

First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 (JB)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:15-18 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 14:15-21 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave your orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1 Peter 3:15-18 / John 14:15-21

This Sunday's readings remind us that we are never alone. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit to guide, strengthen, and remain with us always.

In **Acts of the Apostles**, the people of Samaria receive the Good News with great joy and are filled with the Holy Spirit.

In First **Epistle of Peter**, St Peter encourages Christians to live with hope and gentleness, even during difficulties.

In the **Gospel of John**, Jesus reminds His disciples that loving Him means living His commandments, and He promises the gift of the Advocate — the Holy Spirit.

Together, these readings teach us that the Holy Spirit helps us live our faith with courage, peace, and love in everyday life.

Key Thought

The Holy Spirit strengthens us to live as faithful followers of Jesus.

Take-Home Challenge

Each morning this week, pray: "Holy Spirit, guide me today," and look for one way to show kindness or encouragement to someone.

Prayer:

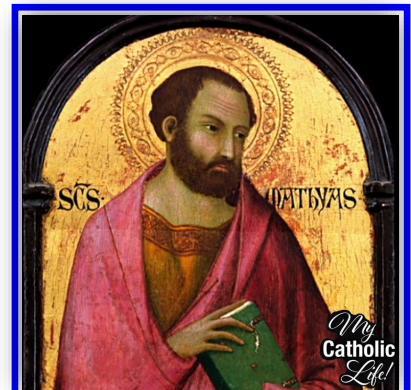
***Come, Holy Spirit,
fill our hearts with Your peace and love.
Help us to follow Jesus each day with courage and joy.
Amen.***

Source: chatgpt

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

MAY

- Monday 11 Readings: Acts 16: 11-15; Jn 15: 26—16: 4a
R: The Lord takes delight in his people.
- Tuesday 12 Readings: Acts 16: 22-34; Jn 16: 5-11.
R: Your right hand has saved me, O Lord.
***Sts Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs.
St Pancras, Martyr.***
- Wednesday 13 Readings: Acts 17: 15, 22—18: 1; Jn 16: 12-15.
R: Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Our Lady of Fatima.
- Thursday 14 Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26. Jn 15:9-17.
R: The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.
St Matthias, apostle.
- Friday 15 Readings: Acts 18: 9-18; Jn 16: 20-23a.
R: God is king of all the earth.
- Saturday 16 Readings: Acts 18:23-28. Jn 16:23-28.
R: God is king of all the earth.



ST MATTHIAS

*O Saint Matthias,
faithful apostle chosen to serve
Christ, pray for us that we may
follow Jesus with courage,
humility, and love.
Help us to remain faithful in our
daily lives and to share the
Good News with joy.
Amen.*

Source: Ordo 2026



POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2026

That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

MAY - MONTH OF MARY



ROSARY AFTER WEEKDAY MASS

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Lady.

During this special month, the Rosary will be prayed after the weekday Masses from Monday to Thursday.

All parishioners are warmly invited to stay and join in this beautiful prayer as we ask for Mary's intercession and grow closer to Jesus through her Son.



HOME ROSARY EVENINGS

We will also be holding the Rosary in different homes in the evenings throughout May, inviting Our Lady to visit and bring her motherly presence into our homes and families.

If you would like to join or would like to host and book a date, please contact the Parish Office or Paula on 0423 078 282. Even if you do not wish to host you are welcome to visit and pray with us! Roster at Sacristy window.

HELP NEEDED

**We need young PEOPLE to help put up the banners for the fete please.
Can you please let Tania know on
0401 597 278.**

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

We need helper volunteers. Please let the parish office know if you are free to help.



HEALING MASS

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

**NEXT HEALING MASS:
THURSDAY 4TH OF JUNE 2026**

PIETY SHOP NEWS

**VISIT THE PIETY SHOP
FOR MOTHER'S DAY!**

The Piety Shop now has a lovely selection of **Mother's Day** items available—thoughtful gifts to show appreciation and love for all mothers and grandmothers.

We also have a new range of religious and practical items in store, including seat belt covers, pill boxes for daily tablets, thermal cups, brain game books, and much more.

We warmly invite you to visit the Piety Shop and have a look at what's new. We look forward to seeing you there!

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION AND RENEWAL DAY

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at the Monastery, 17th May.

Arrival from 10am to register for a 10:30am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, Middle of the Day Prayer with the monks, Mass at 2pm, conclusion around 3pm.

Book display and morning tea provided, please BYO picnic lunch.

Enquiries: Fr Michael -0455 329 697
or Ann Lomas-0437 340 250

WORKING BEE – PARISH GROUNDS



A Working Bee will be held on **Saturday 16th May 10.30am to 1.00pm.**

We invite all parishioners who are able to come along and help care for our parish grounds.

Please bring your gloves, hats, and any gardening tools you may have.

Your support is greatly appreciated as we work together in maintaining and beautifying our parish home.

SIGN UP SHEET AT THE SACRISTY WINDOW.

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:

Miriam Brown, Pauline Honor, Kath Moran, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.

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

Nanna Trani, Anne Pearce, Robert Wallace, Maria Pappallardo, Shannon Murray, Pellegrino Vaccarella ~ May they rest in Peace.





Create.Share.Encounter

A Creative Women's Ministry

The ladies at the Makers Table made some lovely Rosary Beads at Wednesday's workshop - some to keep, gift or donate to those in need.

At our workshop next month (3rd June) we will be making beautiful 'Tree of Life's Treasures' frames (see photo) and we'd really appreciate any donations of old jewellery, chains or trinkets etc you want rid of! Please leave these with Paula in the parish office or in the box at the front of the church. Thank you!



TREE OF LIFE'S TREASURES

Please leave any donations of unwanted items we can use for our **June workshop** in the basket at parish entry or with Paula in the parish office. Any unwanted treasures (in any condition) would be greatly appreciated – thank you!

OLD Jewellery items / Pins / Watches / Small metal items / Necklaces / chains / bracelets / Key chains / Brooches Pendants / Rings / Decorations Medals / Locketts / Coins or Anything else!!!



www.facebook.com/makerstable/
www.themakersgarden.com.au
themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

Martine Musumeci 0458-533-250
Nerida Woodbury 0425-834-017

CATECHISTS' NEWS

Term 2 is now underway!

For parishioners who may be considering becoming a catechist, a new training course will commence on 30 April. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your faith and make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people.

We urgently need a catechist at Hillside Public school on Friday mornings from 8.45am - 9.45am to teach two year 1 students.

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



ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

FATHER BERNARD MCGRATH

10 MAY 1975 - 51 YEARS

Congratulations to Fr Bernard on the joyful celebration of his 51st Anniversary of Ordination! May the Lord continue to bless Fr Bernard with good health, peace, strength, and abundant joy as he continues his ministry.

Please keep Fr Bernard in your prayers as we give thanks for this wonderful milestone.

PARISH FINANCE NEWS

The Parish Finance Committee is inviting new members to join and help support the important work of stewardship within our parish. If you are interested, please contact

Fr Shansana or Tania on 0401 597 278 for more information.

A reminder regarding parish collections:

The **First Collection** supports the Monastery.

The **Second Collection** goes towards Parish expenses, including maintenance and upkeep of our church and facilities.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the parish community.



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!

Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) Appeal – Give with Purpose



7.4%

Raised: \$1,346 | Target: \$18,005 | Still Needed: \$16,658

Our parish is part of something bigger. Through the Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) May 2026 Appeal, we support life-changing ministries across our Diocese – from faith formation in schools, to hospital chaplaincy, to care for the vulnerable and those on the margins.

So far, we've raised **\$1,346 (7.4%)** towards our **\$18,005 goal**. Thank you. But **\$16,658 is still needed** – and your support today can make the difference.

PWBB is our pastoral charity in Broken Bay – not just a collection, but our shared mission in action. **ENVELOPES ON PEWS AND ENTRIES.**



CCR Parramatta Diocese and
The Emmaus Prayer Community
Invites You to Come & Celebrate Pentecost

The POWER OF PENTECOST

Holy Mass at 2pm celebrated by
Rev Fr Ambrose Owusu-Ansah
(Chaplain CCR Parramatta Diocese)

Speaker Abraham George
(The Gospel of Love Community)

Praise & Worship, Prayer Ministry,
Talk & Fellowship

Come and Receive the Power


SUNDAY, 24 MAY 2026
2:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church
198 Old Prospect Road, GREYSTANES

All Welcome
Free Event

Enquiries:
Desiree - 0478 765 772
Amila - 0424 445 397

Scan to Register


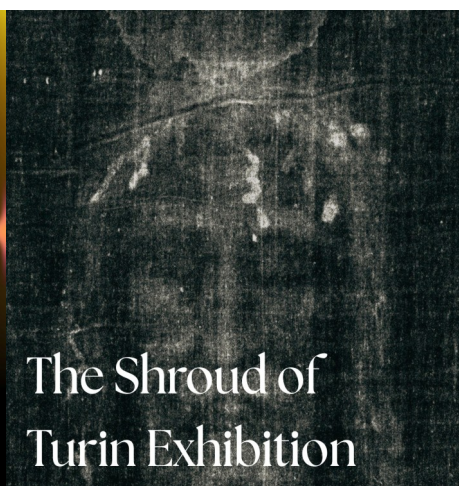


Or use following link to register
www.trybooking.com/DLWRE

The Shroud of Turin Exhibition

St Mary's Parish Centre
458 Main Rd, Noraville
7-14 June

A rare opportunity to encounter a life-size replica of the Holy Shroud and discover its enduring mystery.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day is a time to honour and celebrate the most special women in our lives – our mums.

It's a day to recognise the tireless efforts and unconditional love that mothers give to their children.

For some, it can be an especially hard day as we remember and miss the mums who are no longer with us. We can take comfort knowing their love stays with us in the memories they left and the way they shaped our lives.

St Benedict's Country Fete

Sunday 31 May 2026

2 FAGANS ROAD ARCADIA PH: 9653 2312

Fruit & Veggie Stall • Chocolate Wheel • Raffle
Dev Tea • BBQ • Gifts • Coffee • Cakes • Lolly Stall
Hot Dogs • Pop Corn • Gelato • Face Painting
Flowers • Crafts • Plants • Rides & lots more...

**10am
to 3pm**

PARISH FETE – LET'S BEGIN THE EXCITEMENT! COUNTDOWN: 3 WEEKENDS TO GO!

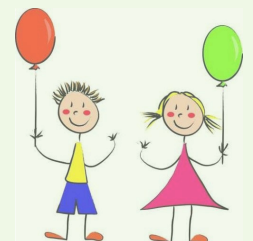
The excitement is building for our upcoming Parish Fete! Only **5 weekends to go**, so now is the time to get involved, spread the word, and help make this year's fete a wonderful success for our parish community.

Please collect your **raffle tickets from the church entrances**. Don't forget that **cow tickets are available separately** as well.

We kindly ask everyone to **share the new date with family and friends** and invite them to join us on this special parish day.

We are still in need of:

- Brand new items for the **Chocolate Wheel**
- Lollies for the **lolly stand**
- More **craft items**
- **Cakes baked on the day of the fete** for our stalls



Your generosity in donating items is greatly appreciated!

We also need **volunteers** to help on the day. Even a little time makes a big difference—please consider helping to **relieve stall holders so they can have a short break** during the day.

Thank you for your support, generosity, and parish spirit. Let's make this fete a joyful and successful celebration for everyone!

For any information please contact Tania on 0401 597 278

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

16/5/26 TO 17/5/26

The Ascension of the Lord - YEAR A

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	
Reader1	Edyn V	Teresa G	Fogarty Family
Reader2	Daniel V	Donna B	Gabrielle W
Prayers	John V	Ann L	Matt W
TV		Teresa G	Fogarty Family
EMHC		Paul E	Caterina V
EMHC		Pam G	Lorna B
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Martina J
Music		John T	Sandra M
Music			
Morning Tea		Mary A	
FLOWERS	Gabrielle W		

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.

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: [stbenedict sarcadia](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedict sarcadia)



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 UPDATE

OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in October 2026.

Forms will be given to all public school students. For other schools please collect a form from the sacristy office or email the parish for a form.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS 2026

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life.

We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site: www.engagedencounter.org.au

Choose any of the coming Weekends:
May 23-24, Aug 8-9

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know Catholics use holy water when entering a church as a reminder of their Baptism? It is a simple way of remembering that we belong to Christ.

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

Support our parish!
 Scan this QR code to make a donation.

