St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Matthew 21:43 NIV

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend:

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

Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6:30pm Adoration 7:00pm Mass & Confession (Reconciliation) Saturdays NO ADORATION Saturday 14th October

Vigil

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays7:00amDaily7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

BAPTISMS RECONCILIATION FOR THE SICK MARRIAGES FUNERALS

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

7 & 8 OCTOBER 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 - THE GIFT OF GOD

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 21:33-43: "I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit."

Jesus reminds us that the kingdom does not belong to us – it is a gift of God. I consider what it is that I think I own and consider how it is that all good comes from God's hands. So I give thanks.

- Which one is better rejection or self- surrender?
- What ways do I need to partake in the kingdom of God?
- Have I come to know Christ as my Lord and Saviour, or have I rejected Him like the Jewish leadership did ?



PRAYER

Lord, help me to study Your Word and pray for guidance, seeking Your will for my life and living out that will as best as I can, moment by moment, day by day. **Amen**.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: *Isaiah 5:1-7 (JB)* A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A reading from the prophet Isalah The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend has a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

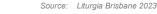
GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-43 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew *He leased his vineyard to other farmers.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

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





Whatever is true Whatever is right noble Whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy THINK OF SUCH THINGS Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me put into practice And the God of peace will be with you



YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION Sunday, October 8 Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:9, 12-16, 19-20 Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43

The kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit. (Matthew 21:43)

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable to some Jewish leaders about vinedressers who killed the servants sent by a landowner to collect the fruit of the harvest (Matthew 21:34-39). What is Jesus trying to say?

It would be easy to conclude that Jesus is rebuking these chief priests and elders for rejecting John the Baptist and himself. But he's doing more than foreshadowing his death by identifying himself with the murdered son of the vineyard owner (Matthew 21:37-42). He's not addressing only the Jewish leaders; he is speaking to us as well.

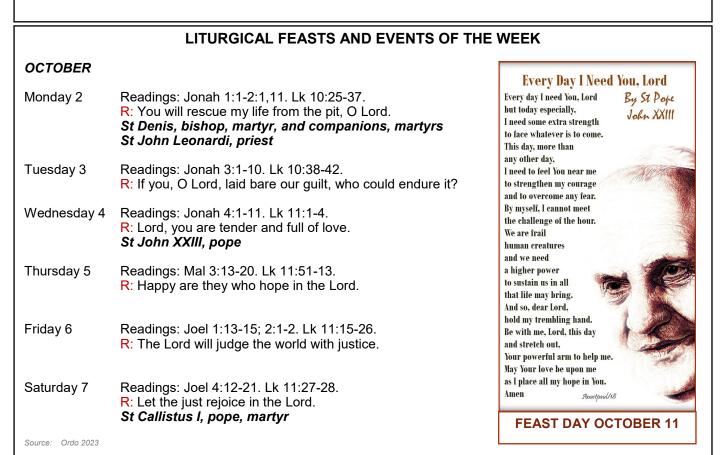
Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of God will be given to people who bear fruit. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, we hear the same message. John the Baptist exhorted Israel's religious leaders to "bear fruit in keeping with repentance" (Matthew 3:10). Jesus warned his disciples that "every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down" (7:19). And what's the good fruit he is looking for? Faith in him and love for his people.

Jesus told this parable the day after entering Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna" (Matthew 21:9). He cured all the sick who flocked to him there, and everyone was amazed—except these leaders. Instead of accepting him and rejoicing that God's people were healed, they questioned his authority (21:24). And in doing so, they bore no fruit.

But that doesn't have to be our story. We can be a fruitful vineyard for the Lord! He has already planted the seed of faith within us. Each day he pours out grace to make us "rich soil" that produces fruit, even one hundred fold (Matthew 13:8). So let's nurture our seed with faith-filled prayer and prune our vines with repentance and works of mercy. Let's bear the fruit of faith, hope, and love. Let's receive the kingdom!

"Jesus, help me to bear fruit for you today."

Source: Word Among Us India



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 keep constant guard over the actions of one's life.

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

REST IN PEACE

It is with a heavy heart we announce the passing of:



CHARLIE CAMILLERI



Funeral Details: St Benedict's Parish Church Saturday October 14th 10am

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

Our prayers and thoughts are with all the Camilleri families.

Charlie, you have done so much for our parish that words are not enough to express the gratitude we feel for you. A big heart like yours is not easy to find. Your generosity and kindness made you who you are.

We were so privileged to have met you and been in your life.

You may not be here anymore, but you will always be in our hearts. Rest in Peace Charlie.

ST BENEDICT'S FETE 2024 HELP WANTED

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.

ROOF REPAIRS

You probably have noticed we have scaffolding around the parish church. As we have been having guite a few water leaks the insurance has sent an assessor and the whole Church roof will be replaced. 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.

Any questions please contact Fr Shansana.





Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day

Here at St Benedict's, THIS Sunday 8th October 2023 at 12:30pm

Commences with a children's play and recital of the Rosary in 5 languages followed by a Procession, Holy Mass, and then afternoon tea and raffle.

Anyone wishing to make special petitions to Our Lady, there will be a "PETITION BOX" at the foot of the statue. The petitions will be taken to the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal. Plates for Afternoon Tea are welcome.

For further information: 0438 521 421

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, Koana Zouein (Rita Sarkis' mum), Jenny Taylor and baby Hugo.

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



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

NIGEL MORGAN

Thank you Nigel for helping out during Mass by being an acolyte, reader and singing. Also helping whenever we need it in previous years. God bless you in all you do.

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

NEW ROSTER

Next roster now available in the Sacristy. Please pick up your copy. Names are on them.

Roster also available on the parish website: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia/groups-andministries/rosters

PARISH NOTICE

PARISH OFFICE HOURS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The Parish office is closed on Mondays during school holidays:

9th October Fridays is open as usual.

For anything urgent please call Fr Shansana.

HIGH PRESSURE CLEANER NEEDED



If anyone would like to donate a good high pressure cleaner for our parish please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

PRAYER REQUEST

Prayers for the repose of Nick Facione. Nick's **30th Anniversary** of his death

NICK FACIONE



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

Our prayers and thoughts are with Helen Facione and family.

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.

ase let manual to guide you in presenting the lessons to the students. This is a wonderful opportunity to help grow your own faith!

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 training will resume on Friday 13th October, the topic will be 'The Natural World and Religion'. To register

CATECHISTS' NEWS

I hope all have had an enjoyable holiday break! Term 4 starts this week, Monday 9th October with SRE

A Catechist or helper is still needed at Glenorie PS on

Wednesdays 10:10am - 10:50am, if you are interested

or available, please contact me or the parish office.

You will be provided with free training and a Teacher's

(Scripture) classes resuming this week.

email registrations@bbcatholic.org.au, for further information please contact me.

God bless, Miriam Brown <u>srearcadia@gmail.com</u> Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



ANNIVERSARY OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

Father Alberic lacovone

11th October 1953 - 70 years

Congratulations and best wishes on the Anniversary of your Religious profession commitment.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

FATHER SHANSANA - 11th October 2007 - 16 years

Congratulations and best wishes on your Anniversary of Priesthood.

Your services to the Lord touches so many hearts and inspires so many lives. God bless you and may He keep you safe in the palm of His hand.

CATHOLIC MISSION

Please give generously to Catholic Mission collection this weekend to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelopes or go online:



Catholicmission.org.au/timor

Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome.







SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST DENIS, BISHOP AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Feast Day: October 9

C. Third Century

Patron Saint of France, Paris, and possessed people

Saint Denis, whose Latin name is Dionysius, was most likely a Roman citizen who was born within the Roman Empire, possibly modern-day Italy. Nothing certain is known about his early life, and the mixture of fact and legend about his later life and martyrdom comes from at least the sixth century. He is believed to have been martyred sometime in the middle- to late-third century. Some sources suggest that he was martyred during the reign of Emperor Decius, who ruled from 249 to 251 and initiated a widespread persecution of Christians. Others suggest that his martyrdom might have been during the reign of Valerian, who ruled from 253 to 260 and also persecuted Christians. Still others suggest a later date. Most historians, however, accept the likelihood of a martyrdom under Decius.

Pope Fabian served as pope from 236–250. As a layman and a farmer, hee was an unlikely candidate for the papacy. However, he traveled to Rome to attend the election of the new pope in 236, and during the debate a dove miraculously landed upon him, leading everyone present to believe it to be a divine sign. He was immediately chosen by popular consent.

During his pontificate, Pope Fabian was deeply committed to evangelization. The sixth-century historian, Gregory of Tours, writes that Pope Fabian sent out seven bishops to evangelize seven cities in modern-day France: Tours, Arles, Narbonne, Toulouse, Paris, Clermont, and Limoges. Bishop Denis was sent to Lutetia, modern-day Paris, and made bishop of that territory. He brought with him two companions: a priest named Rusticus and a deacon named Eleutherius. Upon arrival, they took up residence in the heart of Lutetia on an island in the Seine River.

On that island, Bishop Denis and his companions built a church and began to celebrate the Sacred Liturgy. They preached the Gospel to the inhabitants and won over many converts to the faith. Not all approved of their success. The pagan priests, or druids, became envious and began to revolt. The druids practiced a mixture of Celtic and Roman polytheistic religions that promoted the worship of various gods and goddesses in natural settings, such as forests, rivers, and hilltops. Rituals often involved offerings of food, drink, or valuable objects to appease the gods and to seek favors. As a result of the druids' envy, they stirred up the people who feared that if they did not put an end to this new religion, their gods and goddesses would be angered.

The uproar led to the arrest and imprisonment of Bishop Denis, the priest Rusticus, and the deacon Eleutherius. While in prison, the men suffered many tortures in an attempt to get them to renounce their faith, but they remained strong. Finally, all three were beheaded on the highest hill in Lutetia, which would have been a druid holy place. Gregory of Tours writes it this way, "Blessed Dionysius, the bishop of the Parisians, after suffering various punishments for the name of Christ, ended his present life by the imminent sword."

Saint Denis and his companions were early clerics, missionaries, and martyrs. Though they had a powerful effect upon the people of their time, their more profound effect came afterwards as faithful Christians were inspired by their witness and enthralled by their stories. Regardless of whether some details of their martyrdom are more legend than fact, their stories are inspirational Though most historians deny the historicity of Saint Denis carrying his head, God is All-Powerful and could easily perform such a miracle. The greater miracle, however, is the witness they gave and the forgiveness this legend conveys.

As we honor Saint Denis and his companions, ponder the depth of your own faith and how willing you are to go, so as to embrace martyrdom rather than sin. Ponder, also, whether you are willing to forgive anyone and everyone who has sinned against you. These are the central messages of Saint Denis' legend. Allow those messages to penetrate your own soul.

Saint Denis and companions, you courageously traveled to an unknown land, to an unknown people, to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You did so with prayer and trust in God's divine guidance. God used you during your lives and continues to use you in your deaths. Please pray for me, that all that I am and all that I do will be done solely for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Saints Denis, Rusticus, and Eleutherius, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

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



This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at <u>catholicmission.org.au/timor</u>, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

OCTOBER IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

This month encourages all of us to think about our mental health and wellbeing, regardless of whether we may have a lived experience of mental illness or not.

At CatholicCare Broken Bay we offer face-to-face counselling sessions at our Artarmon, Brookvale, Tuggerah and Waitara based Family Centres as well as via telehealth. Counselling provides an opportunity to explore tricky life experiences or concerns in a safe and reflective environment. When feelings become overwhelming or confusing, counselling can be really helpful. We work with you, assisting you to face challenges and stressors, coming up with suggestions to tackle or resolve these challenges. We listen, talk through experiences and help you think about ways forward.

Sessions are \$60 per hour and a \$20 rate is available for concession card holders. We are also an accredited provider of NDIS supports.

Please reach out today – our door is open. Call 1800 324 924 or visit www.feelingblue.com.au

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind". This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

These profound words, spoken by Jesus, encapsulate the essence of our faith and the very core of our humanity.

When we love God with all our being, we recognise the divine spark within each of us, regardless of our abilities or disabilities. It's in this sacred love that we find the strength and compassion to fulfill the second commandment, to love our neighbours as ourselves.

In the journeys of individuals with disabilities, we witness a powerful testament to this love. Their unwavering faith, resilience, and the beauty of their unique perspectives inspire us to live out these commandments daily. They teach us the true meaning of empathy and inclusion, challenging us to build a world where everyone, regardless of their abilities, is embraced and valued.

As we reflect on these commandments, let us offer a prayer for people with disabilities.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the boundless love and strength you bestow upon us.

We pray for your guidance in embodying the love we have for you by extending it to our neighbours, especially those with disabilities. May our hearts be open, our actions compassionate, and our communities inclusive. Bless those facing unique challenges with the support and understanding they deserve. Let us work together to create a world where love, acceptance, and unity prevail. Amen.

Please join us for morning tea after the 9am Mass

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER 14/10/2023 to 15/10/2023

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

PLEASE COLLECT NEW ROSTER FROM SACRISTY

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul E	
Reader1	Miriam B	Judy H	Matt W
Reader2	Kathryn S	Nigel M	Melanie H
Prayers	Sr Carol T	Kath M	Fogarty Family
TV		Jules O	Xavier F
Music		Melanie H	Mark Q
Music		Theresa N	Adam F
Music		Pauline H	
Music		Teresa G	
Morning Tea		Rosie S	
FLOWERS	Mona M		

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.

Website:

www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

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	Facebook: stbenedictsarc		a
Parish Office: Email:	, 02 9653 2312 arcadia.parish@bigpond.com	MONASTERY:	9653 1159	Like us on Facebook
Parish Priest: Email: After hours:	Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com 0437 884 233	BANK DETAILS for ONLINE only donations: BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141 Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank: CBA—Catholic Development Fund		
Address: Postal address:	2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159	For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact: <i>Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.</i>		