

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



**16TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A
JULY 18 & 19 2026**



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

Saturdays

9:00am to 10:00am
Adoration & Confession

MONASTERY CHAPEL MASS TIMES

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

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants
and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace,
that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity,
they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.
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: GOD'S PATIENCE

This Sunday's Gospel, **Matthew 13:24-43**

Jesus reminds us that the wheat and weeds grow together, and that God is patient with us. Rather than rushing to judge others, we are called to look honestly at our own hearts and allow God to help us grow in goodness.

I reflect:

1. What "weeds" in my life do I need to surrender to God?
2. Am I quick to judge others instead of showing patience?
3. Do I trust in God's patience and timing?
4. How can I bring more goodness into the lives of others this week?

Patience.Growth.Mercy

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
help me to grow in goodness and patience. Remove the weeds from my heart and help me to trust in Your mercy and timing. May my life bear good fruit for You.
Amen.

First Reading Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 (JB)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:**R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.****Second Reading Romans 8:26-27 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL**Matthew 13:24-43 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed dandel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the dandel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the dandel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the dandel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the dandel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the dandel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the dandel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the dandel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

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



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 / Romans 8:26-27 / Matthew 13:24-43

PATIENCE, MERCY AND WISDOM OF GOD.

In the first reading from the Book of Wisdom, we hear that God is powerful, yet He is also merciful and patient. God does not act out of anger or impatience. Instead, He gives people time to repent and change. His power is shown not only in justice, but also in mercy.

In the second reading, St Paul reminds us that we are not alone in our weakness. Sometimes we do not even know how to pray, but the Holy Spirit intercedes for us. God understands the deepest desires of our hearts, even when we cannot find the words to express them.

This leads us into Jesus' parable of the weeds among the wheat. The farmer sows good seed, but an enemy sows weeds among the wheat. When the servants want to pull out the weeds immediately, the master tells them to wait, because they might also damage the wheat.

Jesus is teaching us that good and evil exist together in the world. We can sometimes become frustrated when we see injustice, wrongdoing or people who seem to do harm. We may want to judge or remove them immediately. But God is patient. He sees what we cannot see, and He gives every person time to change and grow.

Key Thought

God is patient with us. He gives us time to grow, change and become the people He created us to be.

Take-Home Challenge

This week, try to be more patient with someone who is difficult or frustrating. Before judging them, pray for them and ask God to help you see them with greater mercy. At the same time, ask the Holy Spirit to show you what needs to change in your own heart.

Prayer

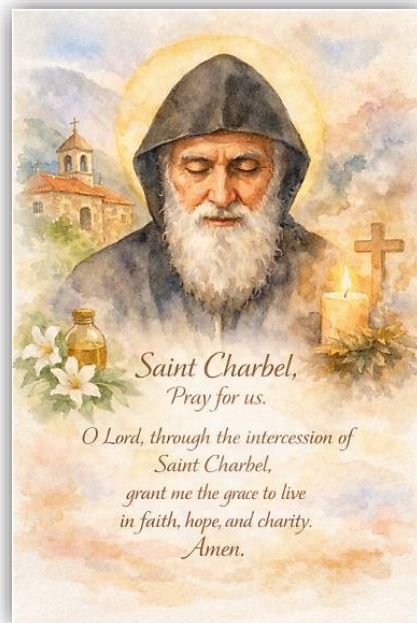
Lord God,

Thank You for Your patience and mercy. Help us to grow like good wheat, to resist evil, and to be Patient with others. When we do not know how to pray, may Your Holy Spirit pray within us. Help us to trust in Your wisdom and timing. Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

JULY

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Monday 20 | Readings: Micah 6:1-4, 6-8.
R: To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
St Apollinaris, bishop, martyr. |
| Tuesday 21 | Readings: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20. Mt 12:46-50.
R: Lord, show us your mercy and love.
St Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doctor. |
| Wednesday 22 | Readings: Song 3:1-4. Jn 20:1-2, 11-18.
R: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.
St Mary Magdalene. |
| Thursday 23 | Readings: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13. Mt 13:10-17.
R: You are the source of life, O Lord.
St Bridget. |
| Friday 24 | Readings: Jer 3:14-17. Mt 13:18-23.
R: The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.
St Charbel Makhlouf, priest |
| Saturday 25 | Readings: 2 Cor 4:7-15. Mt 20:20-28.
R: Those who sow in tears, shall reap with shouts of joy.
St James, Apostle. |



Source: Ordo 2026

POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY 2026

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages,
recognising it as a gift from God.



PARISH NOTICE

- Next Roster is ready to be collected from the Sacristy with your names on it.
- We need volunteers for morning tea after the 9am Mass.
- We also need helpers to do flowers once every 6 to 8 weeks.
- We need adult volunteers to help with Kids Youth Group on Fridays.

REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of:



WILLIAM (BILL) PIERCE



**WHO PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY FRIDAY
AT THE AGE OF 105 YEARS OLD**

*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
Bill Pierce, family and friends.*

Funeral details are unknown at this stage.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PIETY SHOP!

A sincere thank you to all our parishioners for your wonderful support of the Piety Shop. We are pleased to share that the **profit** for the financial year ending 30 June 2026 was approximately **\$6,000**.

Thank you also to our dedicated Piety Shop volunteers for generously giving their time and to everyone who continues to support our parish through their purchases. Your support is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

This week's volunteers of the week nomination:

FEAST DAY STALL HOLDERS

This week, our **Volunteers of the Week** go to all the wonderful **stallholders** who generously gave their time, donation and energy to help make our Feast Day celebration such a great success.

Thank you for your hard work, generosity and support! We truly appreciate everything you did to make the day so special.

FORMATION SERIES

Magnifica Humanitas Formation Series

With the recent release of *Magnifica Humanitas*, and after a wonderful response to Formation Session 1: "Being Human in the Age of AI", Mission Broken Bay will be holding the second formation and reflection session in August. This will again be facilitated by Rebekah Griffin from Mission Broken Bay, who worked in Information Technology for 18 years and is currently nearing completion of her doctoral studies in Theology.

Formation Session:

Ethical Dimensions of AI in practice

This formation session will explore a range of considerations on both the supply chain side (machine learning and human training of AI, data centres, etc), and the consumer side of AI. Factors considered with be the impacts to human flourishing, including human interaction, welfare of young people and work, as well as broader considerations such as economic and ecological impacts, with a focus on concrete things that we can do in our everyday lives and local communities to promote and build a world where people continue to thrive.

Date: Wednesday 26 August 2026

Time: 6pm-8pm

Venue: Caroline Chisholm Centre, Pennant Hills

Register: 8379 1600

WYD27 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are so excited to announce that Expressions of Interest are now open for our WYD27 Broken Bay Pilgrimage:

26 July – 12 August 2027

Japan – Seoul – Incheon

<https://bbwyd27.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:

*Sister Fay, Joe Gallo, Miriam Brown, Pauline Honor, Kath Moran,
Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.*

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

Bill Pierce, Francesco Merlino, Peter Chedid, Antonio Romeo, Nanna Trani, Anne Pearce, Robert Wallace, Maria Pappalardo.
~ May they rest in Eternal Peace.



CATECHIST NEWS

A heartfelt thank you to all our catechists for your dedication and faithful service throughout Semester 1. Your commitment to sharing the catholic faith with our students is deeply appreciated.

Term 3 will commence on:

- **All Schools except Middle Dural** - Wednesday, 22 July and Friday, 24 July.
- **Middle Dural** will commence Term 3 in Week 2, on Wednesday, 29 July.

Glenorie Catechists: Please note that there will be no SRE classes on Wednesday, 5 August, due to Grandparents' Day at the school. We are always in need of casual fill-in teachers so please contact me or the Parish office for more information if you are interested!

God bless,
Martina Jutrisa
srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist
Co-Ordinator
0413 403 767
Parish Office: 9653 2312



Create.Share.Encounter

A Creative Women's Ministry



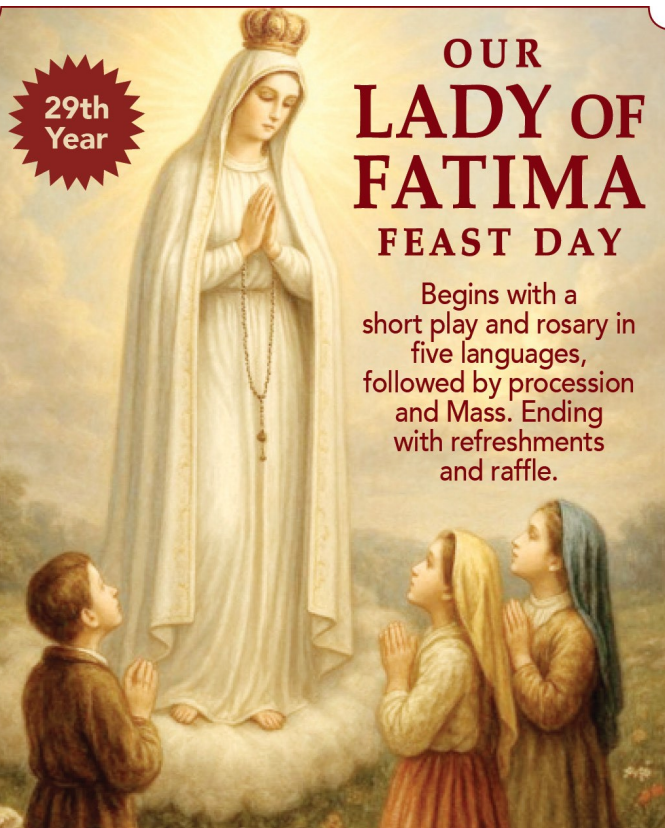
The ladies created some lovely masterpieces at our recent Makers Table workshop!

Next month we will be crocheting granny squares (beginner and advanced designs).

**Wednesday 5th August
7.30-9.30pm in the meeting room**

www.facebook.com/makerstable/
www.themakersgarden.com.au

Martine Musumeci 0458-533-250
Nerida Woodbury 0425-834-017
themakerstablesydney@gmail.com



OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

Begins with a short play and rosary in five languages, followed by procession and Mass. Ending with refreshments and raffle.

Here at St Benedict's Sun 11 Oct 2026 12:30pm

We are inviting young children to take part in the Fatima Play on the Feast Day. Please phone 0438 521 421 for further details.

ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Join the fun! Ages 8-12 years
Our Kids Youth Group is back on **Fridays**
DURING SCHOOL TERM
4.00pm to 5.30pm

ON HOLIDAYS
Return on Friday 31st of July



We are in need of adult volunteers to help out.
Please let the parish office know if you are free to help or call Jules on 0415 448 797.

HEALING MASS

Healing Mass is held on the first Thursday of each month at 9.30am

NEXT HEALING MASS:
Thursday 6th August 2026

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!

ST BENEDICT'S FEAST DAY



ST BENEDICT'S FEAST DAY

Congratulations to all the WINNERS:

Calf winner:

First Prize, Dyson:

Second Prize, Kitchenaid:

Third Prize, Roar & Snore Taronga Zoo:

Fourth Prize, Blue Mountains stay:

Fifth Prize, 13 Tonne Camhaul company:

Sixth Prize, Coffee Machine:

Seventh Prize, Six Course Tasting Menu:

Eighth Prize, Endota Spa voucher:

Ninth Prize, Bunnings voucher:

Tenth Prize, Three course meal Barangaroo:

Tony Gittany

Paul Camilleri

John Sheary

Tom & Marinka Marinov

Chris Kilkelly

Mick Scotti

E. Brooke

Mary Bandiera

Sharon O'Connor

Jess Isaac

Mariela Volpato



A Message from St Benedict's Parish

A BIG thank you to all our organisers, volunteers, the people who donated the prizes and all donors, everyone who came along and supported our Feast Day celebration. We truly appreciate your time, generosity and support.

We are delighted to announce that the total **profit from the day was approximately \$23,000!** Thank you for helping make the day so special and successful!

A Message from Tania Tassone – Fete Organiser

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped make our Feast Day celebration truly special and successful. Your time, generosity and willingness to help contributed so much to the wonderful day we shared together.

A special thank you to the **Camilleri, Kazzi and Sakkal** families for their hard work, their willingness to always step in and help, donating so much, and for being such an important part of our event. Without their continued support and generous contributions, we would not be able to bring this celebration together.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in making the day such a memorable celebration for our parish community.

Tania Tassone
Fete Coordinator

A Message from Keith Wallace - Plant Stall Holder

A sincere thank you to the Arcadia Parish Committee led by Tania, for the tremendous effort that went into making St Benedict's Feast Day Festival such a wonderful success.

It was heartening to see so many members and families of our parish involved in the many stalls and activities. Please name them all because I may miss someone. The commitment, generosity and teamwork shown by everyone was truly inspiring. I enjoyed teaming up with Judy Horton, who is such a gorgeous and delightful lady.

While the festival certainly helped raise funds, its greatest achievement I believe was in bringing our parish community together. In our busy lives, we rarely have the opportunity to simply spend time with one another, socialise and build stronger friendships. The feast day was a wonderful reminder of the strength of our parish family and the joy that comes from being together. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and energy. It was a fantastic day of fellowship, community and togetherness. Well done.

God Bless
Keith Wallace

A Message from Paul El-Chaar - On behalf of Parish Pastoral Council

What a wonderful day we shared together on Sunday, 12 July St Benedict's Feast Day Festival. Thank you to each and every one of you who helped make the day so special - apologies if I don't name you individually, whether you volunteered, donated, attended, prayed, or simply came along to enjoy the Feast Day. Your generosity, kindness, and joyful spirit made the day a true Benedictine celebration of our parish family community.

More than the fundraising, it was a blessing to see so many people come together in friendship and community. Moments like these strengthen our parish and remind us that we are at our best when we serve one another with love. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your continued encouragement and tireless support of St Benedict's Parish Church. May God bless each of you and your families for the tireless time you have donated to our Parish.

Paul El-Chaar
On behalf of Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

25/7/26 to 26/7/26
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul C	
Reader1	John V	Mary C	Jutrisa family
Reader2	Natasha S	Gabrielle W	Lorna B
Prayers	Sr Carol T	Sharon O	Jutrisa family
TV		Trey O	Leon J
EMHC		Ann L	Caterina V
EMHC		Nigel M	Lorna B
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Theresa N	Martina J
Music		Marisa Q	Natalie M
Music		Mary A	Jutrisa family
Morning Tea		Teresa G	
FLOWERS	Mona M		

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

DID YOU KNOW...

The **Catholic Bible** contains **73 books**: 46 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.

Most Protestant Bibles contain **66 books** because they do not include the seven Old Testament books known as the **Deuterocanonical books**, which the Catholic Church recognises as part of Sacred Scripture.

Historically speaking, the books were removed from the Old Testament canon used by most Protestants during the Reformation, rather than the Catholic Church adding them later.

There were also theological disagreements because some of these books contain passages that Protestants interpreted differently on issues such as:

- **Prayers for the dead** — especially 2 Maccabees 12:44–45
- **The intercession of the saints**
- **Almsgiving and its spiritual value**

The Catholic Church, however, continued to recognise these books as Sacred Scripture and formally reaffirmed their place in the Bible at the **Council of Trent (1546)**.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and their enduring connection to country, waters, and culture. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

*Above all we give thanks to **God our Father**, who blesses this land, its people, and all creation. May we live in harmony, justice, and peace, guided by His love.*

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

*St Benedict's Parish is committed to the safety of all, especially children and vulnerable people. Concerns? Contact Fr Shansana 0437 884 233, or the Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605. For all parish **OH&S** and **Safeguarding Children** matters Contact the parish office on 9653 2312.*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm

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)



PARISH BANK DETAILS for

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



Support our parish!

Scan this QR code to make a donation.

MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159
121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159