

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA YEAR C

8 & 9 NOVEMBER 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who from living and chosen stones
prepare an eternal dwelling for your majesty,
increase in your Church the spirit of grace you have
bestowed, so that by new growth your faithful people
may build up the heavenly Jerusalem.
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.

SELF-REFLECTION: SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

John 2:13–22 – Jesus Cleanses the Temple

When Jesus cleanses the Temple, He reminds us that God's house is meant to be a place of prayer. In the same way, our hearts are meant to be a place where God dwells. Yet life can easily fill our hearts with noise, worries, or habits that distract us from Him. Jesus does not act out of anger, but out of love — He wants to restore our hearts so that we can experience peace and closeness with God.

I reflect:

1. What "noise" or distractions might be filling my heart at this moment?
2. Are there habits or attitudes I need to let go of so I can draw closer to God?
3. Do I treat my church, my home, and my heart as places of prayer?
4. When I come to Mass, do I make time to prepare my heart to meet Jesus?
5. What is one small change I can make this week to create more space for God?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, cleanse my heart and make it a place where You can dwell. Remove anything that keeps me away from You. Fill me with Your peace, Your love, and Your presence. Amen.

Jesus answered them

Destroy this Temple
and in three days
I will raise it up

John 2:19

Knowing-Jesus.com

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 or Parish
Office for the following:

Baptisms
Reconciliation
For the Sick
Marriages
Funerals

Parish Priest:
Fr Shansana 0437 884 233
Parish Office 9653 2312



First Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I see water flowing from the temple and all who were touched by it were saved.

The angel brought me to the entrance of the Temple, where a stream came out from under the Temple threshold and flowed eastwards, since the Temple faced east. The water flowed from under the right side of the Temple, south of the altar. He took me out by the north gate and led me right round outside as far as the outer east gate where the water flowed out on the right-hand side. He said, 'This water flows east down to the Arabah and to the sea; and flowing into the sea it makes its waters wholesome. Wherever the river flows, all living creatures teeming in it will live. Fish will be very plentiful, for wherever the water goes it brings health, and life teems wherever the river flows. Along the river, on either bank, will grow every kind of fruit tree with leaves that never wither and fruit that never fails; they will bear new fruit every month, because this water comes from the sanctuary. And their fruit will be good to eat and the leaves medicinal.'



The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: The waters of the river gladden the city of God.**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17 (JB)**

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

You are the temple of God

You are God's building. By the grace God gave me, I succeeded as an architect and laid the foundations, on which someone else is doing the building. Everyone doing the building must work carefully. For the foundation, nobody can lay any other than the one which has already been laid, that is Jesus Christ.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord,
that my name may remain in it for all time.**

Alleluia!



Jesus cleanses the Temple.

GOSPEL John 2:13-22 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

He spoke about the temple of his own body.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market'. Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Readings: Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 | Psalm 45 | 1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17 | John 2:13-22

In the first reading from Ezekiel, we see a river flowing from the Temple — a river that brings life wherever it goes. This is a powerful image of God's grace: when His presence dwells among His people, life, healing, and renewal follow.

St Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians that we are now the Temple of God. God's Spirit dwells not in a building of stone, but in the hearts of His people. We carry His presence into the world.

In the Gospel, Jesus cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem. His righteous anger is not about rules, but about love — the Temple had lost its purpose as a place of prayer and encounter with God. Jesus wants the house of God to remain holy... and because we are God's dwelling place, He also calls us to let Him cleanse our hearts. He wants to remove whatever crowds out His presence — distractions, resentments, unhealthy habits, or anything that keeps us from peace.

The message today is clear:

God wants to live within us — and when He does, His life flows out from us to others.

Key Thought:

My heart is God's dwelling place. When I make room for Him, His life flows into the world through me.

Take-Home Challenge:

Choose one small area of your life to "cleanse" this week — perhaps a habit, a distraction, or a worry — and intentionally make space for quiet prayer each day, even just 5 minutes.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, cleanse my heart and make it Your home. Let Your Spirit live in me and flow through me. Bring Your peace, Your healing, and Your life to all I meet. Amen.

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

November 2025

- Monday 10: Wis 1:1-7. Lk 17:1-6.
R. Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.
St Leo the Great, pope, doctor.
- Tuesday 11: Wis 2:23-3:9. Lk 17:7-10.
R. I will bless the Lord at all times.
St Martin of Tours, bishop.
- Wednesday 12: Wis 6:1-11. Lk 17:11-19.
R. Rise up, O God, bring judgment to the earth.
St Josephat, bishop, martyr.
- Thursday 13: Wis 7:22-8:1. Lk 17:20-25.
R. Your word is for ever, O Lord.
- Friday 14: Wis 13:1-9. Lk 17:26-37.
R. The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
- Saturday 15: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9.
R. Remember the marvels the Lord has done.
St Albert the Great, bishop, doctor.



**St Martin of Tours,
generous servant of Christ,
help us to share what we
have with those in need.
Teach us to see Jesus in
every person and to
love with a
compassionate heart.
Amen.**

Source: Ordo 2025 image: mycatholic.life



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for November 2025:

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE CHALICE

We are pleased to announce that the chalice will be reintroduced to the church on:

Sunday, 23rd November
On the feast of Christ the King

This marks an important moment in our liturgical life of our Parish.

The training for the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be held on Saturday the 15th of November. From 10.15am to 12.00pm at the Parish Church.



PRISON SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 9TH



This Sunday we remember and pray for all those affected by imprisonment: those in prison, their families, victims of crime, those who work in correctional services, chaplains and volunteers.

The Church holds strongly that every person has dignity and is loved by God, no matter their past. Prison Sunday invites us to reflect on mercy, justice, forgiveness and the hope of transformation.

May we always be a community that believes in the possibility of change, healing and new beginnings.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, we pray for all who are in prison and for those who carry heavy burdens of regret or pain. We ask Your healing for victims of crime and comfort for their families.

Strengthen prison chaplains and all who bring hope behind the walls. Help us to see every person with Your eyes — with compassion and love. Amen.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

This week volunteers of the week nomination goes to:

THE KIDS THAT HELD THE MORE THE MERRIER KIDS MARKETS.

The wet weather wasn't able to dampen the spirits of the stall holders, nor keep the customers away from

The More The Merrier Kids Markets last Saturday! It was a fun filled day for all involved. With about 20 stalls all run by kids under the age of 18, there was a great selection of delicious food, drinks, fresh fruit and veg, plants, crafts, homemade products, jumping castles, games and more!

Thank you to the parishioners and local community for supporting these young entrepreneurs and helping us raise much needed funds for our parish youth group!

We look forward to even bigger kids markets in the future!

GCEA PRAYER MEETING

AT ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

There will be a prayer meeting:

Monday 10th November 7.30pm
In the kitchen meeting room.

Come and pray for this vital outreach we have at Galston High School.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

Visit Our Parish Piety Shop!

Get Ready for Advent!

New Advent stock has arrived at the Piety Shop! Explore: Advent calendars, Advent puzzles, Advent candles etc.

These beautiful items are perfect for preparing your heart and home for Christmas.

Christmas stock will also be available soon — come in and discover all the new items to support your Advent journey!

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 *Vincent Bacha, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.*

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

Maria Pappallardo, Shannon Murray, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana ~ May they rest in Peace.



ST BENEDICT'S RADIATE TEENS YOUTH GROUP "Let your light shine"

Calling all teens aged 13 to 18!

Our parish is excited to launch RADIATE, a youth group designed for fun, friendship, and faith. This is a space where young people can come together to grow closer to God, learn more about their faith, and enjoy social activities in a supportive and welcoming environment.

Next Meeting: Friday, 14 November
After the 7pm Mass until 9pm.

Location: St Benedict's Parish Hall

Who Can Join: All teens aged 13–18 (high schoolers)

Bring your friends and get ready for engaging activities, games, discussions, and a chance to make new friends!

Contact: Sophia – 0432 605 054

ST BENEDICT'S PAX YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

LAUNCH NIGHT!

We're excited to announce the first **Young Adults Youth Group for ages 18-25**, kicking off on:

**Sunday the 9th of November
6pm at St Benedict's Parish!**

Join us for an Induction Night - a relaxed evening to meet everyone, share ideas, and help shape the future of our young adults community.

If you'd like to attend or get involved, please contact Amy of Natalia to be added to our WhatsApp group chat and follow our social media for updates and event info. Come along, bring a friend, and be part of something new!

Contact :
Amy - 0459 930 117 Natalia - 0400 872 697
Instagram : @stbenedictsyouth

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.

CATHECHISTS' NEWS

Free training continues for all Catechists provided by the CCD –

- Ministry Induction training for Provisional Catechists Monday 10th November from 10am-12:15pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Development of the Child and Adolescent".
- RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Please keep our parish Catechists, and the students that they teach, in prayer. If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry or becoming a Catechist or helper, please contact myself or the parish office or one of our priests.

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



ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

The ladies at The Makers Table workshop on Wednesday evening had a lovely time painting their Nativity nesting dolls! They will make a cute addition to the Christmas table!



Our next workshop will be 3/12/25.

themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

Martine 0458-533-250 / Nerida 0425-834-017

ANNIVERSARY OF PROFESSION

BROTHER MARIO

Celebrating **34 years** of faithful service
to God and the Church

9 November 1991 – 9 November 2025

We give thanks for his dedication, prayer, and
example of holiness.

HEALING MASS

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

The next Healing Mass will be on
Thursday December 4.

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!



FEAST OF THE WEEK

FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA, ROME

Feast Day: November 9

The most important temple is that of a person's soul. In the secret center of our being is the sacred sanctuary where we meet God. In addition to the temple of the soul are other sacred places—shrines, churches, basilicas, grottos, and cathedrals set aside for the worship of God. They are to be a Heaven on earth, a place where we join the Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones in their angelic praises of the Most Holy Trinity. Today's feast commemorates one such place.

Rome is home to four major basilicas. The first three are Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, and the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. The fourth is the Archbasilica Cathedral of the Most Holy Savior and of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist in the Lateran, also called Saint John Lateran, or the Lateran Basilica for short. Of the four major basilicas, Saint John Lateran is the oldest and most important. Though the pope lives next to Saint Peter's Basilica, Saint John Lateran is the official cathedral of Rome. Saint John Lateran is the mother church of the Archdiocese of Rome and the mother church of the entire world.

In AD 64, Roman Emperor Nero blamed a devastating fire in Rome on the Christians. In retaliation, he ordered the execution of many Christians, including Saints Peter and Paul. In 65, Counsel-designate Plautius Lateranus (Lateran) was part of a conspiracy to kill Nero. When Nero learned of the plot, he beheaded Lateranus and confiscated his home, the Lateran Palace. Over the next 250 years, Roman emperors used the palace in various ways. In 312, Constantine the Great became the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire and took possession of the Lateran Palace. In 313, after issuing the Edict of Milan with Eastern Emperor Licinius, Constantine donated the Lateran Palace to Pope Miltiades who first used it for a synod of bishops before constructing the first Basilica in Rome. Upon its completion in the year 324, it was dedicated by Pope Sylvester and given the name the "House of God," with a special designation to Christ the Savior.

Constantine the Great greatly helped the Catholic Church flourish after legalizing its practice. He had the Lateran Basilica beautifully decorated with gold and silver. He built churches in Rome, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Constantinople. After centuries of persecution, the Church had its first cathedral in the heart of Rome, beautifully decorated, with the Roman emperor's full support.

Though the basilica was dedicated to Christ the Savior, in the tenth century Pope Sergius III added a new baptistry and rededicated the basilica to Saint John the Baptist. In the twelfth century, Pope Lucius II dedicated the basilica to Saint John the Evangelist. Today, the basilica honors Christ the Savior first and the two Saint Johns as the co-patrons.

The Lateran Basilica has remained the pope's cathedral from the time of its dedication, and the Lateran Palace, next to the Basilica, was the papal residence from 324–1305. In 1305, Pope Clement V refused to move to Rome after his election, moving the entire papal court to Avignon, France in 1309, where it remained until Pope Gregory XI returned to Rome in 1377. By then, the Lateran Palace was in disrepair due to two fires. The pope built a new palace next to Saint Peter's on Vatican Hill, where every subsequent pope has resided until today.

Christ our Savior, through the intercessions of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, I pray for the Church. I pray for your abundant mercy upon every sinner whom you are calling for reconciliation. I pray for my local parish, diocese, country, and the Universal Church headed in Rome. I especially pray for the Holy Father, the pastor of the Lateran Basilica and shepherd of the whole Church. Draw him close to You, make him holy, and use him to draw many people to Yourself. Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, pray for us. Jesus I trust in You.



SAVE THE DATE!

St Benedict's Country Fete

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Mark your calendars and get ready!

Our much-loved St Benedict's Country Fete will return next year—bigger, brighter, and full of fun for the whole family.

There will be stalls, games, food, entertainment, raffles, and plenty of parish spirit to enjoy.

This is one of the highlights of our parish year, and we can't wait to welcome parishioners, families, and friends from near and far. Stay tuned for more details—and start spreading the word!

Together, let's make this fete a joyful celebration of community and faith!

ST BENEDICT'S COUNTRY FETE

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED!

Our **Parish Fete** is coming up soon in March next year, and we need your help to make it a great success!

Volunteers Needed:

We're looking for enthusiastic helpers to assist at various stalls on the day. If you can lend a hand, please contact **Tania Tassone, Fete Coordinator**, on **0401 597 278**. Your time and support will make a big difference!

Donations Welcome:

We're also seeking **donations of prizes** for the **raffle** and **chocolate wheel**.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Only **brand new**, quality gifts will be accepted.
- **No second-hand items or books**, please.
- Think of prizes people would love to win — **homewares, hampers, toys, gift cards, beauty items, etc.**

Your generosity and support help make our fete a joyful community celebration. Thank you for your kindness and participation!

Catholic Vocations Broken Bay
Young Adult Event

ENCOUNTER

Holy Hour, Dinner & Fun!

Please join us for our end of year gathering on
Friday 14th November, 7pm

at

St Agatha's Church
Trebtor Road, Pennant Hills



RSVP: 10th November to
vocations@bbcatholic.org.au
or 0448 741 392

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

2026 Enrolments are open

Study scripture, theology, pastoral ministry and spirituality

For more information:

<https://ctc.edu.au/study/prospectus/>

or contact: registrar@ctc.edu.au



PASTORAL WORKS COLLECTION

Together, we bring hope and healing across our
Diocese - Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB)
November Appeal

The Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) November Appeal began last weekend, 1–2 November 2025.

Through your generous support, PWBB helps fund vital ministries and programs across our Diocese — including **hospital chaplaincy, CatholicCare assistance, faith education for children in public schools**.

Your gift makes a difference in the lives of people who turn to the Church in times of need — and all donations are 100% tax-deductible.

Envelopes can be found in the pews or at both entrance of the church and Monastery.

Let us continue to work together — in faith and generosity — to bring Christ's love to all.

Parish Roster

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

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

15/11/2025 to 16/11/2025

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul C	George A
Reader1	Margaret B	Mary C	John Family
Reader2	Natasha S	Judy H	John Family
Prayers	Sr Carol T	Sharon O	Fogarty Family
TV		Trey O	Teresa G
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Marisa Q	Adam F
Music		Teresa G	Martina J
Music			
Morning Tea		Tania T	
FLOWERS	Hannah H		



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

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

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM UPDATE



NEXT NEW SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS - mid 2026

For any queries please email the parish office:
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FATHER DAVID!

November 9th

Happy Birthday, Father David! Thank you for everything you do for us and for our parish community. May Christ continue to strengthen and inspire you in your priestly Minister. God bless you always.

DID YOU KNOW...

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.00am to 2.00pm
(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