# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia





# **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



# TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 4 & 5 OCTOBER 2025

# **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.

### **OPENING 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.

# **SELF-REFLECTION: SIMPLE FAITH**

This Sunday's Gospel, in Luke 17:5–10, the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith, and He reminds them that even faith as small as a mustard seed has great power. He also teaches that discipleship means humble service, doing God's will without expecting reward.

#### Self-reflection:

Do I sometimes wait for recognition for my service, or can I offer it freely to God?

- Am I willing to trust that even my small acts of faith can make a big difference?
- How can I help my small faith grow stronger?
- Do I serve God with love in my daily tasks?



Lord Jesus, give me faith even as small as a mustard seed, and help it grow strong in my heart. Teach me to serve with humility and love, not seeking recognition, but trusting that You see all things. Amen.

# TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Habakkuk *The just will live by faithfulness.* 

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help while you will not listen; to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear and you will not save? Why do you set injustice before me, why do you look on where there is tyranny? Outrage and violence, this is all I see, all is contention, and discord flourishes. Then the Lord answered and said, 'Write the vision down, inscribe it on tablets to be easily read, since this vision is for its own time only: eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive; if it comes slowly, wait, for come it will, without fail. See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights, but the upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!



God's gift: the Spirit of power, love and self-control.

**Second Reading:** 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 (JB)
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy
Never be ashamed of witnessing the Lord.

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel Acclamation**

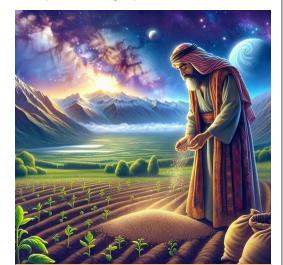
Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

# GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke *If you had faith!* 

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it would obey you.

"Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately?" Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper



Even the smallest faith has the power to move hearts and draw us closer to God.

laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."

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

# **GOSPEL REFLECTION**

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings invite us to reflect on **faith, perseverance, and God's faithful love**. In the **first reading**, we are reminded to trust in God's plan, even when the task seems beyond our strength. The **Responsorial Psalm** praises God's perfect ways and unfailing care. The **second reading** encourages us to persevere in hope and live in love, bearing witness to God through our actions.

In the **Gospel** (Luke 17:5-10), the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith, and He teaches them that even faith as small as a mustard seed can accomplish great things. True discipleship means humble service—doing God's will faithfully without seeking reward.

Faith is not measured by grandeur or visibility; it grows quietly in our daily lives. Each small act of trust, patience, and kindness is a seed that can bring God's love to others, building His kingdom one step at a time. We are called to recognise and embrace these moments, trusting that God multiplies even the tiniest offerings of our hearts.

**Key Thought:** Even small faith, lived with love and humility, has great power.

**Take-Home Challenge:** This week, focus on one small act of faith or kindness, trusting that God can multiply it in ways you may never see.

#### Praver:

Lord, help my faith grow, even when it feels small. Teach me to serve with love and humility, trusting that every act of goodness brings Your kingdom closer. Amen.

Source: chatgpt.com

# **WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS**

#### October 2025

Monday 6: Jonah 1:1—2:1, 11. Lk 10:25-37.

R. You will rescue my life from the pit, O Lord.

St Bruno, priest

Tuesday 7: Jonah 3:1-10. Lk 10:38-42.

R. If you, O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who could endure it.

**Our Lady of the Rosary** 

Wednesday 8: Jonah 4:1-11. Lk 11:1-4.

R. Lord, you are tender and full of love.

Thursday 9: Mal 3:13-20. Lk 11:5-13.

R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

St Denis, bishop, martyr, and companions, martyrs.

St John Leonardi, priest.

Friday 10: Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2. Lk 11:15-26.

R. The Lord will judge the world with justice.

Saturday 11: Joel 4:12-21. Lk 11:27-28.

R. Let the just rejoice in the Lord.

St John XXIII, pope



Glorious St. John Leonardi, faithful servant of God, guide me in living a life of prayer, humility, and dedication. Help me grow in faith and share God's love with others. 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.

# LONELY? YOU'RE NOT ALONE COME AND 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
- Join the Prayer Group
- Join the Makers Table
- Join the Craft Group
- Support the Sacramental Team
- Be a **Scripture Teacher** (training provided)
- Work at the Piety shop.
- 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 9653 2312.

# 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**

The healing Mass will be this Thursday, October 9 9.30am Mass

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

# **VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK!**

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

# **WORKING BEE VOLUNTEERS**

A Heartfelt Thank You!

Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time and energy to help our parish at the recent Working Bee. Your dedication and hard work make our parish a welcoming and beautiful place for everyone. We truly appreciate your generosity and spirit of service!



Jubilee of Migrants & Julibee of the Missions  $4^{th}$  -  $5^{th}$  October

# THINKING ABOUT THE SACRAMENTS AS AN ADULT?

If you've been considering receiving the Sacraments whether Baptism, Reconciliation, or Holy Communion, as an adult or a more mature person, we warmly invite you to take the next step in your faith journey. A new Adult Sacramental Program will be starting soon. Please contact Fr Shansana or reach out to the Parish office for more information. We'd love to walk with you on this sacred path.

# **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.

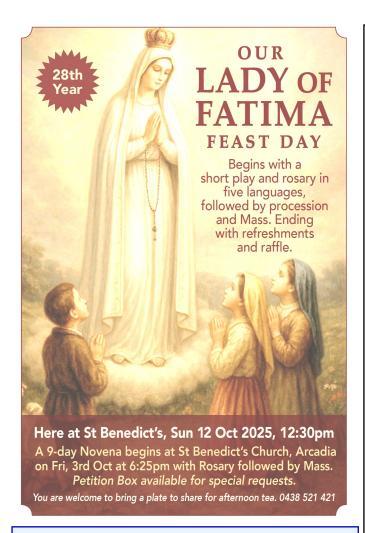
We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Vincent Bacha, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, and Father Alberic.

# 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.





# 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!

# **CATECHISTS' NEWS**

The Spirituality of the Catechist' by Michael Tebbutt continues Openness to the World. "Jesus used images of the world in his parables to challenge His listeners to think about what He was teaching. Jesus was open to the world. We too have to be open to the world, especially to the world of the child in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We need to use the culture of the child to enable them to grow in relationship with God just as Jesus used the culture of His audience to grow in relationship with the Father."

Wishing all Catechists and families and enjoyable and safe holiday. Term 4 returns on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

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

- Level 2 training for fully authorised Catechists on "The Church in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millenium" continues on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 10am -12:15pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Interfaith Dialogue and Ecumenism"
- 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 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.

# 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

# **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!



# **FEAST OF THE WEEK**

# Our Lady of the Rosary

Feast Day: October 7

In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the Albigensian heresy was flourishing in southern France. The Albigensians were Christian dualists who believed the Old Testament God was the source of the material world, which was evil, and the New Testament God was the source of the spiritual realm that was good. They rejected the sacraments and promoted extreme asceticism as a way of rejecting the material world.

In 1203, Saint Dominic was traveling through southern France on a diplomatic mission when he encountered this grave heresy. In the two decades to follow, he devoted himself wholeheartedly to rooting out this heresy through preaching and debates. Legend has it that at some point, frustrated with the difficulties he was facing in that mission, he retreated for a few days of prayer and fasting to beseech Our Lady for guidance. Our Lady appeared to him, giving him the Rosary, revealing the mysteries to be meditated upon during the fifteen decades, and exhorting him to preach the mysteries and to pray the decades as a spiritual weapon. The word "Rosary" comes from the Latin *rosarium*, which means "rose garden." Each Hail Mary is a spiritual rose; together, they make up the garden of roses. Saint Dominic did as Our Lady instructed him and became quite successful in converting the heretics.

Today's feast of Our Lady of the Rosary has its roots in a feast named Our Lady of Victory. In the late sixteenth century, the Muslims of the Ottoman Empire were expanding into southeastern Europe and the Mediterranean region. In 1571, Pope Pius V, who was a Dominican, formed an alliance between the Papal States, Spain, Venice, and several other smaller Christian states, called the Holy League, in order to stop Ottoman aggression. On October 7 of that year, the Holy League confronted the Ottoman navy in the Mediterranean, and the pope called upon all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory. Victory was achieved. In gratitude, Pope Pius V instituted the Feast of Our Lady of Victory to be celebrated on the first Sunday of October every year. Two years later, Pope Gregory XIII changed the name to the Feast of the Holy Rosary. In 1671, the feast was extended to all of Spain, and in 1716, after another important victory against the Muslims, the feast was extended to the entire Church. In 1913, Pius X changed the date from the first Sunday in October to October 7 to preserve the Sunday celebration. Today, this feast is celebrated under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary as a mandatory memorial on the Roman Calendar.

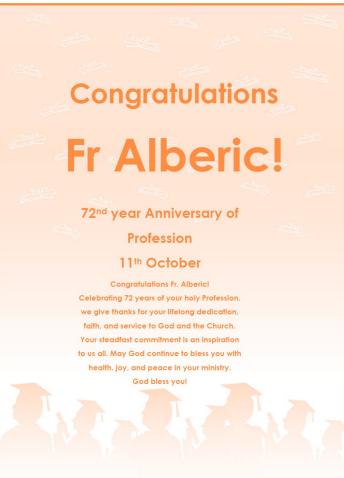
Though war is always gravely unfortunate and should be avoided if at all possible, defense of one's family and nation is a moral duty when an unjust aggressor attacks. In this case, prayer is the greatest weapon of war, and after the Mass, the Rosary is the greatest prayer to be prayed.

In addition to physical war to protect one's nation, the Rosary is among the greatest spiritual weapons to fight against every form of evil. Often, even during times of peace, spiritual chaos reigns. Today, due to instant worldwide communication technologies, we are well aware of the many spiritual evils that plague societies and peoples everywhere: wars, corruption, immoral living, flamboyant sins of the flesh, murders, thefts, crimes of hate, moral decay, poverty, and so much more. Rather than just criticizing and condemning such evils, praying the Rosary for those intentions is the best way to combat them.

Our Lady of the Rosary, you entrusted this holy prayer to Saint Dominic, and through him, to the world. You are always attentive to the prayers of the Rosary and never fail to pour forth God's grace in response. Please pray that I will more deeply comprehend the Rosary's power and will never fail in my duty to pray it every day. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life





11 OCTOBER 1953 ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY



\$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**

# 11/10/2025 to 12/10/2025 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	George A
Reader1	Mary C	Judy H	Mirko J
Reader2	Sr Carol T	Ann L	Leanne A
Prayers	Natasha S	Nigel M	Lorna B
TV		Teresa G	Jutrisa Family
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Theresa N	Sandra M
Music		Pauline H	Adam F
Music			Martina J
Morning Tea		Mary A	
FLOWERS	OUR LADY OF FATIMA		



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 Readings6.30am Morning prayer - Lauds12.45pm 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...**

The Catholic Church is the world's largest charitable organisation, operating thousands of hospitals, schools, and aid programs globally.

# 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.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**