

# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

30 & 31 AUGUST 2025

Everyone who exalts himself  
will be humbled, and  
he who humbles himself  
will be exalted.

### 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



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Have mercy on me, O Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

### OPENING PRAYER

God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
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

The themes of today's readings are humility, generosity,  
and respect and care for all.

Jesus uses the setting of eating together at a feast to  
teach us the values of the Kingdom of God.

We are to put others before ourselves, showing kindness  
and compassion to everyone, especially those who cannot  
repay us.

By following Jesus' own values of selfless giving and  
humility, we radiate God's love to others. We will be  
rewarded at the resurrection with our own place at the  
heavenly banquet.

*Humility Respect*

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we pray to be  
attentive and kind towards everyone we encounter this  
week. We think especially of those on the margins of  
society, and in areas of violence and war.

Source: [www.australiancatholics.com.au](http://www.australiancatholics.com.au)

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **First Reading: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29**

**A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

***Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord***

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,  
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.  
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,  
and then you will find favour with the Lord;  
for great though the power of the Lord is,  
he accepts the homage of the humble.  
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,  
since an evil growth has taken root in him.  
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,  
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

***The word of the Lord.***

***Thanks be to God.***

### **Responsorial Psalm:**

**R.** God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24**

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

***You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God***

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant .

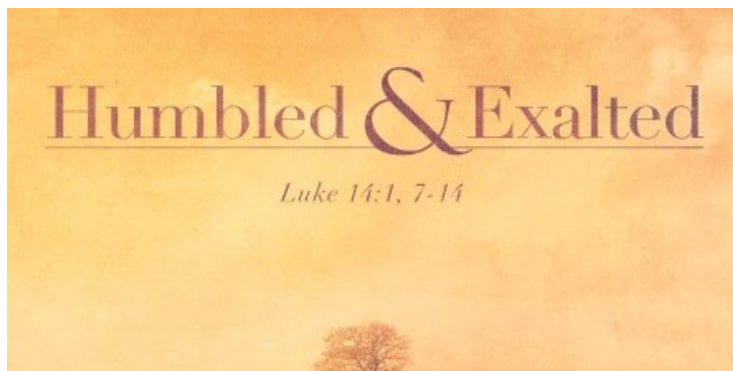
***The word of the Lord.***

***Thanks be to God.***

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of  
heart  
Alleluia!**



### **GOSPEL Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

***All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted***

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

***The Gospel of the Lord.***

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

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**  
**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sirah 3:17-20, 28-29/ Heb 12:18-19/ Lk 14:1, 7-14**

Today's liturgy invites us to reflect on the virtue of humility, which lies at the heart of Christian life.

In a world where status, success, and self-promotion are often celebrated, Jesus gives us a radically different message. He reminds us that those who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who humbly serve others will be honoured by God. Let us learn to live simply, love humbly, and walk closely with our merciful God.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus challenges the very structure of hospitality by saying, "When you give a banquet, do not invite your friends or your rich neighbours but invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind." He teaches us to assume God's hospitality in our ways, as for God, grace is given, not traded. In the Gospel too, Jesus challenges the norms of power and social rank, saying "Do not sit at the place of honour". Jesus makes it clear that God's Kingdom reverses the world's values. In the heavenly banquet, the poor, the humble, and the repentant are given the seats of honour. Even more radically, Jesus tells us "Invite those who cannot repay you." This is not hospitality but it is a call to imitate divine generosity. As the Catechism says, "Those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a preferential love on the part of the Church" (CCC 2448).

Whom do we welcome into our lives?

Are we drawn only to those who benefit us?

Or do we also make room for the broken, the poor, and the forgotten?

Source: Breaking the Word, Redemptorist Publications India, Bangalore

**WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS**

*September 2025*

Monday 1: 1 Thess 4:13-18. Lk 4:16-30

**R.** The Lord comes to judge the earth

Tuesday 2: 1 Thess 5:1-6, 9-11. Lk 4:31-37

**R.** I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living

Wednesday 3: Col 1:1-8. Lk 4:38-44

**R.** I trust in the kindness of God for ever.

**St Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor.**

Thursday 4: Col 1:9-14. Lk 5:1-11

**R.** The Lord has made known his salvation

Friday 5: Col 1:15-20. Lk 5:33-39

**R.** Come with joy into the presence of the Lord

Saturday 6: Col 1:21-23. Lk 6:1-5

**R.** God himself is my help



**Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for August 2025:**

**For mutual coexistence**

*Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.*

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES ARE ON THE NOTICEBOARD.

Any suggestions to Parish Pastoral Council or Parish Finance can be given to Fr Shansana.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Calling All Children and Families!

We invite all children and families who are interested in getting involved in upcoming parish activities and children Masses to reach out!

If your child would like to participate, please send an email to the parish office with the child's name and a contact number.

We look forward to welcoming more young faces into our parish life!

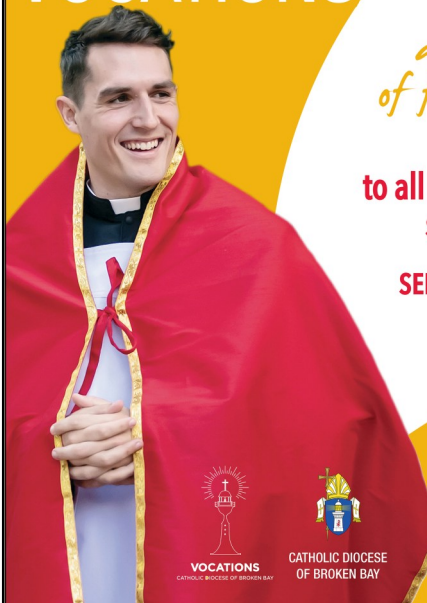
arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

## HEALING MASS

the First Thursday of each month

**NEXT DATE: Thursday, 4th September  
9.30am Mass**

## VOCATIONS



**ANSWERING  
THE CALL:**

*a celebration  
of faith and hope*

**THANK YOU  
to all our Parishioners for  
supporting our**

**SEMINARIANS' BENEFIT  
GALA DINNER**



VOCATIONS  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF BROKEN BAY

**LEVANDE**  
Retirement, living

**ACU harvest**  
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

**WN BULL**  
FUNERALS

## GCEA—SPRING DINNER

**Saturday 13th September  
at 6pm**

**The Galston Club  
2 course meal, tea and coffee**

**\$55 concession/\$65 adult**

**RSVP 10th September  
www.gcea.org.au**

To book visit the URL below

<https://events.humanitix.com/gcea-spring-dinner-2025>

## PARISH E-BULLETIN

The Parish is offering the Parish bulletin electronically in addition to the printed version.

If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send your email address to the parish office at:

arcadia.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

## 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:**

*Luke Manassa, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana, Vanessa Papandrea, Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry, Colleen Bennett & Helen Facione. ~ May they rest in Peace.*







## OUR LADY OF FATIMA DAY

Our Lady of Fatima Committee Meeting  
This **Tuesday 2 September at 7pm**

In the Parish meeting room.

All committee members please attend,  
Guests are welcome.

**Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day**  
Will be held on **Sunday 12 October 2025**  
**starting at 12:30pm**

Here at St Benedict's Parish, Arcadia.  
Details to come.

Contact: 0438 521 421

## CATECHISTS' NEWS

From "The Spirituality of the Catechist" by Michael Tebbutt "In The guide for Catechists (The Office of the Congregations for the Evangelisation of People 1993) there are outlined six characteristics of the spirituality of the catechist. Let us consider each one briefly.

1. Openness to God. As Catechists, we need to be in relationship with the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Trinity itself is a relationship of love."

Free training continues for all Catechists to be provided by the CCD –

- Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3rd Millenium" continues on Friday 5th Sep 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic this week is "The Old Testament: The Story of the Faith Community – Exodus/Sinai"

- 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 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

## PIETY SHOP NEWS

We invite you to take a moment to explore our Piety Shop, It offers a wonderful selection of items to support and enrich your spiritual life, including: Religious gifts for sacraments like Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Rosaries, prayer cards, and medals Bibles, missals, and spiritual books for adults and children.

**Come and see what's new!**

## ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

**JOIN THE YOUTH GROUP!**

Youth group is back on this term!

**Time: 4pm to 5.30pm**  
each Friday during school term.

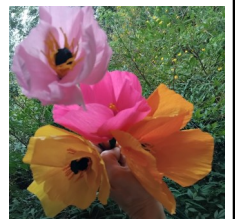
**Everyone welcome**  
(8 to 12 year olds)

Thank you,  
Gabe & Jules!



## ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

**Paper Flowers workshop**  
**Wednesday 10th September**  
**NOTE: Date Change**  
**7.30 - 9.30pm**



\$10 per participant

RSVP Martine 0458 533 250 / Nerida 0425 834 017  
**by 31/8/25**

This month we will be making  
colourful crepe paper poppies and magnolias.  
Hope you can make it!

*I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys. As a lily  
among brambles, so is my love  
among the young women.*

## 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!

**SAINT OF THE WEEK**  
**Saint Gregory the Great**  
**Pope and Doctor of the Church - Memorial**  
**Feast Day: 3 September**  
**c. 540-604**



**Patron Saint of choir boys, educators, masons, musicians, popes, students, and singers**  
**Invoked against gout and the plague**  
**Pre-Congregation canonisation**  
**Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1295**

Gregory was born in Rome into an aristocratic family whose members filled political and religious offices. Gregory's father, a senator, became the Prefect of Rome; his mother, Silvia, was canonized as a saint, as were two aunts. Gregory's influential, wealthy, and saintly family provided him with a stellar education and nurtured him in the Catholic faith. Until he was fourteen, Gregory witnessed disease and war between the Ostrogoths and the Eastern Roman Emperor ravage Rome. Gregory's family might have fled for a time. In 554, people returned to Rome to rebuild and reestablish order.

Gregory followed his father in civil leadership roles and was elected as Prefect of Rome in 573. When his father died, Gregory resigned as Prefect, turned his family home into a monastery, and took monastic vows. Gregory spent four years immersed in prayer and study before Pope Pelagius II ordained him as one of Rome's seven deacons and sent him to Constantinople as his papal ambassador. There, Deacon Gregory maintained his monastic life while fulfilling his imperial court duties. He also began writing his commentary on the Book of Job, providing teachings on God's nature, the problem of evil, the Christian understanding of suffering, and the virtue of patience.

Six years later, Deacon Gregory returned to Rome as abbot of his monastery. When Pope Pelagius II died in 590, the people of Rome chose Gregory as his successor. He reluctantly accepted and was the first monk to be elected pope. Over the next fourteen years, despite constant ill health, Pope Gregory I became one of the most consequential popes in history. Administratively, he implemented strict guidelines to ensure the responsible use of Church property and finances, put measures in place to prevent abuses, increased transparency, and expanded charitable works, nearly emptying the papal treasury. He also forged strategic military and political alliances that strengthened the papacy.

Pope Gregory standardized the liturgy with clear guidelines and rubrics. He instituted prayers, the flow of the Mass, and the liturgical year. The liturgical chant he developed became known as "Gregorian Chant." In the missionary spirit, he began the conversion of England's Anglo-Saxons.

In addition to Scripture commentaries, Pope Gregory authored the "Pastoral Rule," a guide for bishops and other church leaders, outlining their pastoral responsibilities and the conduct expected in their personal and public lives. His "Dialogues" are a collection of inspiring visions, miracles, and the lives of the saints, including an early biography of St. Benedict. Pope Gregory's approximately 800 letters offer a valuable insight into the ecclesiastical, social, and political landscape of his time. The letters' practical theological and pastoral advice have influenced Church leadership for centuries.

*Saint Gregory the Great,  
you loved God, coming to know Him through prayer and study,  
and to serve Him with all your heart.  
God transformed what you gave into a solid foundation upon which He would grow His Church.  
Please pray that my life will always be grounded upon a solid faith  
so that God can use me in any way He chooses for His glory and the salvation of souls.*

*Saint Gregory the Great, pray for me.  
Jesus, I trust in You.*



# Incredible SRI LANKA

13 NIGHTS/14 DAYS  
DEPARTING AUSTRALIA  
22 SEPTEMBER 2025

With your host  
Fr. Michael Kelly OSB  
Abbot General Emeritus

Colombo, Kandy, Haputale, Yala,  
Galle, Key ancient sites &  
Benedictine Communities

**A\$5,945**  
Per person twin share  
**A\$500**  
Per person deposit

## INCLUSIONS

- Economy class flights on Singapore Airlines
- 5 star accommodation for 13 nights
- Daily Breakfast & Dinner
- Dinner from day 2 to Day 14
- Our own Airconditioned 24-seater coach
- First Class train tickets from Kandy to Ella including box lunch
- English speaking guide / Driver throughout the tour
- Entrance tickets to places we visit as in the itinerary.
- A visit to St. Anthony's Shrine
- Visit Benedictine Communities and Anglican sites

**Book Now**

Terms & Conditions apply - contact johanne@etravel.com.au for more details  
Single supplement available upon request.  
Land only price available.  
Price subject to availability and currency fluctuations.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."  
Matthew 11:28



**August 2025**

## DELIVERANCE RETREAT

Guided by Fr Sam Samuel VC, Fr John Prince VC & Fr Judy Varghese VC  
**8th-10th August**  
Starts on Friday 5.30pm & ends on Sunday 4.00pm  
For bookings: 02 4372 1598 or email: drcrtreatreg@gmail.com

**3rd Monday, 18th August**  
**Healing Prayer Service, 7:00pm-9:00pm**  
at St Patrick's Church, 11 Macquarie street, Wallsend

**31st August, 9:00am - 4:00pm**  
**One Day Pilgrimage (Last Sunday)**  
• Praise and Worship • Preaching the Word  
• Eucharistic Adoration • Divine Mercy Chaplet • Holy Mass  
**ALL ARE WELCOME, NO BOOKING REQUIRED, BYO LUNCH**

 **DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE**  
160 Hensons Road, SOMERSBY, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,  
Tel: 02 4372 1598, email: drcsydney@gmail.com  
• www.divineretreatcentre.org • Find us on facebook

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

 **DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE**  
SAT 29 NOV- WED 3 DEC

## FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMODATION + REGO

**\$1,645 PER PERSON, INCL GST**  
Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy  
Reducing cost to \$1,145

Day 1	Sat 29 Nov	Departure (Travel Day)
Day 2	Sun 30 Nov	ACYF
Day 3	Mon 1 Dec	ACYF
Day 4	Tue 2 Dec	ACYF
Day 5	Wed 3 Dec	Return (Travel Day)

**TO REGISTER INTEREST TO ATTEND ACYF - PLEASE SCAN**



## BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE ONLINE INFORMATION EVENING

7PM MON 11 AUGUST 2025  
TO REGISTER VIA EMAIL - PLEASE SCAN



## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

MELBOURNE 2025

### INCLUSIONS

- Economy class return airfare from Sydney
- 4 nights' Accommodation Holiday Inn Express
- Breakfast daily
- Broken Bay Group dinner 29 November
- Return airport coach transfers
- ACYF Melbourne Registration fee
- Broken Bay Pilgrim T-Shirt

### Not included:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners on festival days

Pilgrimage is open to young people in Year 9 at school, through to the age of 25, and their leaders and clergy.

 **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY**  
mission@bbcatholic.org.au

# Parish Roster

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

## NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

**6/9/2025—7/9/2025  
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	<b>SATURDAY 7.00pm</b>	<b>SUNDAY 9.00am</b>	<b>SUNDAY 10.30am</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>		Nigel M	Paul E
<b>Reader1</b>	Natasha S	Judy H	CHILDREN'S
<b>Reader2</b>	Sr Carol T	Kath M	MASS
<b>Prayers</b>	Margaret B	Teresa G	
<b>TV</b>		Mary A	Azzi family
<b>Music</b>		Melanie H	Melanie H
<b>Music</b>		Marisa Q	Martina J
<b>Music</b>		Theresa N	Adam F
<b>Music</b>			Hannah F
<b>Morning Tea</b>		<b>Teresa G</b>	<b>Robin B</b>
<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>Angela S</b>		



*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 NOTICE

### CONFIRMATION

Please pray for all children and their families as they continue the sacramental process for Confirmation.

**Confirmation - practise for all Candidates will take place on Friday 3rd September at 5.30pm**

Confirmation will take place on Thursday 23rd October  
Presenting of Certificates: Sunday 26th October at the 10.30am Mass

### NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS - early 2026

Our next program starts with Reconciliation In March 2026.

For any queries please email the parish office:  
[arcadia.pariah@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:arcadia.pariah@bbcatholic.org.au)

## DID YOU KNOW...

Over the three-year Liturgical calendar (Years A B & C) we read through almost 80% of the Bible



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

**Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm**  
(School holidays only open Fridays)

**Parish Office:** 02 9653 2312  
**Address:** 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia 2159  
**Email:** [arcadia.pariah@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:arcadia.pariah@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:** 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**