

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



PARISH Masses

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 10am to 11am
Adoration & Confession
(Reconciliation)

MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Hilarion for the following:

BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS

Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

The ASCENSION of the LORD

Year C
28 & 29 May 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we, who believe that your Only Begotten Son, our Redeemer,
ascended this day to the heavens,
may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.



INTRODUCTION TO THE MASS ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of our Lord to the right hand of the Father. This feast reminds us that we do not belong to this world. We have a heavenly abode and this must be our destination. Hence, every Christian has to use all his or her energy to reach that destination. For the times we have lived as if we had belonged to this world neglecting God and others, let us ask God, our Father pardon and forgiveness. Let us also ask his blessings to live and reach our heavenly destination

(Source: Bible Alive UK pg. 57)

NOTE FROM FR HILARION

Dear friends,

My sincerest thanks for all your kind generosity during the past year, as I looked after your Parish. I will continue to be around and if you need any Spiritual assistance, please feel free to contact me.

God's choicest blessings to all!

Dom Hilarion OSB

First Reading**Acts 1:1-11 (JB)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.****Second Reading****Hebrews 9:24-28, 10:19-23 (JB)**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Christ has entered heaven.

It is not as though Christ has entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he had opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our mind sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL**Luke 24:46-53 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Ascension of the LORD

Luke 24:46-53

After promising his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit and commissioning them with the task of carrying the Gospel to the ends of the earth, Jesus ascended bodily into heaven. The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, hadn't yet been sent and so the disciples were consoled by angelic beings with the truth of his return to the earth in glory, majesty and power.

Today, on the Feast of the Ascension, we can celebrate the life Jesus has won for us. He is the Lord of life and has conquered sin, death and the tyranny of evil. He has secured for us an eternal and glorious inheritance in heaven, free from corruption, sin, death and suffering.

There are two kinds of perspective on life. One is horizontal, earthbound and dominated by the immediate and urgent. The second is vertical and heavenward, has an appreciation of our eternal destiny, is conscious of our heavenly pilgrimage and is imbued with a thirst for the spiritual and everlasting. Today we're encouraged to see life from a heavenly perspective.

The theologian Karl Rahner captured a wonderful insight into the joy and victory of the ascension: 'The Ascension is a festival of the future of the world. The flesh is redeemed and glorified for the Lord has risen forever. We Christians are, therefore, the most sublime materialists.' Our destiny is that on the last day our bodies will be raised from the dead and we shall share with Jesus the glory and radiance of the eternal and heavenly banquet.

Today don't be sad, depressed or overwhelmed with the many problems, concerns and anxieties which so often overtake us. Rather, turn to the Spirit and ask him to expand your vision so that you can glimpse the life we share with our Risen, ascended and glorified Lord.

Holy Spirit, deepen my faith in the resurrection of the body and heighten my understanding of the victory of the cross. Fill me with joy abounding and grace overflowing.

(Source: Bible Alive—UK pg. 57)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	May 31, 2022:	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Broken Bay: Patronal Feast, Mary star of the Sea.
Wednesday	June 1, 2022:	St Justin, martyr. St Gregory VII, pope. St Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, virgin.
Friday	June 3, 2022:	Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs.

Source: Ordo 2022

THE DAILY PRAYER OF SAINT BENEDICT

Heavenly FATHER,

grant me a mind to perceive You,
an intelligence to understand You,
a nature to delight in You,
a zeal to seek You,
a wisdom to find You,
a spirit to confess You,
a heart to love You,
deeds to glorify You,
an ear to listen to You,
eyes to see You,
a tongue to praise You,
a conversion that is pleasing to You,
a life that is quite perfect,
and the reward of Eternal Life.



THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4
To reverence the old.

PARISH FUNDS

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

PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK DETAILS

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:

BSB: 062 784

Acct: 100002141

Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:

CBA—Catholic Development Fund

MONTH OF MAY

Devotion to Mary, Our Mother

Let us try our best to recite daily Rosary as a family.

Mary will always be there for you, to take you to her son, Jesus!



Fr Hilarion.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Parishioners,

Bishop Anthony Randazzo has appointed

Fr. Shansana Samarasinghe

as Administrator of the Parish of Arcadia.

His appointment will begin on June 3rd 2022.

We rejoice at this appointment and pray that his leadership will sustain the life of our Parish .

Fr David Orr

Australian Community Survey
WEBINAR
What Australians really think about Jesus and the Church today
Thursday 9 June | 11am (AEST) or 7pm (AEST)
Dr Ruth Powell, Director, NCLS Research
Karl Faase, CEO Olive Tree Media
NCLS
OLIVETREE MEDIA

WEBINAR: WHAT AUSTRALIANS REALLY THINK ABOUT JESUS AND THE CHURCH TODAY

Join this free webinar to gain in-depth insights about the perspective of Australians on Jesus and the Christian Church.

Speakers are Dr Ruth Powell, Director of NCLS Research and guest speaker Karl Faase. Dr Ruth Powell will share latest results from the Australian Community Survey while Karl Faase will provide his reflections on the implications of these findings for ministry and mission.

Date : Thursday 9 June

Time: 11am (AEST) or 7pm (AEST)

[Online Registration](#)

SAVE THE DATE!!!

26 June 2pm

After being postponed for a year due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Pope Francis has asked dioceses around the world to celebrate the 10th World Meeting of Families locally, making it possible for every family to participate. While Rome will be the main venue for the event, each diocese will promote local events for its own families and communities based on the theme:

“Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness.

All families are invited to celebrate with:

Bishop Anthony Randazzo

Mass on Sunday 26 June 2022 at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara at 2pm.

This will be followed by food, formation, and fun games for kids. More details to come!

In Our Parish

We welcome into God's family, all who were recently baptised.

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially *Lyla Abood, Brother Mario, Leanne Miller (Leonie's daughter)*

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

Sid Kelly, Rosario Scavo, Lee Rubino, Sam Barbagallo,
Letizia Dominello...may they Rest in Peace.



NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

4/6/2022 to 5/6/2022

PENTECOST SUNDAY Year C

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte		Nigel Morgan
Reader1	Teresa Gambino	CHILDREN'S
Reader2	Maria Gambino	MASS
Prayers	Margaret Bensley	Children
TV		Sebastian Wall
Music		Melanie Hume
Music		Keith Wallace
Music		Michael Greenwell
Music		Robin Barbara
Morning Tea		Lila Basha

**CHILDREN'S MASS 9AM SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2022
PLEASE JOIN US FOR BARBECUE / MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2022/2023

Enrolments for the next Sacramental Program has now commenced. Please email the parish for a copy of the enrolment form arcadia.pariah@bigpond.com or pick up a copy from the sacristy.

You can also find the form online:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia/sacraments/confirmation>

1st HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

First Holy Communion last session is this week.

Practice session is on Monday 6th of June 6pm.

1st Holy Communion date:
Sunday 19th June 2022 10.30am

For more information contact Paula on 9653 2312.



CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every

Friday nights:

after 7pm Mass

Wednesday mornings:

after 9.30am Mass.

Everyone welcome. **Come and meet new people.**

For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.



CATECHIST NEWS

Pope Francis said that in the quest of making Jesus known to the world, "we must not be afraid because he precedes us in this task. He is already in the man of today, and there awaits us. He noted that at a certain point, when one of St. Francis' followers asked to be taught how to preach, the saint responded by saying: "Brother, when we visit the sick, help children and give to the poor, we are already preaching."

Free training to all Catechists continues this week. This week's session on Monday 30th May 10am – 12:30pm will be Listening and Questioning via Zoom. The next session will be held face-to-face at Pennant Hills on Monday 20th June 9:30am – 2:30pm 'Encompassing Music, Stories and Drama in the Classroom'. RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au

Our next Catechist meeting is this week, **Wednesday 1st June at 12:30pm**. All are welcome.

Please keep in your prayers all our Catechists and the children they teach.

God bless,

Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

TRIVIA NIGHT

The GCEA Executive would love to invite you all to the **GCEA Fundraiser Trivia Night**. It's a wonderful opportunity to support the work being done in Galston High School to support the scripture teacher and have a fun night to boot.

Here are the important details:

What: GCEA Fundraiser Trivia Night
When: **Saturday June 4th - 7pm to 9.30pm**
Where: Galston Uniting Church
How much: \$20 / head or \$160 for a table of eight
RSVP: Sunday 29th May

Registration:

Click [here](#) to register and pay for the event.

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT AS IT HELPS PAY FOR THE ONLY SCRIPTURE TEACHER AT GALSTON HIGH SCHOOL.



ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano.

Ph: 9653 2312.



WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON 2023



www.bbwyd.org.au



The new Diocese of Broken Bay World Youth Day website is live with Bishop Anthony Randazzo inviting the youth of the Diocese to join him on pilgrimage to Italy and then on to Lisbon, Portugal for WYD23.

Young people aged between 16 and 35 can register their interest at <https://bbwyd.org.au/>

To be held in August next year, World Youth Day is the gathering of young people from around the world with the Pope.

It is a celebration of youth, the universal Church and evangelisation.

Prior to the global event, Bishop Anthony will lead a group of students and young adults on a pilgrimage through Italy in July to some of the holiest sites and homes of our saints.

The group will visit Venice, Padova, Ravenna, Bologna, Florence, Siena, Assisi, Cascia and St Peter's Basilica in Vatican City and Rome before flying to Lisbon in Portugal.

"The theme for WYD23 is '*Mary arose and went with haste*' (Luke1:39) and I implore all our pilgrims who join me to be filled with the same excitement and wonder for their own encounter with Christ and His Church as we journey to Lisbon," Bishop Anthony said.

"I am very much looking forward to leading a group of enthusiastic, passionate young people from our Diocese to a number of holy sites in Italy, onto Lisbon and then to Fatima for a retreat. It will be a truly memorable experience."

During the week of 1-6 August '23, Lisbon will host numerous celebrations and faith events. While clear in its Catholic identity, WYD is open to all youth of the world, no matter how close or distant they are from the Church.

St John Paul, while Pope John Paul II, was inspired to establish World Youth Day in 1986 following the Church's Youth Jubilee in 1984 and the United Nations International Youth Year in 1985. It has been a much-loved and hugely successful event every three years although WYD last year was postponed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Justin Martyr

Feast Day: June 1

C. 100-165



Patron Saint of philosophers

The cut and thrust of philosophical debate led him to the Truth

On one of his first missionary journeys, Saint Paul found himself in Syria. He was at a crossroads and needed to decide where he would travel to preach the Gospel. Do I head east and bring the Gospel to the gentiles of Mesopotamia, Persia, India, and China? Or do I travel west, to the Greeks, Romans, Franks, and the people on the rim of the Roman Sea (the Mediterranean)? The Acts of the Apostles relates the mystical event that happened next: "During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them" (Acts 16: 9–10). Macedonia is in Greece. So Saint Paul's sails opened and he tacked west. The rest is history.

In the person of Saint Paul, the Church herself turned toward Greece and her philosophical tradition. It was the plan of God that His Church would decisively encounter philosophical truth, not myth and custom, as its partner in dialogue. This intellectual engagement began the long process of melding philosophical truth with theological revelation, which transformed early, Jewish-based Christianity into something new—the powerful synthesis of theology, philosophy, spirituality, and structure known as Catholicism.

Today's saint was a philosopher in the Greek tradition, born around 100 A.D. in Samaria to Greek parents. Saint Justin wrapped himself in the white, toga-style cloak of a Greek philosopher even after his conversion. He is the most well-known apologist of the second century, the only true Christian thinker known between the time of Saint John the Evangelist and Origen in the first half of the third century. Justin mercilessly criticized the intellectual dead end of the ancient paganism in which he was raised, seeing it as not merely neutral but as an obstacle to discovering the truth.

Justin loved the idea that Christ the Logos was the same in substance but different in person from the Father. Theological truth expressed in the concepts of Greek philosophy was very satisfying to him, because it was very true. Justin also provided some of the very first words on the Holy Eucharist outside of the New Testament itself: "And this food is called among us the Eucharist...we (have) been taught that the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by transmutation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh." What a clear and remarkable testament to Christianity's early belief in the Eucharist!

Justin moved to Rome to teach philosophy and spent decades there writing and interacting with the higher echelons of Roman society. But even a thoughtful intellectual was not immune from persecution for being a Christian. Sometime between 162 and 168 A.D., Justin and six companions were called to answer for their beliefs before the Prefect of Rome. The record of the trial has been preserved and shows the Prefect demanding that Justin sacrifice to the gods of Rome. Justin and his friends refuse and are threatened with torture and death. They respond: "Do as you wish; for we are Christians, and we do not sacrifice to idols." What bravado! They sternly refused to be idolaters. They were duly led away, scourged, and beheaded.

Justin chose, as the Church chose, the God of the philosophers over the false gods of paganism. This was a choice for truth over illusion. As Tertullian would later write: "Christ has said that he is truth, not custom" (De Virgin. Vel. 1, 1). The Christian God is both Father and the Prime Mover; the God of Jesus Christ and the Uncaused Causer; the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and thought thinking itself. He is Father and He is Almighty. He is everywhere, because He is nowhere. He is paternal and close at hand but forever mysterious and inaccessible. He gives a name, "I am Who am," which is a riddle. We take this complex understanding of God for granted today. But the labor of early Christians like Saint Justin Martyr dug the deep intellectual foundations into which were later driven the piers of sound doctrine. It takes very smart people to make simple points.

Saint Justin, you surrendered your life rather than worship an idol. Your refusal to abjure your faith gives an example to all Christian intellectuals and teachers that the deepest truths are not found only on a page but must be lived, and sacrificed for, even unto death.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

FAITH-FILLED YOUNG PEOPLE

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE FAMILY CONNECT & SUPPORT SERVICE?



1800 066 757
www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

Family Connect and Support (FCS) is a statewide voluntary service for children, young people and families who need support to maintain a safe and positive family environment. It helps families who may be experiencing vulnerability or who require some level of support before issues escalate. It works on a networking model, connecting families to local services with expertise in areas such as:

Parenting challenges, Financial stress, Substance use, Family breakdown, Housing issues, Mental health, Domestic and family violence ... and more.

We stay connected with you until you're matched to the right services or support. To access this service please call [1800 066 757](tel:1800066757) or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au.

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 Hilarion 0478 909 541, Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882, Office for Safeguarding 83791605.

Office Hours:
Mondays & Fridays 9.30am to 2.30pm
Parish Office: 9653 2312
Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB
Email: hilarionfernando@yahoo.com
After hours: 0478 909 541
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia
Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159
Monastery: 9653 1159

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

Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:
BSB: 062 784
Acct: 100002141 (NEW BANK DETAILS)
Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund