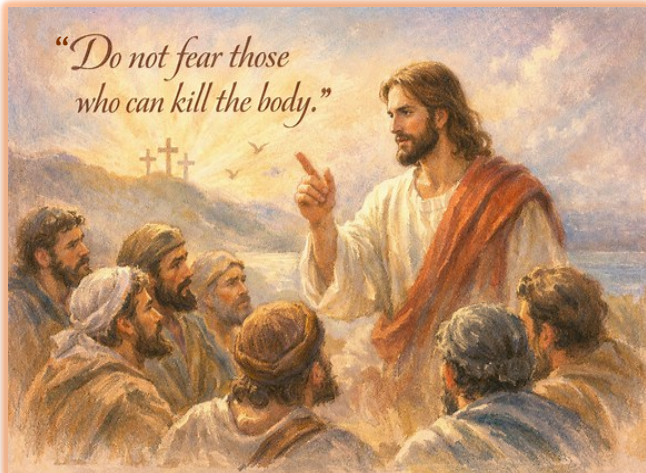


# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



## 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A JUNE 20 & 21 2026



*"Do not fear those  
who can kill the body."*

***"Do not fear those who can kill the body  
but cannot kill the soul;  
fear him rather who can destroy both body  
and soul in hell." Matthew 10:27***

### 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

#### Saturdays

9:00am to 10:00am  
Adoration & Confession

### MONASTERY CHAPEL MASS TIMES

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



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is the strength of his people,  
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.  
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,  
and govern them for ever.

### OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.  
Grant, O Lord,  
that we may always revere and love your holy name,  
for you never deprive of your guidance  
those you set firm on the foundation of your love.  
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: FEARLESS FAITH

**This Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 10:26-33** Jesus reminds me not to live in fear because God sees me, knows me, and values me deeply. He calls me to stand with Him boldly, trusting that He will stand with me before the Father.

#### I reflect...

1. What fears try to quiet my faith?
2. Do I believe God truly values every part of my life?
3. How openly can I acknowledge Jesus in daily moments?
4. Where do I need more courage to follow Him?
5. Do I believe that Jesus stands for me before the Father?

# Courage over Fear

#### Prayer

Lord Jesus, give me courage to stand with You. Help me trust Your care and live without fear. Keep my heart faithful and my voice bold. Amen.

**First Reading Jeremiah 20:10-13 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.*

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side!"

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!

All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him and take our revenge!

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

**Second Reading Romans 5:12-15 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.**

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Matthew 10:26-33 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Do not fear those who can kill the body.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



*“Do not be afraid, for the Lord is with you.”  
— The Rule of Saint Benedict chapter 7*

## READINGS & GOSPEL REFLECTION

**Jeremiah 20:10-13 / Romans 5:12-15 / Matthew 10:26-33**  
**Chosen, Loved, and Sent**

In today's readings, God reminds us that even when fear, opposition, or inner weakness feels overwhelming, He is our defender, His grace is stronger than sin, and we are deeply known and valued by Him.

**Jeremiah** cries out from a place of fear and betrayal, yet he trusts that the Lord will defend him.

In **Romans**, Paul reminds me that sin and brokenness entered the world through one man, but grace and life overflow through Christ.

In **Matthew** Jesus then calls me to live without fear, knowing that God sees me, values me, and stands with me. Together, these readings show that even in struggle, God's grace is stronger than sin, His protection is greater than fear, and His love gives me courage to stand firm.

### Key Thought

God's grace gives me courage to trust Him, even when fear or weakness tries to overwhelm me.

### Take-Home Challenge

This week, choose one fear, worry, or pressure you've been carrying. Name it before God today, and ask Him for the courage to trust His protection and His grace in that specific area.

### Prayer

Lord,  
You see me, You know me, and You stand with me.  
Give me courage where I feel afraid, strength where I feel weak,  
and trust that Your grace is greater than anything I face.



## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

### JUNE

- Monday 22 Readings: 2 Kings 17:5, 13-15, 18. Mt 7:1-5.  
**R:** Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.  
**Sts John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyrs.**
- Tuesday 23 Readings: 2 Kg 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36.  
**R:** God upholds his city for ever.  
**St Paulinus of Nola, bishop.**
- Wednesday 24 Readings: Is 49:1-6. Acts 13:22-26. Lk 1:57-66,80.  
**R:** I praise you for I am wonderfully made.  
**The NATIVITY of ST JOHN THE BAPTIST.**
- Thursday 25 Readings: 2 Kg 24:8-17. Mt 7:21-29.  
**R:** For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.
- Friday 26 Readings: 2 Kg 25:1-12. Mt 8:1-4.  
**R:** Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you.
- Saturday 27 Readings: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19.  
**R:** Lord, forget not the life of your poor ones.  
**St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop, doctor**



### THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

*Lord, You called John from birth to  
prepare the way for Your Son.  
Help me, like him, to live with joy  
and purpose, pointing others toward  
Your light. Amen.*

Source: Ordo 2026

## POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2026

### For the value of sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.



## PARISH NOTICE

**DRAFT ROSTER IS NOW AT SACRISTY WINDOW.  
PLEASE CHECK.**

## FAREWELL ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY RANDAZZO

Archbishop Anthony Randazzo will leave the Diocese next week Thursday 25th June to take up his appointment as Prefect of the Dicastery for Legislative Texts in Rome, ending more than six years of shepherding the Diocese of Broken Bay.

On Friday, 26th June, the College of Consultors will meet to elect a Diocesan Administrator who will oversee the day-to-day running of the Diocese until a new Bishop is appointed.

We pray the Holy Father will appoint a good and faithful shepherd to guide the Diocese over the next few years.

May God bless Archbishop Anthony in his new ministry. Our prayers will go with him as he serves the Church as Prefect of the Dicastery for Legislative Texts as faithfully and diligently as he has served the People of God in Broken Bay.

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies Winter Appeal has launched in our Parish. We are hoping to collect donations of non-perishable food for our pantry as well as cash donations in the Vinnies envelopes. Any assistance you can give would be hugely appreciated. We will be collecting donations until the end of June.

Thank you in anticipation,

Rita, Lila, Marie and Karen  
Arcadia Conference  
St. Vincent de Paul.

## PIETY SHOP NEWS

Visit our Piety Shop after Mass and browse our beautiful range of religious gifts, prayer books, rosaries, medals, cards, and devotional items.

You'll find meaningful keepsakes for First Holy Communion, Baptism, Confirmation, weddings, and all the sacraments. Whether for yourself or a loved one, there is something special for every occasion.

Thank you for supporting our parish Piety Shop!

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

This week's volunteers of the week nomination:

## YOUTH GROUP JULES OZOLINS & GABE WALL

**A Big Thank You** Our heartfelt thanks to **Jules Ozolins** and **Gabe Wall** for faithfully running our Youth Group every Friday during the school term.

We are especially grateful to **Gabe Wall**, as last week was her final week with us.

Thank you, Gabe, for everything you have done for our young people and our parish community. Your dedication and care have been a true blessing.

## 40 DAY MEMORIAL MASS

### PETER CHEDID

40 day Memorial to be held at St Benedict's Parish

Date: Sunday 28th June 2026

Time: 9:00am



*Eternal Rest grant to him O Lord,  
And let the Perpetual light shine upon him,  
May he Rest in Peace.  
Amen*

*Our prayers and thoughts are with the  
Chedid family.*

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

*Loving God, we entrust to You all who are sick in our parish. Bring them comfort in their suffering, strength in their weakness, and peace in their hearts. Surround them with Your healing love and bless those who care for them. May they feel the support of our prayers and the closeness of Your presence. Amen.*

## 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:**

*Sister Fay, Maryanne Maurer, Lucia Bisoglio, Frank Gauci, Joe Gallo, Miriam Brown, Pauline Honor, Kath Moran, Peter Bellew, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.*

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

*Francesco Merlino, Peter Chedid, Antonio Romeo, Nanna Trani, Anne Pearce, Robert Wallace,  
~ May they rest in Eternal Peace.*



## CATECHIST NEWS

Do you have an hour to spare once a week? Are you interested in Becoming a Catechist?

Short zoom courses are available throughout the year to become certified to teach Scripture at our local public schools. It only requires you to have a Working with Children's check number and love for your Faith. The work is all done for you in a simple to use Teacher's manual, all you need to do is show up each week with a smile on your face and Jesus in your heart!

We are always in need of casual fill-in teachers so please contact me or the Parish office for more information if you are interested!

God bless,

Martina Jutrisa

[srearcadia@gmail.com](mailto:srearcadia@gmail.com)

Parish Catechist  
Co-Ordinator  
0413 403 767

Parish Office: 9653 2312



## PARISH FINANCE UPDATE PASTORAL WORKS

To date:

Parish Quota:	\$18,005.00
Payment (parishioner donations):	\$ 5,881.00
<b>Balance we owe Diocese:</b>	<b>\$12,124.00</b>

If you're able to support our Parish Pastoral Works, your donation would be a great help — and it's tax deductible. Contributions made before the end of June can be claimed this financial year.

Thank you for your generosity and care for our parish community.

# RENEWED & SENT

PARISH  
RENEWAL  
SUMMIT  
2026

1-3 OCTOBER 2026

ST. GREGORY'S COLLEGE  
CAMPBELLTOWN NSW



in partnership



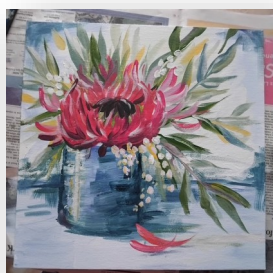
## Create.Share.Encounter

A Creative Women's Ministry

Please join us for our upcoming  
Maker's Table workshop  
at St Benedict's!

Wednesday 1st July  
7.30-9.30pm

ACRYLIC PAINTING ON CANVAS



Cost: \$15 (covers materials,  
refreshments and donation  
for room hire)

RSVP by 30/6/26 so we can  
set a special place at the  
Table for you!

[www.facebook.com/makerstable/](https://www.facebook.com/makerstable/)  
[www.themakersgarden.com.au](https://www.themakersgarden.com.au)

Martine Musumeci 0458-533-250

Nerida Woodbury 0425-834-017

[themakerstablesydney@gmail.com](mailto:themakerstablesydney@gmail.com)

## ST BENEDICT'S KIDS YOUTH GROUP

Join the fun! Ages 8–12 years  
Our Kids Youth Group is back on Fridays  
DURING SCHOOL TERM  
4.00pm to 5.30pm

(last session of this term is Friday 26th June  
resuming 2nd Friday of term.)



We are in need of adult volunteers to help out.  
Please let the parish office know if you are free to  
help or call Jules on 0415 448 797.

## HEALING MASS

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

**NEXT HEALING MASS:  
THURSDAY 2ND JULY 2026**

## ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every **Monday 2.00pm.**  
Everyone welcome.



For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.

## CCC PRAYER GROUP



Prayer meeting held every  
**Wednesday morning:**  
after 9.30am Mass.

*Come and meet new people and  
have a cuppa!*

For more details call  
Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

## CRAFT GROUP

The quilting and craft group will  
meet every **4th Tuesday** of the  
month at 10.30am in the parish  
meeting room.

Bring your craft and come and  
join us!



## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

**Feast Day: June 22**

### **SAINT JOHN FISHER, BISHOP & MARTYR c. 1469-1535**

**Invoked for courage and by those who are persecuted**

### **SAINT THOMAS MORE, MARTYR c. 1478-1535**

**Patron Saint of statesmen, politicians, lawyers, civil servants, court clerks, adopted children, large families, stepparents, and difficult marriages**

**Canonized by Pope Pius XI on May 19, 1935**

John Fisher was born in Beverley, Yorkshire, England, in 1469. After studying theology at the University of Cambridge, Fisher was ordained a priest at age twenty-two. At Cambridge, he fulfilled roles as a chaplain, professor, and eventually Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor. In 1504, he was ordained a bishop and appointed to the Diocese of Rochester where he became renowned for his preaching, pastoral care, and adherence to orthodox faith.

Born in London in 1478, Thomas More's intelligence led to a career in law that he combined with a strong faith. He worked in Parliament and as undersheriff of London. When his wife died, he married Alice Middleton who helped him care for his four children. Over the next twenty-one years, Thomas' faith, family, and career thrived. In 1529, he became the first layman to hold the post of Lord Chancellor, the top legal position in England. After three years, he resigned, citing reasons of health, but his real reason was his opposition to Henry VIII's actions regarding the Catholic Church.

Henry VIII sought an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, contending it was invalid because Catherine had consummated her five-month marriage to Henry's late brother Arthur, a charge Catherine denied. Henry cited his lack of a male heir as a sign of divine displeasure. The pope rejected Henry's request, provoking Henry's anger and intensifying conflicts between him and the pope, along with those who opposed Henry among the clergy and civil servants.

In 1532, King Henry appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, who sympathized with those who sought reform of the English Church and separation from Rome. Cranmer declared Henry's first marriage null and void and validated his subsequent marriage to Anne Boleyn in 1533. In 1534, with the backing of Parliament, King Henry VIII proclaimed himself the head of the Church in England, effectively severing ties with the pope and the Roman Catholic Church.

Bishop John Fisher stated that he was willing to die, as Saint John the Baptist did, for the defense of marriage. Outraged, the king had Bishop Fisher arrested before he could publicly oppose the new queen's coronation. Initially released, he was arrested again on April 26, 1534, and remained in prison under harsh conditions until his death about fourteen months later. Eventually, Fisher was tricked into confessing his opposition to the king, which led to his beheading.

Thomas More also refused to support the king's claim that he was the head of the Church of England and refused to support Anne Boleyn's coronation. After refusing to attend the coronation, More was arrested and tried for treason. Found guilty, he was executed two weeks after Fisher. More's head replaced Fisher's on London Bridge after his execution.

*Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, your fidelity to the truth and your courage left a shining example for all. Though your deaths appeared to be defeats at the time, your love of God and love for the king who killed you live on. Please pray that I will imitate your courage and fidelity to Christ in every way that I am called, for the glory of God and the salvation of others. Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

**SAVE THE DATE  
ST BENEDICT FEAST DAY  
SUNDAY 12 JULY 9AM MASS  
FOLLOWED BY FESTIVAL UNTIL 1PM**

We are already looking forward with great excitement to celebrating **the Feast Day of St Benedict Festival on Sunday, 12 July**, with a very special parish celebration!

This will be a wonderful opportunity for our parish community to come together in faith, fellowship and celebration. During this special event, we will also be drawing both our **Major Raffle** and **Calf Raffle**. Tickets for both raffles are still on sale, and we are deeply grateful for the ongoing support and generosity of our parishioners.

There will be plenty to enjoy on the day, including:

- The **Kazzi Family** with their wonderful fresh fruit and veggie pre-pack boxes
- The **Sakkal Family** serving their famous and delicious BBQ specials
- The **Camilleri Family** running the always-popular Chocolate Wheel
- Piety shop
- Plants
- Coffee/tea
- Gifts and crafts etc.



There will be fun, delicious food, and something for everyone to enjoy.

Please stay tuned for more details about this very special celebration, and be sure to **mark Sunday, 12 July in your calendar**. This will be on RAIN OR SHINE!

Thank you for your continued support of our parish community. We look forward to celebrating together!

### IGNITE CONFERENCE SYDNEY 2026

Are you looking to deepen your faith, encounter Christ in a new way, and connect with Catholics from across Australia? Then consider attending **Ignite Conference Sydney 2026**, one of Australia's largest Catholic conferences for youth, young adults, families, parishioners, clergy, and ministry leaders.

The conference features inspiring speakers, uplifting worship, the Sacraments, engaging workshops, and opportunities for prayer and fellowship. Whether you are young in age or young at heart, Ignite offers a powerful experience of faith and renewal.

**9–12 July 2026**  
**The Light of Christ Centre, Waitara**

For more information and registration details, please visit the official Ignite Conference website.

<https://igniteconference.com.au/sydney>

*"Come, Holy Spirit, ignite our hearts  
with the fire of Your love."*

**LITURGICAL FORMATION SERIES II**

**TOPIC:** ACCOMPANYING IN HOPE: CARE OF THE SICK, FUNERALS AND MINISTRY TO THE BEREAVED

**PRESENTERS:** Fr Alex Peter Selvaraj MSFS, Chris Ohlsen and Libby McManus

Saturday 27 June 2026  
9:30am – 3pm

**HELD IN:** Caroline Chisholm Centre, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills

Clergy, Parish Teams, Parish Bereavement teams, Ministers of the Sick, and all interested parishioners are invited to attend this Formation Day. Accompanying in Hope offers a liturgical and pastoral exploration of the Church's ministry of accompaniment in times of illness, death, and grief. Participants will deepen their understanding of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church's Funeral Rites, and the ministry of compassionate accompaniment of the bereaved.

More information: [mission@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:mission@bbcatholic.org.au)

**REGISTER NOW >>>**

# Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
MORNING TEA AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

27/6/26 to 28/6/26  
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR A

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
<b>Acolyte</b>		Paul C	
<b>Reader1</b>	Sr Carol T	Zachary B	<b>Maria G</b>
<b>Reader2</b>	Mary C	Mary Cam	<b>Lorna B</b>
<b>Prayers</b>	John V	Sharon O	<b>John family</b>
<b>TV</b>		Trey O	Mary A
<b>EMHC</b>		Angela S	Marisa Q
<b>EMHC</b>		Nigel M	Caterina V
<b>Music</b>		Melanie H	Melanie H
<b>Music</b>		Noelle T	Adam F
<b>Music</b>		John T	Sandra M
<b>Music</b>			
<b>Morning Tea</b>		<b>Sophie R</b>	
<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>Souraya K</b>		

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*We acknowledge God as our Creator and giver of all life. We also acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.  
May we walk together in peace, respect, and unity.*

## SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

*St Benedict's Parish is committed to the safety of all, especially children and vulnerable people. Concerns? Contact Fr Shansana 0437 884 233, or the Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.*

*For all parish OH&S and Safeguarding Children matters  
Contact: Parish Office 9653 2312*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

**Mondays & Fridays:** 9.00am to 2.00pm  
**Parish Office:** 02 9653 2312  
**Address:** 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia 2159  
**Email:** [arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au)  
**Website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia)  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB  
**Email:** [sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com](mailto:sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com)  
**After hours:** 0437 884 233  
**Facebook:** [stbenedict sarcadia](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedict sarcadia)



## 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

### OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in October 2026.

Forms will be given to all public school students. For other schools please collect a form from the sacristy office or email the parish for a form. The enrolment form is also available on the website.

## ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS 2026

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 our web site:

[www.engagedencounter.org.au](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au)

**Aug 8-9**

## DID YOU KNOW...

The phrase "Do not be afraid" appears more than 300 times in Scripture — and in Matthew 10:26–33, Jesus repeats it to remind us that trust in God is stronger than fear.

**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**



**Support our parish!**  
Scan this QR code to make a donation.