearly beloved who have died, especially Frank Saliba and Ben Lucas.

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

**We pray for the sick of our Parish, our country and throughout the world.**

## PARISH FUNDS

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the parish by helping out in the past few weeks. We really appreciate it.

With the suspension of Liturgies and Masses, our parish income has been severely affected. Planned Giving, Donations and Electronic Transfers can keep us going during this difficult time. If you are in a position to do so, please consider maintaining your Planned Giving donations:

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

BSB: **062 784**

Acct: **1446 8001**

Name: **Catholic Parish of Arcadia**

Bank: **Commonwealth Bank of Australia—Catholic Development Fund**

Another option is to pay by credit card just contact the parish office on 9653 2312.



## CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

The Charitable Works Fund supports five charities that provide faith based services to the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted many areas of our lives. Donations can be made online: <https://www.givenow.com.au/cwf>

When you give to the CWF, your donation is working for the faith and the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

### An excerpt from Bishop Anthony Randazzo's letter regarding Stage 1 Re-opening:

In respect to our own context, we can note the following which is possible from Friday 15 May 2020. Each of these provisions is contingent on practising social distancing of 4 square metres per person and hand hygiene through the ready use of sanitiser.

- **Churches** are able to be open for private prayer, with a limit of 10 people in the church at any one time plus celebrant.

- **Religious gatherings**, either formal or informal, are permissible inside churches for groups not more than 10 people. The names of each person at the gathering must be recorded.

- **Weddings** may be permitted for a group of 10 people. Further clarification received from the NSW Premier's Office has been received advising that the couple and the celebrant are not part of the group of 10 people. Therefore it is permissible for a wedding to include the celebrant, the couple and 10 guests.

- **Funerals** may be permitted for groups of 20 people indoors or for 30 people outside, practising social distancing of 4 square metres per person and hand hygiene through the ready use of sanitiser at church entrances.

## CATECHIST NEWS

Free training is still being provided by the CCD online to all Catechists. **The CCD will be hosting online training for Safeguarding Children via Zoom on Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June 10am-12noon; Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Jun 12:30-2:30pm and Wed 24<sup>th</sup> June 7-9pm.** Please register one week prior to the date on 8379 1643 or [registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au)

As schools return SRE (Scripture) classes continue to be available online as approved by the Department of Education. Below is the link which is available for students and families to easily access these lessons at home.

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/parish-community/ministries/ccd/curriculum/learning-from-home-sre-lessons>

While Catechists cannot be involved in the lesson delivery at this time, we will continue praying for all our children and their families, asking the Holy Spirit to continue to work in the students' lives.

Let us all keep our parish and community in our prayers at this time.

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

## ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome. Contact Parish Office to book as bookings are essential at the moment for 10 people or see Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.

## CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting will resume every Friday night 7.30PM. For now only 10 people are allowed. So please make sure you book in as bookings are essential. Everyone welcome. Contact Mary Camilleri on 0403116987.

## EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

We have had quite a few people mention, why have cafes, pubs, clubs and restaurants permitted to have 50 people on site while only 10 people in churches limit remains, especially where our places of worship are quite spacious and could easily cater to larger numbers with safe distancing.

The bishops and other Christian congregations leaders have been petitioning to the Premier to allow more people to gather for worship.

There is currently a petition going around from the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. If you are interested in signing the petition, here is the link:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/petition/>

## THE BEAUTY OF HUMAN LIFE

Every human person who has ever lived, every human person who will be born today, and every human person who will come into existence in the future, is KNOWN and LOVED by our heavenly Father from all eternity. This loving Father in the knowledge, care and compassion that he has for each one of his sons and daughters, has made us unique and unrepeatable. He tells us...

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." (Jer. 1:5)*

We are 'known' intimately. There will never be another you or another me... ever! Each one of us has their own individual character traits, physical features, personal idiosyncrasies, thoughts, dreams, desires and a million other things that collectively make us who we are as individual human persons. We think differently, we act differently, we have different tastes, different likes and dislikes and it is these things that single us out from the crowd and make us different in our own unique way. Pope Francis puts it this way:

*"We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary." (Laudato Si 65)*

Yes, we are wonderfully and INTENTIONALLY made! We are so very unique and it is in our uniqueness that the beauty of every single human person shines forth and in which we can recognise and acknowledge the absolute beauty and gift that is inherent in every single human life. You are unique and unrepeatable – never forget that!

Acknowledgment [www.bbcatholic.org.au](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au)

**Do you know someone who has a child with a Disability?**

St Lucy's School is a Catholic school dedicated to students with disabilities. We are a community enriched by difference; inspiring learning for a life of purpose. We provide intensive instruction in: literacy, numeracy, social and emotional learning and independence skills in a dynamic and creative environment across Primary and now High School.



**ST LUCY'S SCHOOL  
ENROLLING NOW FOR 2021**

Please contact the School Registrar for a tour at [enrolment@stlucys.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrolment@stlucys.nsw.edu.au) or 02 8355 3157

 JOY | COMMUNITY | COURAGE | TRUTH

**Office Hours:** Mondays & Fridays 10.30am to 3pm  
**Parish Office:** 9653 2312  
**Parish Priest:** Fr. Bernard McGrath osb  
**After hours:** 0416 032 497  
**Email:** [arcadia.parish@bigpond.com](mailto:arcadia.parish@bigpond.com)

**Website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia)  
**Facebook:** [stbenedict sarcadia](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedict sarcadia)  
**Address:** Cnr. Fagans & Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159  
**Monastery:** 9653 1159  
**Good Samaritan Sisters:** 9653 1231

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters please contact Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo  
*Bishop of Broken Bay*

Message for BBNeighbourhoods  
26 May 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In a sermon on Pentecost Sunday given by Pope Leo the Great in the fifth century, the Pontiff and Saint reminded the faithful, "The Spirit's work is still continued in the Church".

He said that it is the Spirit who "sanctifies the whole Church and quickens every rational soul". The same Spirit "is the Inspirer of the Faith, the Teacher of Knowledge, the Fount of Love, the Seal of Chastity, and the Cause of all Power". (cf. Pope Leo the Great, Sermon 75)

These wise and sensible words are as valid today as they were in the fifth century. The great challenge that each one of us faces is to believe them and in so doing, to allow the Spirit to use us in His work of the renewal and the sanctification of our Church and our world. The Spirit is at work in the community of the Church in Broken Bay and in each one of us, his faithful disciples.

Sometimes, there is a temptation to make our faith something rather sophisticated by quoting rules and regulations or theological essays or articles. Do not get me wrong, I am not anti-education. I am the first to encourage people to read more about the faith, to study more deeply, what we believe. However, if our newly acquired knowledge tempts us to think that we are sophisticated in the faith, the temptation might also be to establish a false hierarchy of discipleship where some are perceived to be "better" than others. That is something to be avoided.

As we approach the great feast of Pentecost this Sunday, might we see these days as a time of preparation for faithful discipleship? I think that in a simple kind of way God desires to reveal to us, the living disciples of Christ, the action of His Spirit in us and in our community.

It is encouraging to remember that the Spirit is given to all people – men and women, girls and boys, young and old, weak and strong. Saint Paul reminds us that the Spirit will come to our aid in our human weakness. During his mission and ministry, Paul was constantly confronted with difficulties, challenges and resistance. And yet, he constantly emboldened the community by reminding them that the Spirit enlightens our minds and hearts so that we might hear the words of Jesus, and in this way we will be led – and we will also lead others – to the all-embracing encounter with God our Father.

Over these coming days, I pray that the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit will be with you and your families.

+Anthony