

St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia

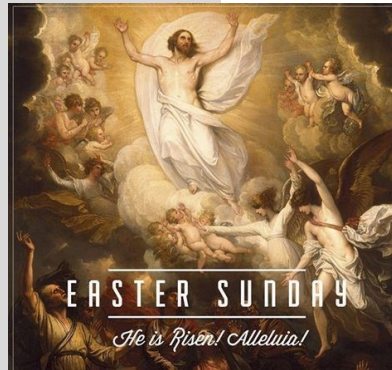
To listen gladly to Holy reading.
Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4



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.



Sunday of the Resurrection Year B

4 April 2021

Christ is Risen!

Entrance Antiphon

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

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.

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:1-9 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, 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:

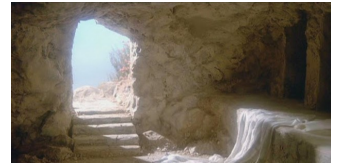
BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS

Fr Bernard: 0416 032 497

Gospel reading for this Week**John 20:1-9 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.



It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

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)**

Why was the empty tomb so important? The audience of John had been ejected from the synagogues throughout the empire and had endured prejudice by the Jewish population. One of the attacks on John's audience could have been a challenge to find the truth. "Did your Jesus really rise from the dead?" Jewish critics could have exclaimed. "Prove it!"

Witness to the empty tomb during burial rites would have supported Christian claims for their Lord. Especially within a tradition that prized the service of those who cared for the dead, despite the fact that such care made one "unclean." Preparing the body for burial was a cultural privilege and duty that ranked with care for the widows and orphans. Caring for the dead elevated one's reputation. The discovery of the empty tomb took place in the context of a charitable act. This alone cast the scepter of shame on those who publicly criticized Christians.

There were two male witnesses to the event (which, in an ancient Jewish court of law, verified the fact of the case). With two male witnesses to the empty tomb, the onus was back upon the critic. The Christian could claim, "We know the body from a sealed tomb was missing." It would have been only a small leap of faith to conclude the Lord had truly risen! The vision of the angels to a woman and the appearance of a dead man to his followers could not be so easily dismissed as the signs of lunacy or a mass hallucination.

Yet, only the disciple whom the Lord loved believed (i.e., made the connection between the empty tomb and the Lord's resurrection). After all, Mary Magdalene saw grave robbers as the most likely suspects for the missing body (yet, why would anyone rob the grave of a poor, traveling preacher?) The key to understanding the other disciple's faith is the phrase "the one Jesus loved." In John's gospel, Jesus revealed himself to those he loved. After the resurrection, the "other disciple" (unwavering in faith at the foot of the cross) was the first to understand, then Mary Magdalene (20:14-17), next the other disciples and Thomas (20:19-29), and finally, Peter by name (21:1-23). Those who fully believed in the time of testing were those who said "yes" to the Lord and who understood the full impact of the empty tomb. Those who abandoned the Lord in his hour were the last to come to faith. The Lord loved all who followed him completely. But who received that love and acted upon it? The one who grasped the import of the tomb without a body.

Have you ever seen God's hand in the unusual? What was it? How did you know God was responsible for the event?

The scene of the empty tomb and two reactions: skepticism (Mary Magdalene) and faith (the beloved disciple). Many experiences in life present us with the same options. Was it the activity of the evil? Or, was it the hand of God? Like St. Paul insisted, these experiences need to be tested. But we should not draw hasty conclusions. Instead, we should look to the source of the experience and its "aftershocks." Does good come from the experience or more evil? And if good does result, was God its ultimate cause?

After all, how did you know that the death of Jesus was the will of God? Look to the empty tomb. You will see the Resurrection!

On this glorious day, look at the experiences and events of the past weeks. Thank God for the good and the bad. Allow that reflection and prayer to lead you to the joy of the Resurrection.

Source of Content: www.word-sunday.com

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit
1416-1507

Feast Day: April 2

**Patron Saint of Calabria,
mariners and naval officers**



The first followers of Saint Francis of Assisi were known as the “Mendicants from Assisi.” Yet as the group attracted men and women from all over Italy and beyond, a new name, not specific to Assisi, was needed. Saint Francis named his brotherhood the Ordo Fratrum Minorum (O.F.M.). This is typically translated from the Latin as the Order of Friars Minor, implying that there is an Order of Friars Major. A better translation might be the Order of Lesser Brothers. Saint Francis wanted himself, and all of his brothers, to be less in everything—less prideful, less well known, less wealthy, and less well-nourished than anyone else.

Today’s saint, the Padre Pio of his era, was a holy priest from the town of Paola in Southern Italy. He was baptized as Francis by his parents when, after several years of going childless, they made a vow to name any son that might be born to them in the great saint’s honour. Francis of Paola was worthy of his namesake from a young age. His parents took special care with his religious upbringing and brought him to live for a year in a Franciscan monastery when Francis was just twelve. The young Francis developed a reputation for holiness even when just a teen. By the age of twenty, he was living as a hermit in a cave near Paola when local men began to gather around him. The fledgling group adopted the name “the Hermits of Brother Francis of Assisi,” a name later changed to the “Friars Minims,” or just “Minims,” meaning “less” or “least,” in the spirit of the “Lesser Brothers” that Saint Francis of Assisi had founded centuries before.

Francis of Paola desired humility, nothingness, and total self-abnegation. He and his followers lived a perpetual Lent. All Minims took the usual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. But they also took a special fourth vow to abstain, all year long and all life long, from meat, eggs, butter, cheese, milk, and all dairy products. The fast never ended. This was mortification on a heroic scale. Vegetarianism, much less veganism, was a step beyond what Saint Francis of Assisi himself had lived. Saint Francis of Assisi ate what was set before him, including meat. He even criticized vegetarian brothers who refused meat, saying such an attitude questioned God’s providence and presumed the future, when a brother should instead gratefully accept whatever dish was placed on the table before him.

Francis of Paola’s veganism was united to a strict moral code, a community life built around the Sacraments, and a deep spirituality centred on Jesus Christ. To be “one with nature” does not mean to be morally ambiguous or to break with religious traditions. A diet should not be a creed. Saint Francis was organic in that he lived one with God, with nature, with his religious brothers, and with the Church. Francis was perennially concerned with the moral laxity of the Church of his era, and purposefully fasted and did penance in reparation for its sins. While Francis of Assisi lived austere and suffered debilitating illnesses, he was nevertheless cheerful and animated in his dealings with others. No one ever accused Francis of Paola of being ebullient. He was a fully armed spiritual warrior of the most serious kind. He went barefoot. He slept on a board. He was a desert father without the sand.

After a very long life of fasting, prayer, miracle working, and wide fame for his holiness even outside of Italy, Saint Francis of Paola died in France. His order had by then spread throughout Europe. His reputation for sanctity was such that he was canonized in 1519, only twelve years after his death. In 1562, Protestant Calvinists in France unsealed his tomb and found his body incorrupt. They then desecrated the saint, scattering his remains. Saint Francis of Paola, after sacrificing everything in life, was not allowed to rest in peace. He was strewn about like trash, ensuring that only trace relics of him remained. Saint Francis wanted to be treated as the least of all. His desire was fulfilled both in life and in death.

Saint Francis of Paola, you lived an integrated life deeply united to God, nature, and your fellow man. Intercede before the Trinity in heaven on our behalf, assisting us to grow closer to God through death to self, through prayer and through a deep attachment to Christ.

Source of content: mycatholic.life

In Our Parish

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

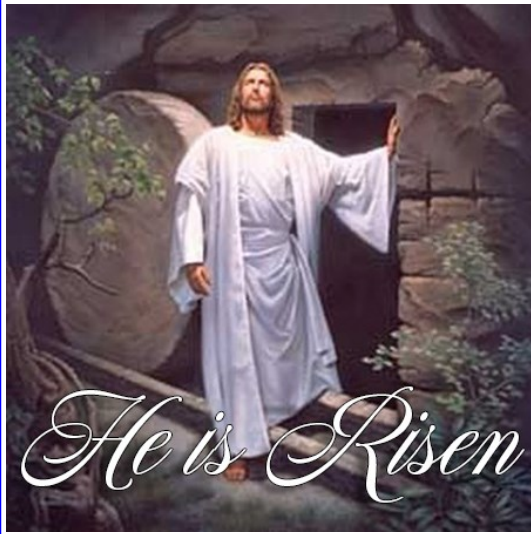
We welcome into God’s family to all who were recently baptised.

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.*



HAPPY EASTER

Christ is risen! He is truly risen! Alleluia!

Praise the Lord for the opportunity He gave us to be better people.

*May your heart and soul be blessed with the
holy spirit of Easter time!*

*Rejoice and celebrate the miracle and triumph
of Christ's resurrection.*

May God fill your home with peace, hope, and love.

HAPPY EASTER!

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).*

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!

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!

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION



Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love and compassion for our global community can transform lives. You have responded to St. Oscar Romero's invitation to "Be More," putting your compassion into action to support some of the world's most vulnerable communities. By aspiring to be more, you have helped change lives.



Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2021 Lenten appeal.

#projectcompassion

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

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 or see Father Bernard after Mass or 9653 2312.

10/4/21 to 11/4/21

2nd Sunday of Easter Year B

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte	Need help	Nigel Morgan
Reader1	Miriam Brown	Peter Goodwin
Reader2	Maria Gambino	Lorraine Dailey
Prayers	Mary Cascun	Kath Moran
TV		Cali Family
Music		Mark Quirk
Music		Theresa Neely
Music		Helen Facione

CATECHIST NEWS

Wishing all a very happy and blessed Easter! May the joy of the risen Lord be in all hearts!

Congratulations to Noelle and John Takchi on the birth of their baby boy, Jonah! I am sure he will bring them all much happiness!

Term 1 finished this week and Term 2 will start on the 20th April, with SRE classes resuming in the first week. In the meantime wishing all our Catechists, students and families a well-earned holiday break!

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

Disciples School of Mission 7-11 April 2021

Are you aged between 16 - 40 and searching for an adventure in 2021? If so, then join the Disciples of Jesus Community for the Disciples School of Mission. This five day live-in training course calls young people from across Australia to be equipped in youth ministry and evangelisation. You then have the opportunity to put into practice what you have learnt and dive into an optional three-week mission experience.

Be renewed in your own journey, fully equipped for mission/youth ministry and formed in the Catholic faith.

You won't regret it, it's an adventure!

For more info contact therese.mgl@gmail.com or discipleschoolofmission.com.au

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.



PARISH SWEET STALL

The next Parish Sweet Stall will be held on the Holy Easter weekend. At the 7.30pm Holy Saturday Vigil Mass, Easter Sunday 7am, and in between the 9 and 10.30am Sunday Mass (not after the 10.30am Mass).



There will be plates of Lebanese Easter sweets, cakes, Turkish Delight and cookies!

Please feel free to bring items for sale.

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

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](#)



CALLING YOUNG WOMEN!
YOU ARE INVITED TO A
**BB Gals
Brunch**
EASTER MONDAY
5TH APRIL || 10:00AM
WAHROONGA PARK

CYBB

Calling all you CYBB girls! Come and join us for a morning of fresh fruit and pastries and tenderly, warm friendship. Bring something for share and a blanket to sit on!

When: 10am to 12pm, 5th April

Where: Wahroonga Park

RSVP: Email [Rachel](mailto:Rachel.vala@bbcatholic.org.au) Rachel.vala@bbcatholic.org.au for RSVP or for more information.

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

Thank you for the donation of clothing and items. The clothes were dropped off to Sr Mary, it made her day as she completely run out of donations for the seafarers, she is very grateful!

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,
Cathy Holling
Ph: 0403 062 255





SET ME FREE, OH LORD

Set me free, Oh Lord, set me free.

Soften my heart, Lord, soften my heart.
So I might know You, Lord, know You.

Let me know You love me, Lord, love me.
Let me know so I might hear You, Lord, hear You.

Comfort me, Lord, comfort me.
So I might be with You, Lord, be with You.

No matter what I do or say,
You are always with me, Lord, with me.

No matter what, Lord,
You are always at my side, Lord, at my side.

Give me peace, Lord, give me peace.

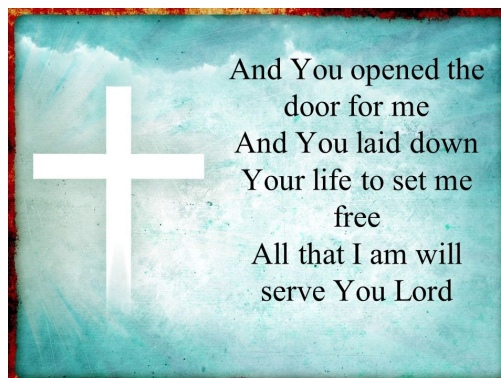
Open my mind, Lord, open my mind.

Be with me always, Lord, be with me.
So I might know You, Lord, know You.

Make me Your servant, Lord, make me.
So You will help me Lord, help me.

Be with me always, Lord, be with me.

Source of content: mycatholic.life





A big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time helping organise Easter at our Parish as well as 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.

God bless you all!

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