

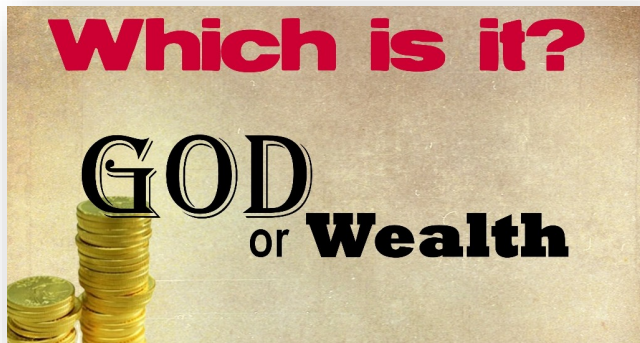
St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

13 & 14 SEPTEMBER 2025



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

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who founded all the commands of
your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our neighbour,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
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: WISE CHOICES

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 16:1–13) reminds us to be
faithful with what God has given us and to place Him
above money and possessions making wise choices.

I reflect:

- Do I use my gifts and resources wisely?
- Am I faithful in small things?
- Do I put God first above money and possessions?
- How can I be more trustworthy in daily life?
- Who or what do I truly serve—God or wealth?

Faithfulness

Loving God,
You have entrusted me with many gifts and blessings.
Teach me to use them with wisdom and faithfulness.
Help me not to be ruled by money or possessions, but
to place You first in all things. May my choices each
day show that I serve You with a faithful and generous
heart. Amen.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Amos

The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone - petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving - and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and - I am telling the truth and no lie - a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

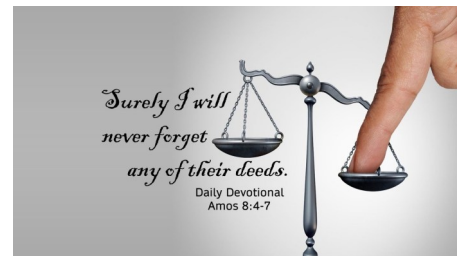
'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



**You cannot serve
God and wealth.**

Jesus, Luke 16:13

GOSPEL REFLECTION

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Life often challenges us to consider what really matters and how we use what God has given us. This Sunday's readings invite us to reflect on faithfulness, justice, and wise stewardship.

Key Thought: *Faithful with what God entrusts to us*

- **First Reading (Amos 8:4–7):** God warns against exploiting others for personal gain and calls us to act justly and fairly.
- **Psalm (113):** God raises the lowly and fills the hungry—His justice and care are for all.
- **Second Reading (1 Timothy 2:1–8):** We are called to pray for everyone, showing God's love in action through intercession and care.
- **Gospel (Luke 16:1–13):** Jesus challenges us to be wise and faithful stewards, using our resources for what truly matters and serving God above all.

Take-Home Challenge:

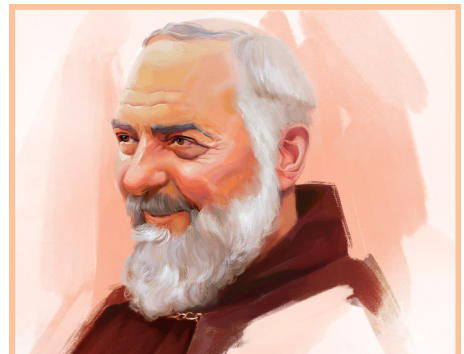
This week, reflect on the gifts—time, money, talents—that God has given you. How can you use them to serve others and God faithfully, rather than seeking only personal gain?

Source: chatgpt.com

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

September 2025

- Monday 22: Ezra 1:1-6. Lk 8:16-18.
R. The Lord has done marvels for us.
- Tuesday 23: Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20.
R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest
- Wednesday 24: Ezra 9:5-9. Lk 9:1-6.
R. Blessed be God who lives for ever.
- Thursday 25: Haggai 1:1-8. Lk 9:7-9.
R. The Lord takes delight in his people.
- Friday 26: Haggai 1:15-2:9. Lk 9:18-22.
R. Hope in God, I will praise him, my saviour and my God.
Sts Cosmas and Damian, martyrs
- Saturday 27: Zech 2:5-9. Lk 9:43-45.
R. The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.
St Vincent de Paul, priest



***"Pray, hope and don't worry.
Worry is useless.
God is merciful and will hear
your prayer."***

~Saint Padre Pio

Source: Ordo 2025



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for September 2025:

For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

FEELING LONELY? WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Why not join our parish volunteers! There are so many wonderful ways to get involved:

- Join the **choir** or play the **piano**
- Help at the **working bee**
- Become a **reader**
- **Help with morning tea after Mass**
- **Volunteer in the parish office**
- **Help the fete team**
- Support the **sacramental team**
- Be a **scripture teacher** (training provided)
- Assist with the **youth group and much more!**

Not only will you make a real difference in our parish community, but you'll also make new friends who are welcoming, supportive, and kind.

Come and be part of something life-giving!
Contact Paula at the parish office.

PARISH WORKING BEE

Saturday, September 27 10.15am to 12pm

We need your help to keep our parish grounds looking beautiful. Please come along and lend a hand—bring your rakes, gloves, and plenty of energy!

This is a wonderful way to serve our parish community and spend time together in friendship. Every bit of help makes a big difference.

Sign up sheet at both entrances. Save the date!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting was held last Tuesday night. An update for the noticeboard will be displayed as soon as possible.

HEALING MASS

The First Thursday of each month

With prayers for healing and, at times, Anointing of the Sick or special blessings.

NEXT DATE: Thursday, October 2 9.30am Mass

VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

MARIO LETTERI & GUIDO SCOTTI

This week we celebrate Mario Letteri and Guido Scotti as our Volunteers of the Week. Every week, they generously dedicate their time to the parish, especially helping with the counting and recording of our collections. Their reliability, care, and attention to detail ensure that this important task runs smoothly, supporting the parish community in practical and meaningful ways. We are truly grateful for their dedication and commitment!

FINDING JOY THROUGH THANKFULNESS

"The more you practice the art of thankfulness, the more you have to be thankful for."

~ Norman Vincent Peale ~

Being thankful means pausing to notice the good things around you. Even small moments, like spending time with family, listening to a song you love, taking a walk along the beach, pottering in the garden or watching a beautiful sunrise or sunset, can bring gratitude and joy.

It's easy to forget these moments when life gets busy, but making a habit of stopping and saying "thank you" for the good things can change how we feel inside. Thankfulness helps us focus on what we already have, reminding us that even ordinary days can hold small wonders.

Try thinking of three things you are thankful for each morning or night. You could write them down or share them with someone. Over time, these small moments of gratitude can help you feel happier and stronger each day.

~ A THANKFUL HEART IS A HAPPY HEART ~

Source: majellan.media

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!

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.

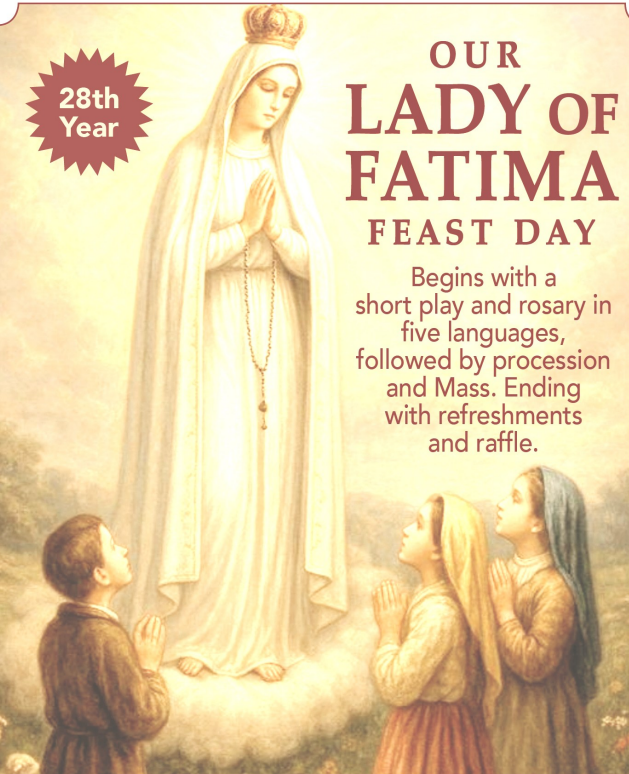
We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Vincent Bacha, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.

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

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

CHILDREN'S MASS

Next children's mass is on Sunday October 5th 10.30am followed by morning tea.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

Visit Our Piety Shop

Discover religious gifts for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, as well as rosaries, prayer cards, medals, Bibles, missals,

ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

There will be no workshop during the school holidays in October but please come and support our Maker's Table stall at the Campion College Festival on October 18th (10am-3pm)!!

Our next workshop will be Wednesday, Nov 5th. themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

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

CATECHISTS' NEWS

The Spirituality of the Catechist by Michael Tebbutt continues, **"Openness to the Church."** As catechists, we are the face of Jesus for the children and the face of our local parish community, the Church. We are not going to invite them into a God and me relationship. No, we are presenting something much larger than ourselves. We are representing our parish community.

The Term is quickly coming to an end. Final day of Term 3 is Friday 26th September.

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 Millennium" continues on Friday 19th Sep 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic this week is "The New Testament: Jesus the New Covenant"
- Training during the Sep/Oct school holidays for all fully authorised Catechists – the topic will be 'Ongoing Safeguarding Training' via Zoom and face-to-face. Various dates have been provided, please contact me if interested.
- 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



JUBILEE OF CATECHISTS

26th to 28th September

The Church will celebrate the Jubilee of Catechists, a part of the Holy Jubilee 2025.

Catechists play an important role within the life of the Church, but its one that can sometimes be hidden away. Through the work of The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Broken Bay, catechists are sent into public schools to provide Catholic Special Religious Education to young people.

We pray for all our catechists and teachers, who help instruct people in the faith and bring them into a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

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.

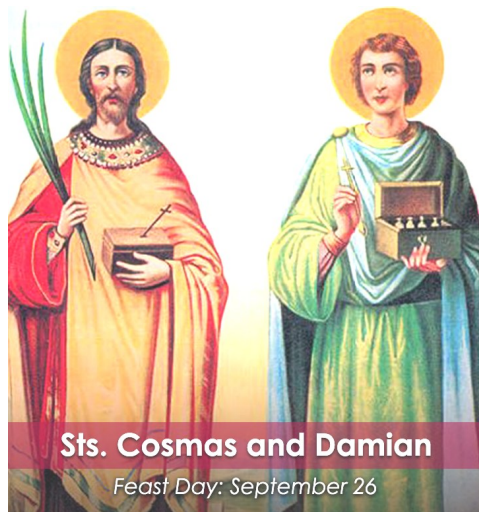
Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!

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

Saints Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs

Feast Day: September 26

c. 287 or 303

**Patron Saints of apothecaries, barbers, blind people, chemical industry, druggists, midwives, physicians, pharmacists, surgeons
Invoked against blindness, kidney stones, hernias, and pestilence**

Today, the Church honors Saints Cosmas and Damian—twin brothers, physicians, and martyrs who have been widely venerated in the East and West since the time of their deaths. Legends relate the life stories of the brothers who might have been born in Cyrrhus, modern-day Syria, and later moved to Cilicia, modern-day Turkey, in the mid- to late-third century. Raised in the faith, they learned the science of healing and became physicians.

Rather than charging for their services, the brothers decided to evangelize their largely pagan community by offering healing for free. Their charitable work drew many to the faith and earned them the title “Anargyroi,” meaning “without silver.” Legends say that they were excellent physicians who healed many, perhaps more through their prayer than by science. One legend holds that they were the first to transplant a leg to an amputee, an event often depicted in art.

In 303, Roman Emperor Diocletian issued a series of edicts that led to an empire-wide persecution and the deaths of many Christians. Around 287 or 303 (records conflict, the Roman Prefect Lysias of Cilicia arrested Cosmas and Damian. Christians of prominence were often the first to be targeted.

The brothers were given the opportunity to publicly renounce their faith and honor the Roman gods to save their lives. They refused and were sentenced to death. Various legends report that during torture, they were miraculously preserved from suffering and injury. Attempts to kill them by drowning, fire, arrows, and stoning all failed. Finally, Cosmas and Damian, along with three of their brothers, were beheaded.

Cosmas and Damian were possibly buried in Cyrrhus, their likely birthplace. From then on, they have been widely venerated, with many miraculous healings attributed to their intercession. Soon after their martyrdom, churches were built in their honor in Jerusalem, Egypt, and Mesopotamia.

In the sixth century, Emperor Justinian I honored these saints by restoring the city of their burial. Shortly after, the emperor received a miraculous cure through their intercession. In gratitude, he brought their relics to Constantinople where he built a church in their honor that became a popular pilgrimage site. There, a custom began for the faithful to remain all night at their tomb in prayer, seeking miraculous cures to their ailments. Many miracles have been reported over the centuries.

Also in the sixth century, Pope Symmachus inserted the names of Cosmas and Damian into the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) and Pope Felix IV repurposed a fourth-century pagan temple in Rome as the Basilica Santi Cosma e Damiano. Though it has gone through many renovations, the fifth-century mosaics depicting their story are among the most revered pieces of sacred art in Rome.

Saints Cosmas and Damian, touched by Christ, you shared your faith in Him through selfless and free service to all who needed your medical care. When persecuted, you remained strong in your faith, preferring death over sin. Please pray that I will follow your example of selfless service and will courageously witness to Christ, no matter the cost. I also entrust to you all who are ill and need your prayers. Saints Cosmas and Damian, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

A WARM WISH FOR

SISTER WENDY'S BELATED BIRTHDAY



FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER, ALL THE BEST!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS, DEDICATION AND ALL
THE WAYS YOU BRIGHTEN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.

Congratulations Father Eugene!



On your
27th year
Anniversary of Ordination

May God continue to bless you
abundantly in your ministry,
and may you experience His
joy and peace in the years
ahead!

27 SEPT 1997 TO 27 SEPT 2025

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

**27/9/2025—28/9/2025
26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	George A
Reader1	Natasha S	Teresa G	Fogarty Family
Reader2	Mary C	Nigel M	Fogarty Family
Prayers	Margaret B	Kath M	Sandra M
TV		Roderick R	Melanie H
Music		Rebecca R	Melanie H
Music		Keith W	Noelle T
Music		Pauline H	John T
Music		Theresa N	
Morning Tea		Mandah V	
FLOWERS	Tania T		



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

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

Confirmation will take place on
Thursday 23rd October

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.parish@bbcatholic.org.au

DID YOU KNOW...

All the liturgical vestments have a meaning. That's why the chasuble, which symbolises love, goes over the stole, which symbolises authority.
"Over all these, put on love."



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.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