St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

Luke 16:31

Luke 16:31

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

27 & 28 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

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments.

But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

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: COMPASSION

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 16:19-31) reminds me to see those in need around me and not close my heart. True wealth is not in possessions but in love, mercy, and generosity.

I reflect:

- Do I notice the "Lazaruses" in my life, or do I walk past them?
- Do I treasure comfort and possessions more than generosity?
- Do I respond with kindness when I see someone in need?
- Do I let fear, pride, or busyness stop me from helping others?
- Do I live today in a way that reflects God's mercy and justice?

Lord, help me to see the needs of others around me. May I have compassion for the poor and the suffering, and not ignore their cries. Teach me to use the blessings You have given me to serve others, so that my heart reflects Your love and mercy. Amen.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: *Amos 6:1, 4-7 (JB)* A reading from the prophet Amos

You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled:

the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16 (JB)
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy
Obey the commandments until the coming of the Lord.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see:

to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

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 16:19-31 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

During your life good things came your way just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted while you are in agony.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham, "let them listen to them." "Ah, no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

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



KING OF KINGS



GOSPEL REFLECTION

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus shares the story of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man lived in luxury every day, dressed in fine clothes and feasting sumptuously, while Lazarus, a poor man covered with sores, lay at his gate, longing for even the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. What strikes us is not Lazarus' suffering alone, but the rich man's complete indifference to it. He saw Lazarus, yet his heart remained closed.

This parable reminds us that **wealth and comfort are not wrong in themselves**, but they become dangerous when they blind us to the suffering of others. God calls each of us to recognise His presence in the poor, the lonely, the marginalised, and the forgotten. True faith is measured not by what we have, but by how we use it to love others.

Key Thought: Love of God is inseparable from love of neighbour. If we close our eyes to those in need, we risk following the rich man's example—living for ourselves while ignoring the cries of those God has placed in our path.

Take-Home Challenge: This week, pause and ask: Who is the "Lazarus" at my gate? It could be a neighbour who is lonely, a colleague under stress, a friend in need of encouragement, or a stranger in need of basic help. Take one concrete action—bring a meal, offer your time, listen with compassion, or make a practical donation. Even small acts of mercy can transform lives, including our own. Let's strive to live our faith actively, not passively.

Lord, open my eyes to those in need and help me share Your love through acts of mercy. Amen.

Source: chatgpt.com

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL READINGS

September 2025

Monday 29: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14. Jn 1:47-51.

R. In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels

Tuesday 30: Zech 8:20-23. Lk 9:51-56.

R. God is with us.

St Jerome, priest, doctor

October 2025

Wednesday 1: Neh 2:1-8. Lk 9:57-62.

R. Let my tongue be silenced if I ever forget you! St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor

Thursday 2: Ex 23:20-23. Mt 18:1-5,10.

R. He has put his angels in charge of you, to guard you

in all your ways.

The Holy Guardian Angels

Friday 3: Baruch 1:15-22. Lk 10:13-16.

R. For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.

Saturday 4: Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29.

R. The Lord listens to the poor.

St Francis of Assisi



"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

~Saint Francis of Assisi

Source: Ordo 2025 image: Bible.art



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.

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 please
- Help the fete team
- 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.

THANK YOU PARISH WORKING BEE

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the working bee on Saturday at our parish grounds! Your time, energy, and dedication truly made a difference in keeping our parish beautiful and welcoming. We especially want to acknowledge our youth volunteers—your enthusiasm and hard work were inspiring and a wonderful example of community spirit. We are truly grateful for each and every one of you!

CHILDREN'S MASS



Next children's mass is on next Sunday October 5th 10.30am followed by morning tea and sweets!

HEALING MASS

The First Thursday of each month MOVED ONE WEEK FORWARD DUE TO FUNERAL With prayers for healing and, at times, Anointing of the Sick or special blessings.

NEXT DATE: Thursday, October 9 9.30am Mass

VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

ALL CATECHISTS

This week, our heartfelt thanks go to all the catechists in our parish! Your dedication, patience, and love in sharing the faith with our children and young people is truly inspiring. This weekend, as we celebrate the Jubilee of Hope for Catechists, we especially honour your commitment to guiding the next generation in their journey of faith. Your time, energy, and witness make a lasting difference in our parish community—thank you for all that you do!

A Prayer for Our Catechists:

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in Your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

We pray this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen. (From the Archdiocese of Canberra/Goulburn)

PIETY SHOP NEWS

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for your prayers, messages, and support for my son Vincent—thank God, he is doing really well and getting stronger and healthier.

A special thanks to **Jules and Tania** for helping in the piety shop while I was away, **Paula** for opening on Mondays and Fridays, **Rosie** on Saturday nights, **Mary Camilleri** on Wednesdays, **Nerida** on Sundays after the 4:30pm Mass, and **especially Mary Abood**, who generously took over the shop for the last five months and did a fantastic job. I also thank anyone else who has helped in the past.

I will be back in the next couple of weeks, and the piety shop is doing very well, loved by our parishioners. To help keep it open every week, I would like to set up a volunteer roster. If you can help for 15–30 minutes once a month—on Saturday after 7pm Mass or Sunday after 9am or 10:30am Mass—please let me or Paula know, leave your name and number in the piety shop, or email the parish office.

Thank you in advance for your support! **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:

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





WORLD REFUGEE AND MIGRATION DAY

Sunday 28th September 2025

This Sunday, we join the global Church in observing **World Refugee and Migrant Day**. It is a day to remember and pray for all people forced to leave their homes due to conflict, persecution, or hardship.

Let us open our hearts in compassion and solidarity, and reflect on ways we can welcome, support, and walk alongside those seeking safety and a new beginning.

May our parish be a place of **hospitality**, **hope**, **and care** for all who are displaced.

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. When we proclaim the Good news of Jesus, let us consider his openness to the world. Where was Jesus to be found throughout his ministry? In the countryside and in the towns, dining with religious leading and feeding thousands with five loaves of bread and two fish, walking along the Sea of Galilee and calling the fishermen to follow as well as calling a tax collector who worked in the town."

Term 3 ended this week. Wishing all Catechists and families and enjoyable and safe holiday. Term 4 returns on Monday 13thOctober.

A very big **thank you** to all Catechists and reserve Catechists who filled in or took on extra classes as needed this term also. It is greatly appreciated!

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 Millenium" continues on Friday 17th 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

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!



FEAST OF THE WEEK

The Holy Guardian Angels

Feast Day: October 2

Quote:

So the Supreme Majesty has given charge to the angels. Yes, He has given charge to His own angels. Think of it! To those sublime beings, who cling to Him so joyfully and intimately, to His very own He has given charge over you! Who are you? "What is man that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him?" As if man were not rottenness, and the son of man a worm! Now why, do you think, he Has given them charge over thee? — To guard thee! ~Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father" (Matthew 18:10). Jesus says these words just before He teaches the Parable of the Lost Sheep that shows His deep love for every person, for each of the "little ones." He seeks out the lost sheep and gives them their own guardian angels, whom we honor today, who always look upon God's face and whose sole task is to get us to Heaven.

Our belief in guardian angels is rooted in Scripture, the writings of the saints, and Church teaching. In the Psalms we read, "For he commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go. With their hands they shall support you, lest you strike your foot against a stone" (Psalm 91:11–12). Saint Jerome, writing Matthew 18:10, says, "The worth of souls is so great that from birth each one has an angel assigned to him for his protection." Saint Thomas Aquinas says, "Each man has an angel guardian appointed to him. This rests upon the fact that the guardianship of angels belongs to the execution of Divine providence concerning men" (Summa Theologiae 1.113.2). In a General Audience in August 1986, Pope Saint John Paul II taught, "God has entrusted to the angels a ministry in favor of people. Therefore the Church confesses her faith in the guardian angels, venerating them in the liturgy with an appropriate feast and recommending recourse to their protection by frequent prayer, as in the invocation "Angel of God." The Catechism quotes Saint Basil, "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life" (CCC #336).

Guardian angels are not just a comfort for fearful children; they are for all of us, and we ought not forget about our own. Angels are intercessors *and* mediators. God entrusts them with His divine power. They act in His name and on His behalf, to deliver His grace, reveal His Truth, direct us down the right path, and protect us from evil. Instead of distributing His grace Himself, God bestows his gifts on us through mediators who are instruments, cooperating with His divine plan.

Today's memorial became a universal feast in the latter part of the seventeenth century, when Pope Clement X placed it on the Roman Calendar. Pope Leo XIII elevated the feast, emphasizing its importance in the late nineteenth century. Near the same time, he composed the "Saint Michael the Archangel" prayer, mandating that it be prayed at the end of every Mass. The feast of the Archangels, on September 29, and the Memorial of the Guardian Angels emphasize that God uses archangels for specific purposes and guardian angels to care for each of our specific needs. The archangels and guardian angels are closest to humanity, acting as mediators between God and man. While Saint Thomas defined the guardian angels as the lowest of the choirs of angels, this only means that their direct concern is the care of humanity. They continually behold the Beatific Vision.

Saint Thomas Aquinas gives the most detail regarding the guardian angels' function (See *Summa Theologiae* 1.113). He teaches that every person receives an angel at birth, rather than at baptism. These angels are not recycled, but are assigned to one person alone. The guardian angels can put ideas before our minds to direct us toward God's will, but they cannot control our wills. By working upon our senses, they can cause us to feel what is right or wrong and urge us to make the right choices. They act contrary to the fallen angels, or demons, who tempt us through false reasoning and base sensate delights. Finally, in Heaven, the guardian angel's role of leading us to salvation will be complete. Saint Thomas believed that even then they will communicate with us and will continue to enlighten us with God's never-ending and deepening Truth.

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here; ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

Angels of God, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.



CATHOLIC CARE

LOOKING FOR MEANINGFUL WORK THAT CHANGES LIVES?

CatholicCare is the social care and support agency of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Broken Bay. Every day, we walk alongside children, young people, families and adults helping them live richer, more connected lives.

We're a team driven by compassion, guided by faith, and grounded in respect for every individual's unique story and culture. If you or someone you know is searching for a rewarding career with purpose, we'd love to hear from you.

You can explore current job opportunities by scanning the QR code or visiting www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/careers.

HEALING THROUGH TEARS

"Tears shed for another person are not a sign of weakness. They are a sign of a pure heart." ~ José N. Harris ~

Tears remind us that we are alive, connected, and compassionate. They are a gift from God—whether shed in joy, grief, or compassion—and show honesty, courage, and the ability to love. Letting them flow brings healing, clarity, and strength.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, when we cry, may we feel Your gentle presence. Let our tears remind us of Your love, our resilience, and our capacity to care deeply for others. Amen.

Source: majellan.media



Pregnancy & Infant Loss Remembrance Mass Wednesday 15.10.2025 6:30pm Whether the death of a child happened recently or many years ago, parents, grandparents, family and friends are invited to participate in a special

Mass of Remembrance, to honour the brief life of

the children who died too soon through

miscarriage, stillbirth and infant death.

Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood Parish 94 Archer Street Chatswood 2067

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

4/10/2025 to 5/10/2025 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	Paul E
Reader1	Margaret B	Gabrielle W	CHILDREN
Reader2	Mary C	Judy H	CHILDREN
Prayers	Sr Carol T	Matt W	CHILDREN
TV		Mary A	Azzi Family
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Theresa N	Sandra M
Music		Teresa G	Volunteer
Music		,	
Morning Tea		Sophie R	Robin B
FLOWERS	Hannah A		



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...

St. Peter's Basilica in Rome is so large that over 60,000 people can fit inside it at once!

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