

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



**SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION
YEAR C
19 & 20 APRIL 2025**

Alleluia!
Christ is risen!
HAPPY EASTER!

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 for the following:

Baptisms
Reconciliation
For the Sick
Marriages
Funerals

Parish Priest:

Fr Shansana 0437 884 233

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**



ENTRANCE PROCESSION

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.
To him be glory and power
for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.

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.

Happy Easter, Everyone!

Lord Jesus,

*Thank You for the joy of Easter
and the hope You bring us.*

*Help us to share Your love with
each other and be a light in our community.*

*Bless all our families and friends
this Easter and always. Amen.*

*Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful
Easter!!*



HE IS RISEN!

HE IS TRULY RISEN!

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43 (JB)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.****Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (JB)**

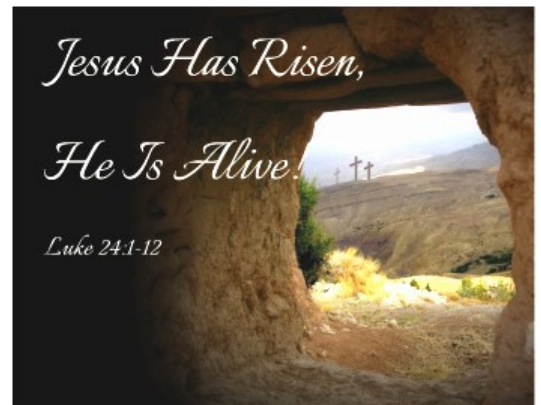
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!****Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.****Alleluia!****GOSPEL:****Luke 24:1-12 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering discovered that the body of the Lord Jesus was not there. As they stood there not knowing what to think, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side. Terrified, the women lowered their eyes. But the two men said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he is risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee: that the Son of Man had to be handed over into the power of sinful men and be crucified, and rise again on the third day?' And they remembered his words.

When the women returned from the tomb they told all this to the Eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them also told the apostles, but this story of theirs seemed pure nonsense, and they did not believe them.

Peter, however, went running to the tomb. He bent down and saw the binding cloths, but nothings else; he then went back home, amazed at what had happened.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, April 20

The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9/Luke 24:1-12

They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him. (John 20:2)

What a glorious day! It's Easter Sunday, the day of the resurrection. Only Jesus isn't showing up! In fact, today's Gospel reading focuses on an *absent* Jesus. Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John are confronted with an empty tomb, and they don't know where he is. So rather than rejoicing, they are disappointed, bewildered and scared.

These three disciples didn't know what happened to Jesus, but we do. In just a short time, he will greet Mary Magdalene and commission her as to proclaim the good news (John 20:16-18). Later that day, he will appear to Peter and the apostles and breathe the Holy Spirit on them (John 21:17). And he will appear to them again and again before ascending into heaven (Acts 1:3).

But we don't hear any of those stories today. Instead, we're waiting outside the empty tomb. We believe that Jesus is risen, but we don't see him. We have experienced our sin being washed away, but we still fall sometimes. We get occasional glimmers of the heavenly life that awaits us, but we also know times of darkness and fear. And so we live somewhat precariously, always at risk of falling to temptation.

So why bother rejoicing today? Because Jesus truly *is* risen, whether we see him or not! Because he truly *has* defeated death, and we truly *do* belong to him. Because we *will* see him one day. And until that day comes, we can experience his Spirit filling us with God's love and gradually transforming our hearts.

Today truly is a glorious day—not because we have come to the end of our journey, but because we know that the risen Christ is walking beside us. Step by step, he is leading us to the throne of God—to a glory that will far surpass our wildest dreams!

"Jesus, Risen Savior, I praise you, and I believe in you!"

Source: www.word-sunday.com

WEEK DAY LITURGICAL READINGS

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Monday April 21: | Acts 2:14, 22-33. Mt28:8-15.
R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope. |
| Tuesday April 22: | Acts 2:36-41. Jn 20:11-18.
R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. |
| Wednesday April 23: | Acts 3:1-10. Lk 24:13-35.
R. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice. |
| Thursday April 24: | Acts: 3:11-26. Lk 24:35-48.
R. O Lord our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth! |
| Friday April 25: | Acts: 4:1-12. Jn 21:1-14.
R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone. |
| Saturday April 26: | Acts 4:13-21. Mk 16:9-15.
R. I praise you, Lord, for you have answered me. |



St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Woe to me if I should prove myself but a halfhearted soldier in the service of my thorn-crowned Captain

April 24



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2025


For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.




**DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM
THAT YOU JUST CAN'T
SOLVE ON YOUR OWN?**

1800 324 924
www.catholiccaredbb.org.au




BIRTHDAY WISHES

BROTHER MARIO
APRIL 18

Wishing you a very happy and blessed birthday! May God continue to guide you, strengthen you, and fill your life with peace, joy, and love.

May the Lord surround you with His peace and love, and may He ease your pain and bring you comfort.

God bless you always!



**THE VIANNEY CIRCLE AND MISSIONARIES
FOR VOCATIONS**

Fr Joey, our Vocations Director, is launching a new initiative to encourage and support vocations in our diocese – ***The Vianney Circle and Missionaries for Vocations***.

He'll be visiting parishes to share how you can get involved in fostering a culture of vocations through prayer, formation, and outreach.

Stay tuned for more parish visit dates!

For more details, contact:
vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au

or call 0418 522 449.

PARISH NOTICE

Please note the new email address
for the parish office:
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

WORKING BEE THANK YOU!

A Big Thank You to Our Working Bee Team!
What a wonderful job the working bee did last weekend at our parish church!

The grounds and spaces look refreshed and cared for, and it's all thanks to your hard work and generous spirit. We are so grateful to everyone who gave their time and energy—your efforts truly make a difference and help keep our parish a welcoming place for all.

God bless you for your service!

MARRIAGE & FAMILY: ROOTED IN FAITH

Marriage and family are beautiful gifts from God—places where love grows, faith is shared, and life is celebrated.

Keep the Catholic faith at the heart of your home. Pray together, attend Mass as a family, and support each other in living out Christ's love every day.

With God at the centre, your family can be a true witness of faith, hope, and love in the world.

FAITH IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE

To all our single parishioners:

Your faith, your presence, and your gifts are a vital part of our Church community.

Whether you're waiting, discerning, or simply living fully in the present, know that God walks with you in every step.

Your journey is meaningful, your witness is powerful, and your faith shines brightly.

Keep trusting in God's plan—He is always at work in your life.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope."

— **Jeremiah 29:11**

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 Bruce Shankland, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, Father Alberic.

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died:
Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Waffa Moussa, 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.



LENTEN PROGRAM THANK YOU

Thank
You

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Lenten program.

Your presence, reflections, and shared faith made it a meaningful journey for all.

A special thanks to **Gebran and Miriam** preparing and leading the talks. A big thank you to **Benigna** for opening her home and heart for all of us.

May the spirit of Lent continue to inspire you all throughout the year.

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

*God of mercy and compassion,
of grace and reconciliation,
pour your power upon all your children
in the Middle East:*

*Jews, Muslims and Christians,
Palestinians and Israelis.*

*Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust,
despair to hope, oppression to freedom,
occupation to liberation,
that violent encounters may be
replaced by loving embraces,
and peace and justice could be experienced by all.*

Reverend Said Ailabouni

DRAFT ROSTER

The next draft roster is on the sacristy window. Please check and update if necessary.

ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

**YOUTH GROUP IS NOW FINISHED
FOR THE TERM.**

- **Fridays SCHOOL TERM**
- Time: 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
- Ages: 8-12 years old



If you are aged 14-16 and would like to help out, please email the parish office.

All our youth leaders have Working With Children Checks. Thank you, Gabe & Jules!

CATECHISTS' NEWS

Term 1 finished this week. Wishing all families and Catechists a blessed and holy Easter and holiday break. Term 2 will resume the week of the 28th April, with SRE (Scripture) classes resuming in the first week of term, EXCEPT for Arcadia PS where SRE will resume on Wednesday 7th May.

Please continue to keep our Catechists and the students they teach, in your prayers over the school holidays.

If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a Catechist or helper, please contact me or the parish office or one of our priests.

God bless,

Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com
Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



PIETY SHOP NEWS

PARISH PIETY SHOP CLOSED EASTER WEEKEND

The Parish Piety Shop is closed Easter weekend so if you need anything this is the time to purchase. If you need anything urgently please ask the Acolytes to help you out.

ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

All ladies welcome to join us on Wednesday 7th May, 7.30-9.30pm in the parish meeting room for our next Maker's Table workshop.

For the month of Our Lady (May) we will be making beautiful Rosary Beads.

\$10 per participant.



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 George, Martyr

Feast Day: April 23

Died c. 303



Patron Saint of agricultural workers, soldiers, archers, equestrians, chivalry, peacekeeping missions, sheep, shepherds, scouting, England and many other countries, cities, and dioceses
Invoked against skin diseases and syphilis

Very little is known about Saint George, other than his martyrdom by the Roman Emperor Diocletian for refusing to renounce his faith and offer sacrifice to the Roman gods. Devotion to him spread from the Eastern Empire to the Western Roman Empire. Over the centuries, he became the patron saint of more than a dozen countries, as well as cities and dioceses. In the thirteenth century, his story appeared in the *Golden Legend*, a popular medieval devotional on the lives of the saints. During Black Death in the fourteenth century, many Europeans sought Saint George's intercession.

According to the eleventh-century Greek monk Symeon of Metaphrastes, Saint George and his mother moved from modern-day Turkey to Lydda, Palestine, near modern-day Tel Aviv, when George's father died. There, George joined Diocletian's army and advanced to the rank of colonel.

Around 299, when a pagan Roman religious ceremony failed to predict the future, Diocletian blamed the Christians. In 303, he issued an edict ordering the destruction of churches, burning of Scripture, and a ban on public worship. Christians, especially those in the military, who refused to offer sacrifice to the Roman gods faced imprisonment or death.

Hearing of the edict, George seized a copy, tore it up, and personally confronted the emperor, professing his faith and chastising Diocletian for his cruelty. George was immediately arrested and jailed, and the emperor attempted to convert him to the pagan Roman gods. When George refused, he was tortured. He miraculously survived having heavy blocks of stone placed upon his chest and being tied to a spinning wheel that sliced his flesh with knives. When Diocletian tried to entice George with promises of favors, George responded, "I despise your promises and do not fear your threats. The emperor's power is of short duration, and his reign will soon end. It is better for you, to acknowledge the true God and to seek His kingdom." The next day, George was led through the city and then beheaded. His powerful witness was said to convert many Roman pagans.

Saint George is the patron saint of soldiers, especially after visions of him inspired Christian armies during the first Crusade. In England, King Richard the Lionheart visited a church dedicated to Saint George on his way to battle. About 250 years later, King Edward III named Saint George as the patron saint of England.

A *Golden Legend* story left Saint George with the nickname "Saint George the Dragonslayer." A fierce dragon lived in the province of Libya, in the town of Silene. The villagers fed it two sheep every day, but when the sheep failed to suffice, they selected one villager each day, along with a sheep. One day, the lot fell on the king's own daughter. As she went out to give herself to the dragon, Saint George rode in on horseback, slew the dragon, and converted the entire town to the Catholic faith, with about 15,000 men receiving baptism. The legend can be seen as a parable with the devil symbolized by the dragon, meant to encourage Saint George's intercession when confronting the worst of evils.

Saint George, the blood you shed won for you the power to intercede before God on our behalf. I turn to you today and beg your intercession. Please slay the evil in my life and win for me victory in Christ. Saint George, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life



BenedictUs
Benefit • Educate • Develop

INVITATION

To

MIDDAY PRAYER / LUNCH

For

Fr. Michael Kelly OSB

60th Anniversary of Profession

Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB

50th Anniversary of Ordination

Fr. Shansana Samarasinghe OSB

25th Anniversary of Profession

On

SATURDAY 3 May 2025 from 12.00pm

Lunch at 1.00pm

At

St Benedict's Monastery

121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Please note, in lieu of gifts a donation can be made to BenedictUs Australia, the support group for Benedictine projects especially in Sri Lanka & Congo

RSVP

By: Wednesday 23rd April, 2025

To: admin@benedictus.org.au

121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia NSW 2159 — AUSTRALIA
Tel: +61 2 9653 1159 • Fax: +61 2 9653 1883 • Email: info@benedictus.org.au
Website: www.benedictus.org.au



PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Easter Sunday

20th April 2025



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind. **PLEASE BRING THE BOXES BACK TO CHURCH.**

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.

Please donate today.



You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. **Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion Or by calling: 1800 024 413 413.**

Parish Roster

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS**

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

**26/4/2025 TO 27/4/2025
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	George A
Reader1	Sr Carol T	Nigel M	Matt W
Reader2	Mary C	Forgarty Family	Lorna B
Prayers	Natasha S	Fogarty Family	Gabrielle W
TV		Roderick R	Teresa G
Music		Rebecca R	Melanie H
Music		Theresa N	Keith W
Music		Jack/Adam F	Sandra M
Music		Pauline H	
Morning Tea		Teresa G	
FLOWERS	Therese & Matthew M		



**Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers,
we really appreciate it!**

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

ALL are welcome to attend any time.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM RECONCILIATION

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the children who received their First Reconciliation last Friday night!

We are so proud of you for taking this important step in your faith journey.

May you always know the peace of God's forgiveness and the joy of His love.

Thank you to the families, teachers Gebran and Tanya, also the catechists who helped guide and support the children along the way.

God bless you all!

Parents, please note the First Holy Communion sessions will commence for the Wednesday group May 7th and for the Friday group May 9th.

DID YOU KNOW...

The Chasuble is the outermost garment worn by the priest when celebrating mass.

This symbolises love which we are taught is to cover all things.



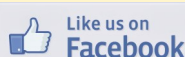
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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



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