

St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia



To listen gladly to Holy reading.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

Church Attendance:
One person per 2sqm
Maximum 300 people

Please use QR CODE provided
Or write your name and phone
number when you enter Church
after sanitizing.



Second Sunday of Easter Year B

10th & 11th April 2021

Entrance Antiphon

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God,
who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 4:32-35 (JB)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
The whole group was united, heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St John
Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

Communion Antiphon

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PARISH MASSES

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession
First Friday of the month 6.30pm Adoration

MONASTERY CHAPEL Mass

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Bernard for the following:

BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS

Fr Bernard: 0416 032 497

Gospel reading for this Week**John 20:19-31 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, 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.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

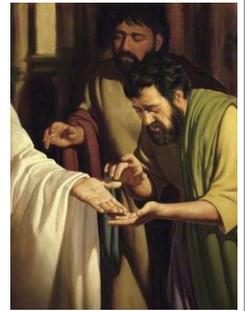
'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

The Jerusalem Bible translation of Scripture is used in the Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). Acknowledgement: The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. Liturgia Copyright 2020

**GOSPEL REFLECTION****John 20:1-9 (JB)**

We do not know what Christ's risen body is like. On the one hand, the risen Jesus could be touched by his followers. His body still had the wounds of the passion. On the other hand, he entered locked rooms at will and appeared to his followers as he wished. His body was not limited by space and time. While his body possessed signs of his past, it was transformed to a new plane. The body of Christ now possessed the power of the Spirit.

The resurrection was at once a moment in history two millennium ago and a moment for all time. That which space and time bound was raised to the eternal. When we profess Christ is risen, we acknowledge our faith in a life beyond despite our present limitations. We can touch that very life through the Spirit. And, because of the Spirit, our shortcomings that stand in the way of eternal life can be swept aside.

Why does the Christian walk lead through forgiveness to peace? How have you experienced that road?

Preachers have called Thomas the "Doubter." Few have touched upon his cynicism. Over and over, Thomas heard the witness of the followers. But, Thomas wanted more than proof positive. ("Inspect and touch," literally meant "to see and thrust.") He stepped beyond skepticism into cynicism. [20:24-25]

A week later, Jesus again appear with the greeting of "Shalom." Turning to Thomas, Jesus answered the challenge of cynicism with the challenge of faith. Thomas responded with two titles for Jesus: Lord and God. Thomas acknowledged the rightful place of Jesus as Lord; he also saw God working through the Risen Christ. Thomas finally received Christ's gift of Shalom. [20:26-28]

In contrast to Thomas, Jesus blessed those who believed without seeing him raised from the dead. [20:29] Here John used the word "believe" in two senses: to trust ("believe in") and to hold onto the truth ("believe (something) about..."). Blessed were those who placed their personal trust in Christ (believe in); they do not need proof of his resurrection, for they know he is alive. But, even blessed are those who hold onto the truths of faith (believe...about), for, with an open heart, they will soon experience the risen Christ. Belief in these two sense stood against the cynicism found in Thomas.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr

c. 1030 - 1079

Feast Day: April 11

Patron Saint of Poland



For many centuries, the coronation ritual of a king was considered to be a Sacrament of the Church. Such was the importance of the king's role in protecting and promoting the faith in his realm that his enthronement was embellished with a liturgical pomp and splendor similar to the ordination rite of a bishop. The sacramental character of a king's coronation was not reflected, however, in the ritual by which a woman became a queen. Only a man could be crowned, in the same way that only a man could receive Holy Orders. The parallel duties which kings and bishops owed to both Church and Kingdom sometimes led to irresolvable conflicts. Bishops resented kings infringing upon ecclesiastical affairs, while kings resented bishops meddling in civil matters. Since civil and religious life was, until very modern times, utterly intermingled in most cultures, the high tensions generated by the nearly co-equal powers and responsibilities of kings and bishops inevitably led to bloodshed.

The blood of today's saint was spilled precisely due to such high tension. Saint Stanislaus was the Bishop of Krakow, Poland, in the century just after that nation's baptism after the conversion of its king. Saint Stanislaus had various and serious disputes with Poland's King Boleslaw II: over property, over a war, and over the King's moral failings. This led to Stanislaus excommunicating Boleslaw, in seeming support of the King's enemies. Although the precise details of this King-Bishop conflict have been lost to history, it is clear that Boleslaw was outraged by Stanislaus' sanction and labelled him a traitor. When the King entered Krakow's Cathedral for Mass, the service was immediately halted due to his excommunication. Boleslaw went into a fury and actively sought Stanislaus' blood. The henchmen the King sent to assassinate Bishop Stanislaus, however, refused to carry out the deed. So King Boleslaw entered through the doors of the chapel outside the city where the Bishop was saying Mass and cut Stanislaus down himself. Bishop Stanislaus was immediately venerated as a martyr, his relics were transferred to the Cathedral, and he was canonized a saint a century and a half after his death. For centuries, Polish kings were crowned at the splendid tomb of the martyr in the central nave of Krakow's Cathedral. Saint Stanislaus is one of the patron saints of Poland, being especially venerated in the Archdiocese of Krakow.

On November 1, 1946, a young Polish man named Karol Wojtyła, in love with God and country, was ordained a priest and celebrated his first Masses in Krakow's Cathedral of Saint Stanislaus. Father Wojtyła went on to become the seventy-sixth Archbishop of Krakow. He later became a Cardinal and then Pope John Paul II. He is now a saint. Pope Saint John Paul II had a great devotion to Saint Stanislaus and often prayed at his tomb. The Pope even planned his first pastoral visit to Poland to coincide exactly with the nine-hundredth anniversary of the saint's martyrdom. John Paul II's trip missed the exact anniversary, due to a lack of cooperation from the communist government, but the pope didn't miss the year. 1979 turned out to be a pivotal year for Poland. The papal pilgrimage unleashed various social movements that brought communism to its knees a decade later. The memory of long-ago Saint Stanislaus, then, played a remote role in conquering a deeply unjust modern government.

Many details about the life of Saint Stanislaus are lost in the fog of the past. Only a basic outline of his life is possible. But his heroic example, precisely as a bishop, gave Karol Wojtyła a model to follow in his own life as a Polish bishop and Pope in far different circumstances of civil and ecclesiastical tension than those of the eleventh century. We can speculate that on May 13, 1981, when Pope John Paul II was shot and almost killed by a state-sponsored assassin, he thought of the state-sponsored attack which ended Saint Stanislaus' life so many centuries before. Civil and Church power still clash, even in modern times, as the 1980 murder of the El Salvadoran Archbishop Saint Oscar Romero also proves. Pope John Paul II survived, thank God, perhaps through the intercession of the great patron of Poland we celebrate today.

Saint Stanislaus, you fearlessly confronted those who threatened the well-being of the Church, and so gave a heroic example of martyrdom to an entire nation. Help all who seek your intercession to be as brave and forthright as you in the face of threats and adversity. AMEN.

Source of content: mycatholic.life

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers, all our dearly beloved who have died.

We welcome into God's family to all who were recently baptised, especially Chiara Alesci and Leo Bower.

We pray for the sick of our Parish.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

In the first place, to love the Lord God with all one's heart, all one's soul, and all one's strength.

Then, one's neighbour as oneself.

APPEAL FOR TIMOR LESTE FLOOD VICTIMS

Under water, Dili devastated

Salesian Missions Australia has launched an appeal for victims of this week's devastating floods in Timor Leste, Australia's closest neighbour and the poorest country in South East Asia.

Intense rain and storms sent surging torrents of rain through towns and villages turning the streets of Dili into canals. Roads and bridges have been destroyed and deaths now exceed 100. Support is urgently needed as the schools are converted to evacuation centres.

Dili's population of more than 220,000 is currently in lockdown to tackle the nations rising COVID transmission. Catering for the victims in the aftermath of the floods presents new challenges in addition to the existing health crisis.

Don Bosco Training Centre Comoro is a major relief centre providing shelter and food for those who have lost their homes and possessions. The gymnasium and classrooms are being used for emergency accommodation by more than 3000 displaced persons.

Tina Newton (Director of Salesian Missions) said there is an urgent need for food, clean water and medicine.

Donations can be sent to:
Salesian Missions Australia
P O Box 264
ASCOT VALE Vic 3032

Made via:
Website : www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au
Givenow: <https://www.givenow.com.au/salesianmissionstimorleste>

Phone : 03 9377 6060

Email : salmiss@salesians.org.au

Donations are tax deductible.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers for making time to clean our beautiful church.

If you can spare an hour every month to help clean taking turns please join the awesome team of volunteers! How beautiful it is to work for the Lord Himself!

If you are interested in helping out please call the office on 9653 2312 (Mondays & Fridays), or simply grab a broom!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Join the Celebrations for **Divine Mercy Sunday on 11th April** at St Agatha's between 1:30pm and 3:45pm, including Mass at 2:00pm, Reconciliation, Benediction, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. Covid restrictions limit the congregation to 200 people only.

Bookings essential: stagatha.org.au/mass-booking/
The Celebrations for Divine Mercy Sunday will be live-streamed. Enquiries: Greg 0419 228 199.

*"Tell the whole world of My great mercy ...
mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust
to My mercy." (Jesus to St Faustina).*



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: In many places religious sisters are the custodians of the faith, but often these communities struggle just to live.

Across the course of a year ACN supports more than 18,000 religious sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

Could you help support a religious sister?

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/sisters

FRESH FLOWERS

Thank you for the volunteers bringing in the fresh flowers for our altar. If anyone can bring **fresh** flowers from their garden for the Church altar it would be greatly appreciated. God bless you!

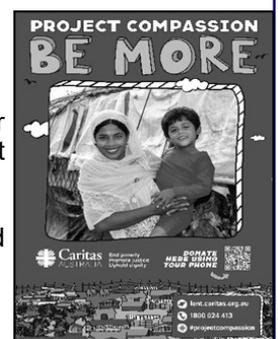
PROJECT COMPASSION



Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

If you can all bring back your Project Compassion boxes that would be greatly appreciated.

God bless you all for your kind donations.



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

The Roster is now available for pick up in the Sacristy. Please collect your copy.

NEEDED—ACOLYTES - for Saturday 7pm Mass.

Our Priests need YOUR help. Training will be provided.

If you are interested to be added to the Reading Ministries please contact the office on 9653 2312 or see Father Bernard after Mass.

10/4/21 to 11/4/21

3rd Sunday of Easter Year B

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte	Need help	Paul El-Chaar
Reader1	Mary Cascun	Rebecca Raad
Reader2	Teresa Gambino	Judy Horton
Prayers	Ann Lomas	Paula El-Chaar
TV		Cali Family
Music		Melanie Hume
Music		Keith Wallace
Music		Nigel Morgan

PLAYGROUP

Every Monday 10am to 12pm.

This is a gathering for parents and carers with children under school age. It's perfect for children to learn and develop through play and interaction with others. It's also great for parents and carers to chat, socialise and make new friends! We meet every Monday **during school terms** 10am to 12pm. No need to book just turn up. Everyone welcome!

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every **Friday nights:** after 7pm Mass
Wednesday mornings: after 9.30am Mass.

Everyone welcome.

For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.



CATECHIST NEWS

Wishing all a very happy and blessed Easter! Term 2 starts on the 20th April, with SRE (Scripture) classes resuming in the first week. In the meantime wishing all our Catechists, students and families a well-earned holiday break!

Catechist Vacancies:

Helper for Glenorie PS Wednesdays 10:10am – 10:50am

Hillside PS Fridays 8:50am-9:45am

If you are available and interested to know more, please talk to Fr Bernard or give me a call or send me an email. Training, support and a Teacher's Manual is provided.

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or srearcadia@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

A former parishioner, Tony Ephraums, would like to return from Brisbane to Sydney to our parish. He is looking for temporary accommodation in the area for rental. If you can help him out please call 0406 690 377.

Thank you,
Father David

COINS WANTED

If anyone has any old 1 cent and 2 cent coins they want to get rid of in exchange for notes please contact Father David on 0400 371 260.

FATHER BERNARD ON LEAVE

Father Bernard will be on leave from the 4th of April until the 30th of April 2021.

Father Hilarion will be the administrator of the Parish in Father Bernard's absence.

PARISH SWEET STALL

Thank you for all your support and donations for our parish stall.

The next Parish Sweet Stall will be held on the Anzac weekend. We will be selling Anzac biscuits only.



For any queries or donations please call Lila Bacha on 96521113 or 0418360024.

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.



GOT YOUR WEDDING PLANS UNDER CONTROL?

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 the website: www.engagedencounter.org.au

Choose any of the coming Weekends: **1-2 May, 7-8 Aug, 13-14 Nov 2021; 19-20 Feb 2022**



PAX CHRISTI AUSTRALIA

A MOMENT TO DREAM: POPE FRANCIS' PATHWAY TO A BETTER FUTURE

An Invitation to parishes, local congregations and others interested to an Ecumenical webinar to explore *Fratelli Tutti's* vision of a world at peace.

Details of the Webinar

WHEN: 2.00 – 3.30 PM (AEDT), Sunday 18 April 2021.

PRESENTATIONS:

The vision of Fratelli Tutti - Fr Kevin Lenehan, Master, Catholic Theological College, University of Divinity.

Collaboration, not Confrontation among faiths - Sr Jan Barnett, RSJ, Josephite Justice Network

Reflecting on Australia's Relations in Southeast Asia - Rev. Andy Tiver, Uniting Church in Australia, Co-Chair Philippine-Australia Solidarity Association (PASA)

FURTHER INFORMATION:

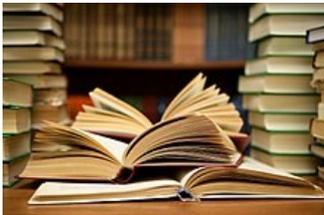
Caesar D'Mello, Pax Christi Victoria. Tel: 04 5191 1941 caesarndm@gmail.com

Fr Claude Mostowik, Pax Christi NSW. Tel: 04 1145 0953 mscjust@smartchat.net.au

TO REGISTER FOR WEBINAR, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rev Harry Kerr: ahmkerr@hotmail.com Rita Camilleri: camrita44@gmail.com

BOOKS FOR PRISONERS NEEDED



I was in prison and you came to visit me. (Mt. 25:36)

I'm collecting books for Prisons in NSW. If you have unwanted books, and would like to donate, please pack them in a box, leave it by the kitchen in the parish and I will come and collect it. Please no Hardcover, or text books. Fiction and Lifestyle are preferred.

There are approximately 130 references to *Prison, Prisoner, Imprisonment* in the Bible. Jesus and some of the Apostles were in prison. It would be good if we can help today's prisoners.

If you have any queries, please phone Cathy 0403 062 255.

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

I delivered the clothes this morning to Sr Mary Leahy from Stella Maris Apostleship of Seafarers. She is blown away by the generosity and good hearts of the community, and asks me to pass on ***"Many Thanks to St Benedicts Parish at Arcadia, what wonderful people they are!"***.

Here is a photo of Sr Mary's car being loaded with the bags:

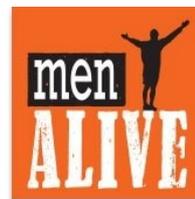
Stella Maris Seafarers, a Catholic organisation helping seafarers, would appreciate any donations of second hand men's clothing, as well as any personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste etc.

Please leave the items in the meeting room near the kitchen and they will be picked up weekly and taken to Sr Mary Leahy and I can tell you she will be most excited. Many Thanks for your kind Generosity.

(Sr Mary boards every ship that pulls into Botany Bay and checks on the welfare of the sailors, she is also a trained nurse and if she sees sick, injured or suspects abuse etc she is onto it.)

Cheers,





menAlive

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU FELT FULLY ALIVE?

Sacred Heart Pymble Parish is running a **menAlive weekend** on **1 and 2 May 2021** which all men over the age of 18 are warmly invited to attend.

Details:

Location: Sacred Heart Pymble Parish School Hall
2 Richard Porter Way, Pymble

Date: Saturday 1 May 2021 8.00am to 9.00pm
Sunday 2 May 2021 8.30am to 1.30pm

Cost: \$50 per person (concessions available)
Includes workshops, morning and afternoon tea, lunch and dinner on Saturday

RSVP date: 25 April, 2021

Buy tickets / register online:

www.eventbrite.com.au and search for 'MenAlive Pymble'

OR

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/menalive-pymble-tickets-91898289257>

Enquiries: Chris Greedy (m) 0401 384 785
Greg Curtis (m) 0457 521 496
Roman Pazniewski (m) 0414 497 558
Or email: menalive.pymble@gmail.com

menALIVE is a National Catholic Ministry to Men which was founded out of a response to a great need in the hearts and lives of men, and a great need in the life of the Catholic Church. The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God and to encourage them to become an active force within the Church. Through a variety of events and programs, men are invited to explore what God would want for their lives and how they might come to experience the fullness of life that God wants for us all.

See website for more information: www.menalive.org.au

YOUTH - CYBB



**HOW TO DATE
WITH PASSION
AND PURPOSE**

6 WEEK COURSE · ST MARY'S, NSW

6:30PM - 9:30PM
TUE 13TH APR - TUE 17TH MAY
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST MARY'S 2760

Everyone needs a little TLC, but we also need a little TOB. Join Simon Carrington from Fire Up Ministries on a 6 week course on things every Catholic needs to know before their first date. For more information you can visit the [Fire Up Website](#).

When: Tuesday evenings,
13th April - 17th May, from 6:30 - 9:30pm
Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Church,
St. Mary's 2760

RSVP: to [Fire Up Ministries](#)



A big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time helping organise Easter at our Parish as well as volunteering during the rest of the year. You share your time without any compensation. We appreciate everything you do. There are too many names to mention here but you know who you are.

Our parish would not be able to fulfill its mission without the generosity of volunteers like you. You are such an important part of our parish and we pray you know that. Thank you so much for your dedication and hard work.

If you would like to help volunteer with anything in our parish, we would really appreciate it. Please contact the office on 9653 2312.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for
fundamental rights under dictatorships,
authoritarian regimes and
even in democracies in crisis.

AMEN.



COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

**Please use QR CODE or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at both entries.
Please adhere to social distancing guidelines of 2sqms and sanitize your hands at the door.
Also wipe seats down afterwards with wipes provided at both entries.**

**IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS,
PLEASE STAY HOME, ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.**

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.

**Office Hours: Mondays & Fridays:
10.30am to 2.30pm**

Parish Office: 9653 2312

Parish Priest: Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB

After hours: 0416 032 497

Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

**For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and
Safeguarding Children matters
Contact: Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.**

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia

**Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd,
Arcadia 2159**

Monastery: 9653 1159

Good Samaritan Sisters: 9653 1231

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 1446 8001