

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



To give
to God
what belongs
to God
is to share
the goods of
the earth!

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend:

Saturday 7:00pm Vigil
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am

Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6:30pm Adoration
7:00pm Mass & Confession
(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 10:00am to 11:00am
Adoration & Confession
(Reconciliation)

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

21 & 22 OCTOBER 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.
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.**

REFLECTION - GIVING

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 22:15-21, Jesus says:

"Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God."

When questioned by the pharisees, Jesus chose the middle. Give God everything, but give Caesar what is due to him. We need to participate for the common good. Our participation becomes an act of Christian charity, which is a means of evangelisation. Personal responsibilities for our family, work and church. To the good for all society. The focus must always be the good of all. We need to pay tax for our country so we can help fund community services such as health care, education, roads and train lines, Australian Defence Force, welfare and disaster relief. This is giving.

- How have I exercised personal responsibility and participated in public life for the good of others?
- How have those experiences helped me grow?
- Do I give to God what belongs to God?
- Have I shown kindness, love and understanding to others?



PRAYER

Lord, I pray that I may always show honesty and truth in my dealings with others. May our lives be full of faith, hope, love and kindness to others. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:
It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.



The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Give the Lord glory and honour.



Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 (JB)

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

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-21 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he replied, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's,' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, October 22

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Psalm 96:1, 3-5, 7-10

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Matthew 22:15-21

Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. (Matthew 22:21)

In first-century Palestine, taxes were a painful reminder that God's people were living under the oppressive rule of a foreign power. So when the Pharisees "plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech" (Matthew 22:15), the hot-button topic of taxation seemed like a clever strategy. If Jesus supported paying taxes, he would come across as disloyal to the Jews. If he was opposed, he could be accused of rebelling against Rome.

Jesus' reply makes an important point for both first-century Jews and for us today: we can, and should, meet both our civic and religious obligations. What "belongs to Caesar" (Matthew 22:21)? In other words, what are our civic duties? According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "It is the duty of citizens to contribute . . . to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom" (2239). This includes a moral obligation "to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one's country" (2240).

What about our religious obligations? What exactly "belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21)? Our entire selves! Regardless of nationality or citizenship, we are all made in the image of the living God (Genesis 1:26-27). So while we pay our taxes and cast our vote to fulfill our political obligations, we give to God what belongs to him—and that involves the surrender of our entire lives.

Participating wholeheartedly at Mass is a wonderful way to offer to God what belongs to him. Today, as you set aside other activities to listen to the word of God and receive Jesus in the Eucharist, reflect on what he has given you. Then invite him to show you how to surrender to him even more—with your time, with your treasure, with your dreams, and with all the people you hold dear.

"Lord, I entrust my whole life to you."

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

OCTOBER

- Monday 23 Readings: Rom 4:20-25. Lk 12:13-21.
R: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; he has come to his people.
St John of Capistrano, priest
- Tuesday 24 Readings: Rom 5:12, 15, 17-21. Lk 12:35-38.
R: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.
St Anthony Claret, bishop
- Wednesday 25 Readings: Rom 6:12-18. Lk 12:39-48.
R: Our help is in the name of the Lord.
- Thursday 26 Readings: Rom 6:19-23. Lk 12:49-53.
R: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.
- Friday 27 Readings: Rom 7:18-25. Lk 12:54-59.
R: Teach me your laws, O Lord.
- Saturday 28 Readings: Eph 2:19-22. Lk 6:12-19.
R: Their message goes out through all the earth.
St Simon and Jude, apostles.



Remove from your lives the filth and uncleanness of vice. Your upright lives must make you the salt of the earth for yourselves and for the rest of humankind.

St John of Capistrano

FEAST DAY OCTOBER 23

Source: Ordo 2023

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2023

FOR THE SYNOD

WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH, THAT SHE MAY ADOPT LISTENING AND DIALOGUE AS A LIFESTYLE AT EVERY LEVEL, AND ALLOW HERSELF TO BE GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TOWARDS THE PERIPHERIES OF THE WORLD.



THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4 - To make peace with one's adversary before sundown.

PARISH FUNDS

Your support as always is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account here are the details:

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141

**Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund**

ST BENEDICT'S FETE 2024 HELP WANTED

We already have a few people volunteering to help out, we just need a few more please! We are hoping to hold a PARISH fete next year in **APRIL 2024**.

We are in need of volunteers and helpers. If anyone would like to join our team for the fete please contact Fr Shansana or the parish office as soon as possible.

THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CARE



CatholicCare would like to express our gratitude for supporting our Homelessness Week fundraiser in August. Our parish and school communities raised over \$90,000 which will allow us to continue supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese.

We provide a women's refuge, transitional accommodation options, young parent's homelessness services and street sleeping outreach supports. We also operate Dom's Place in Hornsby and Mary Mac's in Woy Woy where people who are homeless or transient can connect with others over a meal and access pathways to homelessness support services and health assistance.

Without your generosity CatholicCare would need to turn many people away. Thank you again.

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 **Gina Volpato (John's mum), Brother Mario & Brother Terry, Jenny Taylor and baby Hugo.**

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially **Koana Zouein, Charlie Camilleri and John Hourigan. May they rest in Peace.**

ROOF UPDATE

The roof replacement has commenced and is looking beautiful. We apologise for the inconvenience for the next 4 to 6 weeks. **Please ensure children or anyone to stay away from the scaffolding for safety reasons.**



THANK YOU!



A BIG thank you to the EATON FAMILY for donating a KARCHER pressure cleaner with a hose reel as well. Wow we were not expecting such a generous donation! God bless your family!

JOE GATT, our caretaker has already started using the pressure cleaner while the scaffold is up to clean the brick walls near the roof. Thank you Joe, you are always putting 100% hard work in all you do for our beautiful parish!



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

ANGELA SCOTTI

Thank you Angela for your previous help and hard work on the Fatima committee. Also for your beautiful flowers you set up on the roster. You are always there when we need you for anything from food to donations and anything that needs to be done. God bless you in all you do for our parish.



Who would you like to nominate for next week? Please let us know so we can acknowledge their kindness.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Online Information Session for 2024

Monday 30 October
at 7.30pm (AEDT)

Register via our website:
ctc.edu.au/information-session

For more information contact:
Dr Maureen Saclot
ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/

URGENT PRAYER FOR ISRAEL & PALESTINE

God of compassion,
We turn to you with heavy hearts
As we consider the needs of your family.
Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people,
Each of us loved by You
And called to live in peace and justice.
We lament the dreadful loss of life,
Destruction of property and loss of human dignity.
We are pained by so much suffering.
We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place.
Help your people find a way forward.
Enable everyone to look each other in the eye,
And embrace each other as sisters and brothers,
As they find your image in every face.
We ask that courage and grace
Will help create a wiser and more gentle future,
Where everyone has a home.
God of wisdom, come to our aid.
Amen.



By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia



CCC PRAYER GROUP

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

Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!
For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CATECHISTS' NEWS

A big thanks to **Martina Jutriza** for offering to teach at Glenorie Public School! Martina had previously been a casual Catechist but has now accepted to become a full-time Catechist. Thanks Martina and thanks to **Rose Granata**, who had been filling in!

Current training available for all Catechists who have completed the induction training – 'Level 2 Certificate – The Church in the 3rd Millennium' – Fridays 10am – 12:15pm via Zoom. This week's session - Friday 27th October, the topic will be 'The History of Liturgy'. To register email registrations@bbcatholic.org.au, or for further information please contact me.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a Catechist (Scripture teacher) or helper please feel free to talk to me, or Paula in the parish office or our priests, or any parish Catechist.

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



GCEA

GALSTON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The next committee and AGM will be held on
23rd October 2023 - 7.30pm
Galston Seventh Day Adventist church

FINDING YOURSELF

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Mahatma Gandhi

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'

Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.

You can donate online: www.caritas.org.au/gaza
or phone 1800 024 413

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm.
Everyone welcome.

For more details call
Angela Egiziano Ph: 9653 2312.





SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST ANTHONY MARY CLARET, BISHOP

Feast Day: October 24

C. 1807 - 1870

Patron Saint of the Catholic press, textile merchants, and weavers

Anthony Adjutor John Claret y Clara was born in the small town of Sallent, in the Province of Barcelona, Spain. Sallent was primarily an agricultural and textile-based town, where life centered around the local Catholic church. His parents were devout Catholics who raised their children well in the faith. Anthony was the fifth of eleven children, but only five survived to adulthood. His father ran a factory that manufactured thread and cloth, and provided a sufficient income for his family.

As a child, Anthony developed a compassionate heart. He relates in his autobiography that when he was only five, he would often lie down at night and try to ponder eternity. He would then consider those who are miserable in this life and whether they would suffer for eternity. This thought filled him with holy sorrow and a desire to help as many people as possible avoid such a fate.

At the age of six, Anthony was sent to the local school where he excelled in his education. He memorized the entire catechism, even though he didn't fully understand what it meant. As he matured, he notes that he had regular moments when a light went on, and he would understand a lesson. His parents were excellent teachers of the Catholic faith. Every day his father would read a spiritual book to his children and give them some edifying lessons. Anthony took it all in and not only learned the lessons, but grew in virtue. As early as elementary school, Anthony made it known that he wanted to be a priest. He would often make a visit to the parish church in the evening and surrender himself to his Lord. He also grew in a deep devotion to our Blessed Mother from an early age, praying the rosary every day.

During his teenage years, in addition to attending school, Anthony regularly worked in his father's factory, learning the trade of manufacturing well. He was even put in charge of overseeing all of the workers. At the age of eighteen, his father agreed to send Anthony to Barcelona where he studied manufacturing techniques, design, Castilian, and French grammar. Anthony excelled so greatly that some local businessmen wanted Anthony and his father to start a new factory in Barcelona. Of this time, Anthony later wrote, "My ceaseless preoccupation with machines, looms, and creations had so obsessed me that I could think of nothing else." However, he declined the offer to start a new business because he knew something else awaited him.

After four years in Barcelona, Anthony finally realized he needed to leave and pursue his vocation. He wanted to become a Carthusian and live as a hermit. Eventually, his spiritual director convinced him to study philosophy in the diocesan seminary in Vich, about twenty-five miles from his family home. As a seminarian, he was able to shed his obsession for manufacturing that had plagued him for the previous four years. Once purified and able to refocus on his prayer life, he realized that the diocesan priesthood was God's will, not the Carthusians. He completed his studies there and was ordained a priest on June 13, 1835. His first assignment was in his hometown where he spent the next four years while he continued his theological studies.

In 1839, Father Anthony felt God calling him to become a foreign missionary, so he traveled to Rome to apply for missionary work from the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith. After arriving in Rome, he spent some time on retreat with the Jesuits, and his retreat master encouraged him to join their order so that he could work as a missionary with them. He agreed. After a few months, things were going very well. However, one day he had a mysterious pain in his leg. The Jesuit superiors saw it as a sign from God that God wanted him to do something other than become a Jesuit. After consultation, the saintly Superior General stated, "It is God's will that you go quickly, quickly to Spain. Have no fear. Courage!" That is exactly what Father Anthony did.

Back in Spain, he was assigned to a parish in Viladrau where he soon preached a mission. It was such a success that he preached one in a neighboring village. Each mission he preached was more effective than the previous one, and many people were converting. Additionally, God started performing many miracles through him. He healed many who were sick and cast out many demons. His fame grew far and wide. He heard many confessions, spread devotion to our Blessed Mother, celebrated the Eucharist, and preached the Word of God with great zeal. After eight months in Viladrau, the bishop relieved him of his parish duties, and Father Anthony moved to Vich as a base from which he began traveling from parish to parish giving missions. He was granted the title of "Apostolic Missionary" by the Vatican, granting him faculties to preach in any diocese. His only goals were to glorify God and save souls. From 1843 to 1848, Father Anthony continually walked across Catalonia, preaching, living in poverty, and converting many sinners. During this time, he also wrote pamphlets, prayers, devotions, and other catechetical materials, which he distributed everywhere he went. In 1848, he founded a publishing house which, over the next two decades, distributed millions of books, booklets, and leaflets. Shortly after, he was sent to the Canary Islands where he preached for fifteen months, having the same powerful effect.

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For some time, Father Anthony had been prayerfully considering the idea of founding a religious congregation dedicated to the preaching of missions. After returning to Vich in 1849, he founded the Congregation of Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, later known as the Claretian Missionaries, or Claretians. The goal of this new congregation was to train priests specifically for the purpose of preaching missions, evangelizing, and saving souls. However, very shortly after he founded the congregation, he was appointed as Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba. It was then that he added "Mary" to his name: Archbishop Anthony Mary Adjutor John Claret y Clara. After his episcopal ordination, he arrived in Cuba in February, 1851, and spent the next six years reforming the clergy, creating new parishes, making pastoral visits on foot to every parish three different times, and renewing the faith of the people in powerful ways. He co-founded the Religious of Mary Immaculate Claretian Missionary Sisters; preached against slavery; established schools, hospitals, and credit unions for the poor; continued to write; and won many sinners back to God.

To Bishop Claret's surprise, Queen Isabel II called him back to Spain to serve as her personal confessor and spiritual director in 1857, so he moved to Madrid. For the next ten years, he accompanied the Queen on her travels, always preaching missions in the towns they visited. He diligently continued to write and publish, and grew even deeper in his prayer. In 1868, due to a revolution in Spain, the queen and her court, including Bishop Claret, had to flee to France for safety. Shortly after, he attended Vatican I where he strongly advocated for papal infallibility. He then returned to France and took refuge in the Cistercian monastery of Fontfroide, near Narbonne, where he spent the final months of his life.

Saint Anthony Mary Claret was a man who continually sought to glorify God and save souls. At the heart of his life was prayer. His prayer drew him into deep union with God, and that union produced an abundance of good fruit. As we honor this saintly priest, missionary, mystic, miracle worker, bishop, writer, confessor, and founder, consider these words from his autobiography, "...whenever I see sinners, I grow restless, I cannot quiet down, I cannot be consoled, my heart goes out to them." Saint Anthony's heart burned with a profound love of every sinner, and he dedicated his life to their salvation. Ponder your own attitude toward sinners, especially those who have sinned against you, and seek to imitate Saint Anthony's example.

Saint Anthony Mary Claret, God set your heart on fire with a love for Him so deep that it overflowed into the hearts of every sinner you encountered. Please pray for me, that I will grow deeper in my love of God, and from that love will love others whom I encounter every day. Saint Anthony, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.

Source: mycatholic.life

"LOVE ONE ANOTHER"

"Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them and they bless you, the giver." Barbara De Angelis

In a world often divided, let's unite through the power of love. Embrace one another with compassion, empathy and understanding. Love transcends boundaries, heals wounds and uplifts souls. It's a beacon of hope that can light up even the darkest of times. Together, we can create a brighter, more harmonious future. Let love be our guiding principle, for in loving one another, we discover the true essence of humanity. With open hearts and outstretched hands, let's build a world where love knows no bounds and the beauty of our shared humanity shines through, inspiring us all to be better.

***Dear God,
help us to love and be kind to everyone.
Let us understand and care for others,
even when we are at odds with one another.
May our actions show our love and bring people together in peace.
Amen.***

Source: Majellan.media

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

Stella Maris Seafarers, a Catholic organisation helping seafarers, would appreciate any donations of second hand men's clothing, Puzzles (with all pieces) etc. as well as any personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste etc. Please leave the items in the meeting room near the kitchen and they will be picked up weekly and taken to Sr Mary Leahy and I can tell you she will be most excited.

Many Thanks for your kind Generosity.

Sr Mary boards every ship that pulls into Botany Bay and checks on the welfare of the sailors, she is also a trained nurse and if she sees sick, injured or suspects abuse she reports it.

Cathy Holling 0403 062 255

Please join us for morning tea after the 9am Mass


NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

28/10/2023 to 29/10/2023

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

PLEASE COLLECT NEW ROSTER FROM SACRISTY

Parish Roster

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	
Reader1	Kathryn S	Lorraine D	Gebran A
Reader2	Miriam B	Teresa G	Michael E
Prayers	Maria G	Judy H	Lorna B
TV		Mary A	Joshua A
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Keith W
Music		John T	Martina J
Music			
Morning Tea		Lila B	
 FLOWERS	Angela S		

Thank You!

Thank you to all our volunteers, we really appreciate it!
If anyone would like to join our parish roster please contact the parish.

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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Parish Priest: Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB
Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com
After hours: 0437 884 233

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: [stbenedictsarcadia](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictsarcadia)

MONASTERY: 9653 1159



BANK DETAILS for ONLINE only donations:
BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.