

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



SEVENTEETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

26 & 27 JULY 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

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure.

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.

SELF REFLECTION: Trust

In this Sunday's Gospel Luke 11:1-13, Jesus teaches the disciples how to pray through the Lord's Prayer and reminds them of God's generosity and attentiveness to those who ask. It encourages me to deepen my trust in God, to pray sincerely and persistently, and to believe that God, like a loving Father, desires to give good gifts to His children. This reading challenges me to be more intentional in prayer, not just asking for things, but building a deeper relationship with God through honest conversation and quiet listening.

I ask myself:

Do I approach God as a loving Father?

Do I truly trust in God's goodness?

Prayer Persistence Trust

Heavenly Father, teach me to pray with a sincere and open heart. Help me to trust You as a loving Father who knows my needs. May I seek Your will above all and be persistent in faith. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and guide me each day. Help me to forgive others as You forgive me. Thank You for always hearing me and answering with love. Amen

First Reading: Gen 18:20-32 A reading from the book of Genesis*Lord, do not be angry if I speak.*

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will be only forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R.** Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**Second Reading: Col 2:12-14** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians*He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.*

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!****You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.****Alleluia!****GOSPEL Luke 11:1-13** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*Ask, and it will be given to you.*

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it to him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

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

Source: Liturgia Brisbane 2025



GOSPEL REFLECTION
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 18:20-32/ Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8/Colossians 2:12-14/ Luke 11:1-13

I tell you, ask . . . (Luke 11:9)

Have you ever heard the phrase “You never know unless you ask”? It’s true in so many situations. For example, you might never know if your boss will give you a raise unless you ask. Or you might never know what your ailing friend needs unless you ask how you can help him. In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a man who hoped that his neighbor would give him some bread to feed his guest. It was late at night, so he wasn’t sure. But he would never know unless he asked! So he knocked on his neighbor’s door—and persisted until his neighbor finally got out of bed and gave him what he needed (Luke 11:5-8).

Jesus told this parable to encourage us to ask our heavenly Father for whatever we need. But have you ever hesitated in asking God for something? Perhaps you thought you didn’t deserve what you were asking for. Or maybe you suspected that God wouldn’t answer you—so you didn’t bother trying. Maybe you even feared that he would think you were being too demanding! But that’s not how Jesus wants us to relate to our Father. He knows that God provides everything that we need, so he wants us to approach him with confidence and make our requests. That’s why he taught his disciples to ask for their daily bread when they prayed (Luke 11:3). Jesus also knows that by coming to God with our needs, we not only acknowledge our dependence on him, but we also come to know him and trust him more deeply.

Is there something you’ve been hesitant to ask God for? Or is there something you’ve asked for in the past and haven’t received? Then be like this persistent man who wasn’t shy about knocking at his neighbor’s door at midnight. Keep knocking at God’s door, and trust that he will give you the bread that you need (Luke 11:9)!

“Father, you are the giver of all good gifts. Help me to be bold and ask for what I need.”

Source: Word Among Us India

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

July 2025

Monday 28: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34. Mt 13:31-35
R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good

Tuesday 29: I Jn 4:7-16. Jn 11:19-27
R. I will bless the Lord at all times.
Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Wednesday 30: Ex 34:29-35. Mt 13:44-46
R. Holy is the Lord our God.
St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor.

Thursday 31: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38. Mt 13:47-53
R. How lovely is your dwelling-place, Lord, mighty God!
St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest.

August 2025

Friday 1: Lev 23:1,4-11,15-16, 27,34-37. Mt 13:54-58
R. Sing with joy to God our help.
St Alphonus Liguori, Bishop, Doctor.

Saturday 2: Lev 25:1-8-17. Mt 14:1-12.
R. O God, let all the nations praise you!
St Peter Julian Eymard, Priest



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for July 2025:

For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES ARE ON THE NOTICEBOARD.

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

DRAFT ROSTER NOW AVAILABLE

The next draft roster is displayed on the sacristy window. Please check and edit if required. It will be removed this Sunday.

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.

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies Winter Appeal will be collecting donations until the end of July. Envelopes for donations of money are in the Church today and can be returned anytime in the next month.

At the Church entrances we have our red buckets in which we are hoping to receive donations of non-perishable food and toiletries. We would be so grateful for any donations from our Community at this time.

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.

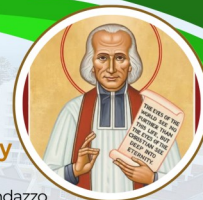
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

04/08/2025



JUBILEE OF PRIESTS

St Mary's Catholic Church, Manly



To celebrate the Jubilee of Priests, Bishop Anthony Randazzo invites you to join him for an evening of prayer and fellowship. This will be a unique opportunity to meet priests from our diocese.

5:00 pm Keynote talk
6:00 pm Mass of St John Vianney
7:00 pm Dinner in parish hall

6 Raglan St, Manly

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

REGISTER



or email us:

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

PARISH E-BULLETIN

The Parish is offering the Parish bulletin electronically in addition to the printed version.

If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send your email address to the parish office at:
arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

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 contact Teresa on 0438 521 421.

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 has finished this term! Thank you to all the children who participated. Will let you know when next term is open. Have a wonderful holiday!

Thank you,

Gabe & Jules!



CATECHISTS' NEWS

This week will see all SRE (Scripture) classes resume with Galston returning after their Athletics Carnival last week.

Free training continues to be provided by the CCD –

Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3rd Millenium" continues on Friday 1st August 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic this week is "Development of the Child and Adolescent II"

RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Please keep our parish Catechists, and the students that they teach, in prayer as schools return.

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



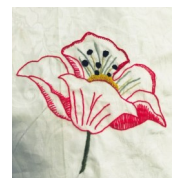
ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

Save the date for our next workshop on

**Wednesday,
6th August 7.30-9.30pm**



More details 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 Ignatius of Loyola - Memorial

Feast Day: July 31
1491–1556

**Patron Saint of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), Spiritual Exercises, soldiers,
Canonised by Pope Gregory XV on March 12, 1622**



Íñigo López de Oñaz y Loyola (Ignatius in Latin) was born at the Castle of Loyola in Azpeitia, in modern-day Gipuzkoa, Spain. After his parents' deaths, Ignatius' duties as a page for a noble family fed his dream of becoming a great military officer. Becoming a soldier at age seventeen, he fought in many battles and rose in rank over the next twelve years. Wounded in 1521, Ignatius lay bedridden for months as his leg healed. Desiring books on chivalry and romance to combat boredom, he instead was given *The Life of Christ* and *Flowers of the Saints*. Reading and re-reading the two books led him to imagine living a saintly life. As his mind wandered between Christ and the saints and then romance and chivalry, he noticed that the worldly thoughts left him feeling dry and sad, but his thoughts about Christ and the saints inspired and enthused him long after his daydream ended. After his recovery, Ignatius journeyed to the town of Montserrat. For three days, he prepared for a general confession of the sins of his whole life. During his confession, Ignatius revealed his intention to devote his life to God's service. After his confession, he consecrated himself to our Lord and our Blessed Mother, and spent the night in prayer.

Ignatius then journeyed to the town of Manresa where he spent much time in silence and solitude, devoted long hours to prayer, attended daily Mass, engaged in severe penances, sought spiritual counsel, and studied the Gospels. Ignatius experienced deep spiritual insights and consolations from God, followed by intense interior trials that left him agitated and struggling. In his struggles, he sensed the evil one saying that he could never keep up his holy life. The evil one tried to lead him to doubt and despair, but Ignatius ultimately rebuked his lies and resolved to follow God's will. Ignatius also suffered scruples, recalling sins he had committed that he feared he had never confessed. The severe struggle led him to briefly consider suicide. In the end, God helped Ignatius discern that his irrational thinking was from the evil one, freeing him from that burden.

In Manresa, Ignatius fasted and communicated regularly with Mary and Jesus, who revealed deep truths to his soul, and began writing a spiritual classic in the Church: *The Spiritual Exercises*. The *Spiritual Exercises* are a guide for a structured retreat. Ideally, an individual enters into silence and solitude for thirty days. A spiritual director leads the individual through Saint Ignatius' structure that provides the retreatant with daily directions and rules to help discern God's will.

After this period of prayer and completing the first draft of his exercises, Ignatius spent several years studying in Spain and Paris where he met future saints Francis Xavier and Peter Faber. In 1537, Ignatius and his companions moved to Venice and were ordained priests. In 1540, the three co-founded the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. The following year, Ignatius was elected superior, a role he would hold until his death. Over the next two decades, the Jesuits grew to 1,000 members, served in thirty-five schools they founded, and became missionaries. Over the next century, they played a significant role in the Catholic Counter-Reformation, staunchly defending orthodoxy and the pope.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, God spoke to you while you recovered from a leg wound.

You listened to His call to a life of selfless service.

Please pray that I will stay attentive to God's voice and may discern His will.

May I give myself over to God's service for his glory and the salvation of souls.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, 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.

**WE WILL BE COMMENCING A
HEALING MASS
THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH**

**DATE: Thursday, 7 August
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

Our Lady
OF DOLOURS

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

FRIDAY, 1ST AUGUST, 2025
DOORS OPEN 6.45PM FOR 7PM START
94 ARCHER ST, CHATSWOOD NSW 2067

REGISTER

WE HAVE THIS HOPE, A SURE AND STEADFAST
ANCHOR OF THE SOUL, A HOPE THAT ENTERS THE
INNER SHRINE BEHIND THE CURTAIN,
HEBREWS 6: 19

GUEST SPEAKER
CARDINAL PABLO VIRGILIO DAVID

**AUSTRALIAN
CATHOLIC YOUTH
FESTIVAL**
MELBOURNE
2025

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE
SAT 29 NOV- WED 3 DEC
FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION + REGO
\$1,630 PER PERSON, INCL GST
Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy
Reducing cost to \$1,130

REGISTER
YOUR
INTEREST
HERE

**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

**2/8/2025—3/8/2025
18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Margaret B	Judy H	Children
Reader2	Daniel V	Teresa G	Children
Prayers	Edyn V	Keith W	Children
TV		Jules O	Fogarty Family
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Jack/Adam F
Music		John T	Martina J
Music			Theresa N
Morning Tea		Mary A	Robin B
FLOWERS	Gabrielle W		



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

NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Enrolments for the next Sacramental Program are now open. Program commences with Confirmation in October with lessons in August.

Please contact the parish office or collect a form from the Church Sacristy or email:

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...

Vespers is the evening prayer that all Catholic priests or monks are obligated to pray daily



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](https://www.facebook.com/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