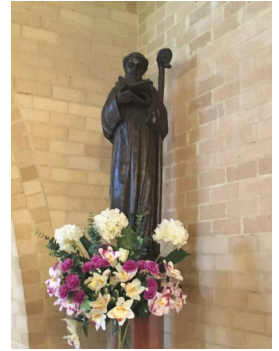


St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PARISH Masses

Weekend:

Saturday 7:00pm Vigil

Sunday 9:00am

Sunday 10:30am

Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6.30pm Adoration
7:00pm Mass & Confession
(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 10am to 11am
Adoration & Confession
(Reconciliation)

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am

Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Hilarion for the following:

BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS

Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 & 20 February 2022

Year **C**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
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.**

INVITATION ON CHURCH DOORS

The Invitation: These words are sometimes found on the doors of old churches.

Enter this door
As if the floor
Within were gold,
And every wall
Of jewels all
Of wealth untold;
As if a choir
In robes of fire
Were singing here.
Nor shout, nor rush,
But hush . . .
For God is here.

Even so let us come to worship God today.

William Barclay



First Reading**1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 (JB)**

A reading the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

*The word of the Lord.***Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. The Lord is kind and merciful.****Second Reading****1 Corinthians 15:45-49 (JB)**

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

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

*The word of the Lord.***Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!**

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!**GOSPEL****Luke 6:27-38 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.'

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

20 Sunday, February 20
1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples . . . (Luke 6:27)

Love your enemies. Offer the other cheek. Lend without expecting a return. Forgive. Don't judge. Jesus is very clear about what discipleship entails. It's a challenging list, to say the least. How can we, fallen human beings, actually do all these things?

St. Paul gives us a clue in today's second reading: "Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one" (1 Corinthians 15:49). We were born like the first man, Adam, inclined to disobey God. But when Jesus died and rose from the dead, he sent us his "life-giving spirit" (15:45). So even now we begin to bear his heavenly image because, through our baptism, Christ lives in us.

That doesn't make Jesus' commands any less exacting, however. We still bear the wounds of our fallenness and we won't be able to let go entirely of the earthly man until we are united with God in the next life. But Jesus wouldn't have set such a high bar if he didn't think it were possible for us to reach it in this life.

That's where faith comes in. We need to believe in God's word and promises. Even though the earthly still clings to us, the heavenly is now our defining feature because we have become a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). That's the reality, even when we find ourselves struggling to follow God's ways.

God's grace is also a reality, and because Christ lives in us, we have unlimited access to it. We see the effectiveness of his grace most visibly in the lives of the saints and other holy men and women. It's that grace that enabled them to love their enemies, to forgive, and to generously give away their possessions. And it's that grace that will also help us—one day, and even one moment, at a time.

"Jesus, give me all the grace I need to follow you today."

(Source: Word Among Us, India, Daily Reflection)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	February 22, 2022:	The Chair of St Peter, apostle
Wednesday	February 23, 2022:	St Polycarp, bishop, martyr

Source: Ordo 2022

A PRAYER OF REINHOLD NIEBUHR

O God, give us,
Serenity to accept what cannot be changed;
Courage to change what should be changed;
And wisdom to distinguish the one from the other:
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. Amen.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

Not to render cursing for cursing, but rather blessing.

PARISH FUNDS

Your support as always is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account here are the details:

PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK DETAILS

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 100002141

Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:

CBA—Catholic Development Fund

God bless you all!

MEETINGS OF PPC AND PFC

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday 21st February 7:00pm

Parish Finance Council Meeting

Monday 28th February 7:00pm

All parishioners are requested to contact (via email or in writing) the PPC or PFC regarding any important matters for the growth of the Parish community.

PRAY FOR TONGA

Tonga is reeling after a violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications and blanketed the country in ash and rock.

Roads, bridges and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater.

Tonga needs your support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response.

Visit

www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific

or call 1800 024 413 toll free to make your donation.

Prayer:

Lord, we pray for those in Tonga who grieve any loss of life; for the injured or traumatised; for those searching for family; for those whose property has been destroyed or livelihoods ruined. We ask for your healing presence in their lives. Amen.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES OVERSEAS



Palms Australia

*Supporting Sustainable
International Development Love*

Getting involved in people centred Human Development as an invited guest means humbly putting your person and your skills at the disposal of your trusted hosts. You will be a stranger in the place and for six months a Pilgrim learning the wisdom of local ways.

Palms Australia has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of [our assignments](#) your opportunity to Reach Beyond?

Find Out More:

[Enquire Here](#) or Phone: 0422 742 567.

Join our [online forum](#) at 5.30pm AEDT on Thursday 17 March, attend our and engage with a panel of Palms most experienced Program Participants.

MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL OFFICE

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.

The Broken Bay Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information, please phone the Tribunal Office on [02 9307 8309](tel:0293078309) or email tribunal@bbcatholic.org.au.

In Our Parish

We welcome into God's family, all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Lyla Abood, Brother Mario, Theresa Gittany (Lila Bacha's mum)

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



NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

26/2/2022 to 27/2/2022

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte		Lorraine Dailey
Reader1	Mary Cascun	Bernadette Watt
Reader2	Maria Gambino	Judy Horton
Prayers	Ann Lomas	Kath Moran
TV		Nigel Morgan
Music		Mark Quirk
Music		Theresa Neely
Music		Marisa Quattrochi
Music		Keith Wallace

ROSTER

New roster is now available to pick up from sacristy.
It is also available on the Parish website.



FLOWER ROSTER

Give something beautiful to the Lord. We would like to start a flower arrangement roster in order to have flowers arranged weekly. If we have quite a few people volunteering then we won't expect it more than once a month. Please contact Paula in the office.

FINANCIAL COUNSELLING & EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMS



Record numbers of Australians are seeking emergency relief and financial counselling services. CatholicCare, our social services agency in the Diocese can help.

For more information contact 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au.

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

SRE (Scripture) starting dates –

Middle Dural & Glenorie Public School – started

Galston Public School – Wednesday 23rd February

Arcadia Public School – Wednesday 2nd March

Hillside Public School – Friday 4th March – please note change in date

Catechist Needed - If you are free on Wednesday mornings and love being with children, why not consider joining this ministry. **A vacancy exists for a helper for Year 5 at Glenorie Public School on Wednesdays 10:10-10:50am.** Training, books and support are provided free. Please call the parish office, contact me or speak to Fr Hilarion if you are interested.

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

LENT 2022

ASH WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH 2022

- Stations of the Cross
 - * Wednesdays 9:00am (before 9:30am Mass)
 - * Fridays 6:30pm (before 7:00pm Mass)
- Adoration and Benediction
 - * Saturdays from 10:00—11:00am
 Confession/Reconciliation available
- Confession / Reconciliation
 - * Wednesday after 9:30am Mass
 - * Friday after 7:00pm Mass
 - * Saturday from 10:00am—11:00am

LENTEN GROUPS

Lenten Prayer Group will be held at Benigna Cascun's home. The leader will be Gebran Azzi.



Location: 726A Old Northern Rd
Dural 2158

Day/Time: Commencing Wednesday 9th March, 7:00pm
Contact: Benigna (phone or text) 0450 311 951

Everyone welcome.

If you are interested in forming a group please contact Fr Hilarion or call the parish office.

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano.

Ph: 9653 2312.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022

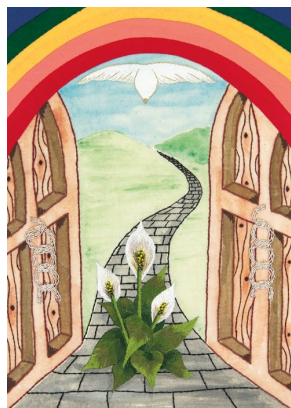
Please join us for World Day of Prayer on **Friday 4th of March 2022 10am** at St Benedict's Parish Arcadia.

For more information contact Pauline Honor Ph: 0490 025 759.

Countries presenting are England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Christian ladies in those countries have prepared the service for World Day of Prayer.

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.



Artist: Angie Fox

Angie is an Embroiderer and Vestment Designer from Derby, England.

She writes, 'Following the theme given, I have used several images to depict the key words as follows:'

Freedom: an open door to a pathway across an endless open vista.

Justice: broken chains

God's Peace and Forgiveness: the dove of peace and a peace lily breaking through the pavement.

Over all: the rainbow represents the overreaching love of God.'

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This week there have been reports in the media about the marked increase of suicide by indigenous people in Australia.

It is an unfortunate reality that too many of our young people both indigenous and non-indigenous choose to end their lives. However, almost non-existent in the 1980s, the rate of suicide and self-harm amongst Aboriginal people is at crisis levels and has reached "horrific proportions", particularly in remote communities and especially amongst youth.

Many families have felt the trauma of losing a loved one and feeling the pain associated with many unanswered questions.

The causes of suicide are many and the 'signs' are not always evident. So let this news be a reminder to us all to be mindful of how our loved ones are feeling. Be attentive, and most importantly, show them that we care. A prayer for those who may be suicidal.

PRAYER:

Lord,

We pray for those affected by hopelessness as well as people dealing with suicidal thoughts.

*We ask that you provide them with comfort and guidance,
and the placement of a support system in their life to let them know
that they are important and that they matter
and that they're not alone.*

*We also pray that you use us to be a support,
a listening ear, and a comfort to those in pain, hopeless, and alone.
Move our feet, Lord, and help us not only to pray but to take action.*

*We thank you for the support and guidance you have put in our lives,
and we ask that if or when the time comes and a wave of hopelessness comes over one of us,
that we'll find the capacity and the bravery to speak up,
speak out, and ask for help from a friend, a loved one, or a counsellor.*

Amen.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

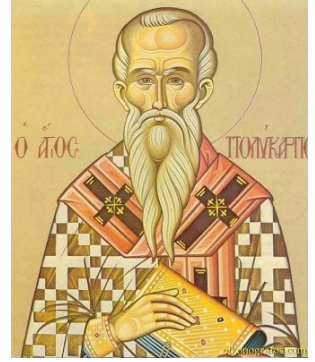
Saint Polycarp, bishop, martyr

Feast Day: February 23

C. 69—155

Patron Saint of earache sufferers

The dramatic death of a venerable bishop ends the sub-apostolic age



A Catholic bishop is brutally executed in Turkey. His assassin yells “Allahu Akbar,” stabs his victim repeatedly in the heart, and then cuts his head off. There are witnesses to the act. The few local priests and faithful fear for their lives. The Pope in Rome is shocked and prays for the deceased. Five thousand people attend the solemn funeral Mass. An event from long ago? No.

The murdered bishop was an Italian Franciscan named Luigi Padovese, the mourning Pope was Benedict XVI, and the year was 2010. Turkey is dangerous territory for a Catholic bishop, whether he is Bishop Padovese or today’s saint, Bishop Polycarp. For over a millennium, the Anatolian Peninsula was the cradle of Eastern Christianity. That era has long since come to a close. A few hundred miles and one thousand eight hundred years separate, or perhaps unite, Bishop Padovese with Bishop Polycarp. Whether shed by the sharp knife of a modern Muslim fanatic or spilled by a sword swung by a pagan Roman soldier, the blood still ran red from the neck of a Christian leader, puddling in the dirt of a hostile land.

The news of the martyrdom of Saint Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, spread far and wide in his own time, making him as famous in the early Church as he is now. He was martyred around 155 A.D., one of the few early martyrs whose death is verified by documentation so precise that it even proves that he was executed on the exact day of his present feast—February 23. Polycarp was 86 years old when a rash of persecution broke out against the local Church. He waited patiently at a farm outside of town for his executioners to come and knock on his door. He was then brought before a Roman magistrate and ordered to reject his atheism. Imagine that. What an interesting twist! The Christian is accused of atheism by the pagan “believer.” Such was the Roman perspective. Christians were atheists because they rejected the ancient civic religion which had been believed by everyone, everywhere, and always.

It required heroic courage for Polycarp, and thousands of other early Christians, to not drop some grains of incense into a flame burning before a pagan god. For the Romans, to not burn such incense was akin to spitting on a flag. But Polycarp simply refused to renounce the truth of what he had heard as a young man from the mouth of Saint John, that a carpenter named Jesus, who had lived a few weeks to the south of Smyrna, had risen from the dead after His decomposing body had been placed in a guarded tomb. And this had happened recently, in the time of Polycarp’s own grandparents!

Polycarp was proud to die for a faith he had adopted through hard-earned thought. His pedigree as a Christian leader was impeccable. He had learned the faith from one of the Lord’s very own Apostles. He had met the famous Bishop of Antioch, Saint Ignatius, when Ignatius passed through Smyrna on the way to his execution in Rome. One of Saint Ignatius’ famous seven letters is even addressed to Polycarp. Polycarp, Saint Irenaeus of Lyon tells us, even travelled to Rome to meet with the Pope over the question of the dating of Easter. Irenaeus had known and had learned from Polycarp when Irenaeus was a child in Asia Minor. Polycarp’s own letter to the Philippians was read in churches in Asia as if it were part of Scripture, at least until the fourth century.

It was this venerable, grey-haired man, the last living witness to the apostolic age, whose hands were bound behind him to a stake, and who stood “like a mighty ram” as thousands screamed for his blood. Bishop Polycarp nobly accepted what he had not actively sought. His body was burned after his death, and the faithful preserved his bones, the first instance of relics being so honored. A few years after Polycarp’s death, a man from Smyrna named Pionius was martyred for observing the martyrdom of Saint Polycarp. In just this fashion links are added, one after another, to the chain of faith which stretches through the centuries down to the present, where we now honor Saint Polycarp as if we were seated within earshot of the action in the stadium that fateful day.

Great martyr Saint Polycarp, make us steadfast witnesses to the truth in word and deed, just as you witnessed to the truth in your own life and death. Through your intercession, make our commitment to our religion of long duration, a life project, enduring until our life of faith concludes with a death of faith. Amen.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

FOR RELIGIOUS SISTERS AND CONSECRATED WOMEN

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

COVID 19 SAFETY RULES

IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS, PLEASE STAY HOME.

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 Hilarion 0478 909 541, Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882, Office for Safeguarding 83791605.

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.

Office Hours:
Mondays & Fridays 9.30am to 2.30pm
Parish Office: 9653 2312
Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB
Email: hilarionfernando@yahoo.com
After hours: 0478 909 541
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia
Address: 2 Fagans Road,
 Arcadia NSW 2159

Monastery: 9653 1159

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

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:
BSB: 062 784
Acct: 100002141 (**NEW BANK DETAILS**)
Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
 CBA—Catholic Development Fund