

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

11 & 12 OCTOBER 2025



*"Your
faith
has
Saved
you."*

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

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

OPENING PRAYER

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
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: GRATEFUL FAITH

In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 17:11–19), only one of the ten healed lepers returns to thank Jesus. This reminds us to always be grateful for God's blessings and to show our faith through thanksgiving and praise.

1. Do I take time to thank God for the blessings in my life?
2. When have I experienced God's healing or mercy?
3. Am I more focused on what I need than on what I've received?
4. How can I express gratitude to God and others this week?
5. What does true faith and thankfulness look like in my daily life?

Thankful Heart

Lord Jesus, thank You for the many blessings You've given me. Help me to be like the grateful leper—always returning to thank You with a sincere heart. Teach me to see Your goodness in every moment and to live each day with faith and gratitude. Amen.

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17 (JB)

A reading from the second book of the Kings

Naaman returned to Elisha, the prophet, and acknowledged the Lord.

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child.

Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-13 (JB)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.

"If we have died with him, then we shall live with him."

Remember the Good News that I carry, 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.

If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.

If we disown him, then he will disown us.

We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful,

for he cannot disown his own self.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**For all things give thanks to God,
because this is what he expects of you in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia!**



*"Stand up and go on your way.
Your faith has saved you."*

GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It seems that no one has returned to give thanks to God except this foreigner.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

2 Kings 5:14–17 / Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4 / 2 Timothy 2:8–13 / Luke 17:11–19

This Sunday's readings invite us to reflect on **gratitude, faith, and God's mercy**. In the First Reading, Naaman is healed of leprosy after following God's instructions, showing that true healing comes from obedience and trust in God. The psalm encourages us to sing joyfully for the wonderful deeds of the Lord, praising Him for His steadfast love and faithfulness.

St Paul reminds Timothy that faith in Christ gives life and strength even through trials — a faith that is never wasted.

In the Gospel, Jesus heals ten lepers, yet only one returns to give thanks. This teaches us that **gratitude is essential in our relationship with God**. Faith is not just about receiving God's blessings but also recognizing and responding with a thankful heart.

Key Thought:

Faith grows when gratitude and trust guide our lives. Recognizing God's gifts allows us to live with joy and obedience.

Take-Home Challenge:

This week, pause daily to thank God for at least one blessing — big or small — and let your gratitude be expressed in word, action, or prayer.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your healing, love, and mercy.

Help me to recognise Your blessings each day and respond with a grateful heart.

May my faith grow stronger as I live with trust and thanksgiving. Amen.

Source: chatgpt.com

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

October 2025

Monday 13: Rom 1:1-7. Lk 11:29-32.

R. The Lord has made known his salvation.

Tuesday 14: Rom 1:16-25. Lk 11:37-41.

R. The heavens proclaim the glory of God.

St Callistus I, pope, martyr.

Wednesday 15: Rom 2:1-11. Lk 11:42-46.

R. Lord, you give back to all according to their works.

St Teresa of Jesus, virgin, doctor.

Thursday 16: Rom 3:21-30. Lk 11:47-54.

R. With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

St Hedwig, religious.

St Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin.

Friday 17: Rom 4:1-8. Lk 12:1-7.

R. I turn to you Lord in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

St Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr.

Saturday 18: 2 Tim 4:10-17. Lk 10:1-9.

R. Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.

St Luke, evangelist.



St Margaret Mary Alacoque,

*Help me to love the Sacred Heart
of Jesus with faith and devotion.*

*Sacred Heart of Jesus,
I trust in You. Amen.*

Source: Ordo 2025 image: mycatholic.life



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for October 2025:

For collaboration between different religious traditions

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

**POPE LEO XIV
FIRST APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION**

Dilexi Te

Pope Leo XIV has released his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi te*, "I have loved you" –

Revelations 3:9 - which describes prejudice against the poor as an "inescapable challenge".

Pope Francis had begun writing the document in his final months of life. Pope Leo decided to make it his own with the addition of some reflections on the theme of love for the poor.

"Not infrequently, our prosperity can make us blind to the needs of others and even make us think that our happiness and fulfilment depend on ourselves alone, apart from others.

"In such cases, the poor can act as silent teachers for us, making us conscious of our presumption and instilling within us a rightful spirit of humility," Pope Leo writes.

Bishop Anthony encourages us all to prayerfully read *Dilexi te*, and consider how we can apply its words to acts of mercy and service in our everyday lives.

The document can be found at [this website](#).

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE
CANONISATION OF ST PETER TO ROT ON
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.**

**Everyone is invited to this celebration at:
Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara**

**Bishop Anthony will celebrate Mass at 11.00am on
Sunday 19 October 2025.**

Peter To Rot was a shining example of fidelity, courage, and witness. The first Saint from Papua New Guinea – another Saint from Oceania!

HEALING MASS

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

The next Healing Mass will be on
Thursday November 6.



VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

MARY SALIBA & MIRIAM BROWN

A Heartfelt Thank You!

Thank you, Miriam, for generously donating the microwave, and thank you, Mary, for providing the hot water electric urn. Your kindness and support are greatly appreciated!

FIRST FETE MEETING

Tuesday, 21st October | 7:00 PM
Parish Meeting Room

All welcome to help plan and organise next year's fete planned for March 2026. Your help would be appreciated.

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Arcadia Vinnies Conference wishes to thank the community for their generous support of our Winter Appeal.

We received \$1,725.70 in envelope donations, as well as \$4,161.25 through the Poor Box so far this year.

We also are very grateful for the large amount of grocery donations. These are distributed through the Hornsby Welfare Centre to our clients. Your support of our Winter Appeal is vital to the work we do in this area and we really appreciate your kindness.

Rita, Lila, Marie and Karen - Arcadia Conference.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

Visit Our Parish Piety Shop!

Our parish piety shop has **new stock** available, including devotional items, prayer books, rosaries, and gifts for all occasions.

We warmly invite you to come and have a look—you might find something special for yourself or a loved one. Your support helps sustain our parish and its ministries, so thank you for helping us continue our work in the community!

Lila Bacha

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: *Gabrielle Hawkins, Harrison & Xavier Steel.*

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:

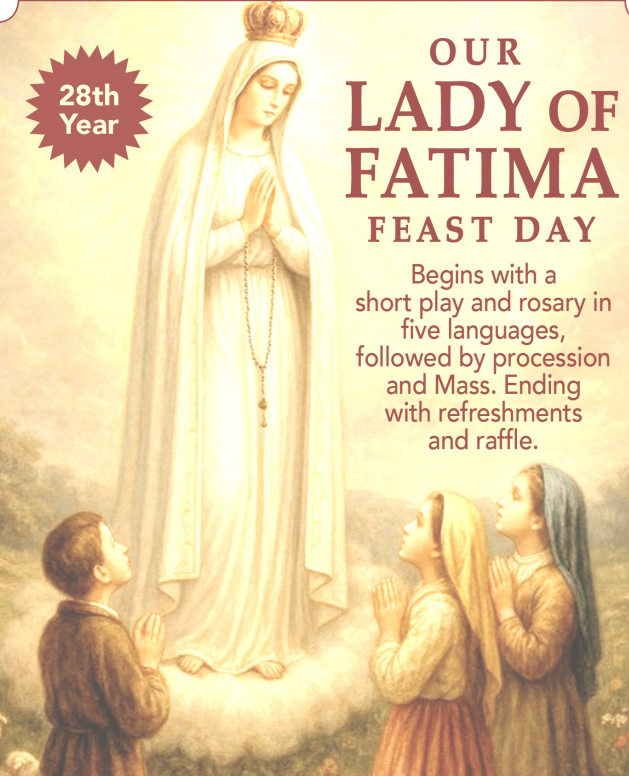
*Maria Pappallardo, Shannon Murray, Pellegrino Vaccarella, Najm Azzi, Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley,
Joe Guiana ~ May they rest in Peace.*



28th Year

OUR LADY OF FATIMA FEAST DAY

Begins with a short play and rosary in five languages, followed by procession and Mass. Ending with refreshments and raffle.



Here at St Benedict's, Sun 12 Oct 2025, 12:30pm
 A 9-day Novena begins at St Benedict's Church, Arcadia on Fri, 3rd Oct at 6:25pm with Rosary followed by Mass.
Petition Box available for special requests.
You are welcome to bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. 0438 521 421

OCTOBER ROSARY VISITING HOMES



We will be holding the Rosary at different parishioners' homes each week. The Rosary will begin on 13th October 2025.

If you would like to host the Rosary at your home, please add your name on the list at the Sacristy window.

We warmly invite everyone to join in this beautiful devotion!

ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

JOIN THE YOUTH GROUP!

Youth group is now closed for the term. Look forward to seeing you next term. Have a great holiday break!

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!

CATECHISTS' NEWS

The Spirituality of the Catechist by Michael Tebbutt continues **"Authenticity of life. We need to practice what we preach to the children to be real teachers of the Gospel. Do we say one thing but then do another? If we do, our audience will see right through us and we will not be authentic witnesses."**

Term 4 returns this week, with SRE (Scripture) classes resuming.

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

- Ministry Induction training for Provisional Catechists starts on Monday 13th October from 10am-12:15pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Mission and Ministry of the Catechist."
- Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3rd Millenium" continues on Friday 17th Oct 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Interfaith Dialogue and Ecumenism"

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



NEXT DRAFT ROSTER

The draft roster is now up on the Sacristy window. Please check the dates and amend as necessary.

JUBILEE OF MARIAN SPIRITUALITY 11-12 OCTOBER

The Jubilee of Marian Spirituality recognises the ways that devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary can strengthen the faith life of individuals and, in turn, the Church.

In our parish we have praying the Rosary at homes as well as Our Lady of Fatima Feast day available.



FEAST OF THE WEEK

Saint Teresa of Jesus (Avila) Virgin and Doctor

Feast Day: October 15

C. 1515–1582

**Patron Saint of Spain, lacemakers, and those in need of grace, in religious orders,
and ridiculed for their piety**

Invoked against bodily ills, headaches, and sickness

*Canonized by Pope Gregory XV on March 12, 1622
Declared a Doctor of the Church on September 27, 1970*

Saint Teresa of Ávila was born Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda y Ahumada in Ávila, Spain, one of nine children her father had and his second wife. By age seven, Teresa desired sainthood, even martyrdom. After her mother's death when Teresa was twelve, she struggled with the lure of worldly attractions. Her father enrolled her in a nearby convent boarding school when she was sixteen. Peace entered her soul, but she developed a serious illness. Recovering at home, she debated becoming a nun. Once she decided to pursue her vocation, her father said "no." When Teresa was twenty, she and her brother Rodrigo left their home secretly, both to enter religious life. Teresa entered the Carmelite Monastery of the Incarnation at Ávila on November 2, 1535.

After professing her first vows and taking the name Sister Teresa of Jesus, Teresa again fell ill and spent several years recovering in relatives' homes. An uncle gave her a book on "the prayer of recollection" that became one of her treasures. Returning to the convent, she practiced the prayer of recollection, seeking God's presence within her soul. She experienced the mystical "prayer of quiet" and "prayer of union." Her continuous physical pain and the months of solitude and daily prayer bore great fruit. In 1542, she praised Saint Joseph for her miraculous recovery.

After ten years as a nun, Sister Teresa experienced a "second conversion" in her thirties. Passing by a statue of Christ crucified, she was overcome by grace and moved to the gift of tears. Reading Saint Augustine's *Confessions*, she understood that she was avoiding the mystical journey to God. With deepened prayer, she experienced ecstasies and visions, even elevating in the chapel.

Many Spanish Carmelite convents had slipped into lukewarmness, worldliness, comfort, and a lack of prayer, including Sister Teresa's own. She felt God calling her to reform the order. In 1562, she founded the convent of Saint Joseph in Ávila, becoming mother superior. Over the next five years, Mother Teresa wrote a new constitution for the reformed convent and *The Way of Perfection*, offering clear lessons for the sisters' journey to holiness. The order resumed strict penances, prayer, solitude, and poverty. Going barefoot, they were called the "Discalced" Carmelites, meaning "without shoes."

Mother Teresa traveled often, establishing seventeen convents in Spain. With her spiritual director, Saint John of the Cross, she founded two monasteries for men. The unreformed Carmelites opposed her, voting at a general chapter meeting in 1576 that Mother Teresa should stop all reforms and retreat into "retirement." To solve the dispute, the pope decreed the two as separate provinces.

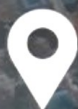
Mother Teresa's four major books, several minor works, thirty-one poems, and 458 letters are among the most profound spiritual writings in Church history, earning her the title Doctor of the Church.

Saint Teresa of Ávila, God called you to religious life and then into a deeper, profound life of mystical union with Him. Please pray that I will come to know God with the same depth of knowledge, so that God can use me for the purpose to which He has called me. Saint Teresa of Ávila, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

END SEX SELECTIVE ABORTIONS



22 OCTOBER
5:30 PM



NSW Parliament House
6 Macquarie St
Sydney



RSVP

PHPA

DR JOANNA HOWE

BIRD FLIP

ABORIGINAL DESERT ART



Pegleg Tjampitjinpa, 'Tingari' 2004

ART EXHIBITION

ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY

121 Arcadia Rd, ARCADIA, NSW

9am to 5pm, Sunday 9th November, 2025

A free public lecture 'Tingari: Sacred
Secrets in Aboriginal Desert Art'

will be presented at 2-3pm – all welcome!

THE MORE THE MERRIER KIDS MARKETS

Saturday, 1st November, 2025
St Benedict's Parish
2 Fagans Rd, Arcadia

10 AM
-
3 PM

CALLING ALL YOUNG
ENTREPRENEURS!
COME AND RUN YOUR VERY
OWN BUSINESS!
REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW
OPEN!

All stall holders must be under the age of 18

\$25 REGISTRATION PER STALL

Register by 10th October, 2025

<https://forms.gle/iREa68PSrcdLN5Uz8>

For more information please contact
Clare or Dominic Woodbury
0425-834-017 / nerida.woodbury@gmail.com

\$25 REGISTRATION WILL ASSIST WITH MARKETING THE EVENT AND TO
PROVIDE A DONATION TO ST BENEDICT'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP.

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!

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

18/10/2025 to 19/10/2025
29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul C	
Reader1	Daniel V	Mary C	Azzi Family
Reader2	Miriam B	Lorraine D	John Family
Prayers	Edyn V	Marisa Q	Sharon O
TV		Nigel M	Trey O
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Keith W
Music		John T	Sandra M
Music			Martina J
Morning Tea		Tania T	
FLOWERS	Angela S		



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



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will take place on:
Thursday 23rd October 6.30pm

Practice session:
Thursday 16th October 5.30pm

Presenting of Certificates:
Sunday 26th October at the 10.30am Mass

NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS - mid 2026

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

DID YOU KNOW...

The Catholic Church is over 2,000 years old and is the largest Christian Church in the world, with more than 1.3 billion members.



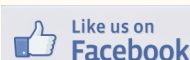
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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.pariah@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