

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia

To listen gladly to Holy reading.

Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4



**COVID-19
RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:**

**MASSES SUSPENDED
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE.**

*Please use QR CODE provided
or write your name and phone
number when you enter Church
after sanitizing.*



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Year B

14 & 15 August 2021

Entrance Procession

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of the Virgin Mary,
at whose Assumption the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.

First Reading

Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 (JB)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
*I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon
beneath her feet.*

Responsorial Psalm

R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
*As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and
after him all who belong to him.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven,
and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-56 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
*The Almighty has done great things for me;
he has lifted up the lowly.*

Communion Antiphon

A great sign appeared in heaven:
a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet,
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

PARISH MASSES

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 9:00am
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Latin 4.30pm

Weekday Mass:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am
Fridays 7:00pm followed by Confession
First Friday of the month 6.30pm Adoration

MONASTERY CHAPEL Mass

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

Gospel reading for this Week

Luke 1:39-56 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.
Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed,
for the Almighty has done great things for me.
Holy is his name,
and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.
He has shown the power of his arm,
he has routed the proud of heart.
He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.
The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.
He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors -
of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'
Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.



The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Jerusalem Bible translation of Scripture is used in the Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). Acknowledgement: The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. Liturgia Copyright 2020

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Luke 1:39-56 (JB)

Mary began the Magnificat with a song of joy. God had decided to use a lowly handmaiden to fulfill his will. His activity in Mary's life was a reason for praise and was seen as an act of divine power. This line of reasoning paralleled Luke's view of the crucifixion. Jesus died a shameful death in the eyes of his contemporaries, yet, in the eyes of the faithful, his lowly death was a mighty act of God. After all, just as the pain of childbirth gives way to the joy of new life, so the death pangs of Jesus gave way to the glory of the resurrection. The pregnancy of Mary was the first step in God's immediate plan for salvation.

What would that pregnancy mean to Israel? Mary's song listed two results: a sign of the faithfulness to the people and justice. God would change (even invert) the world order. The rich and powerful would be humbled. And the poor would be exalted. How? Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. His life would mark the beginning of the end time, when divine justice would reign and God would bless even the forgotten among the people. In the end, God would keep his promises.

So, Mary had reason for joy. Her status was not based upon local opinion, but upon her place in God's plan. She was the first to accept the Good News at the Annunciation. Now she was an instrument of God's will and power. For that reason, her reputation would spread from generation to generation. She would be the mother of the Savior. And, the Mother of God!

All generations would call her blessed. How do you honor the mother of Jesus in your life?

One woman blessed another. And the blessed reveled in that praise. But that blessing and praise was not only based in the joy of shared maternity. Both were based in the Spirit. For, as the Spirit worked through the women, it would work mighty deeds in their sons.

Reflect on the blessings in your life. Which ones come from family? Which ones come from the Spirit? Where do these blessings intersect? How are these blessings like those in the gospels, especially those like Mary received?

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Helena

c. 248 - 330

Feast Day: August 18



St. Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine the Great and an Empress of the Roman Empire. Very little is known about Helena's early life, but it is believed she is from Drepanum (later known as Helenopolis) in Asia Minor and born into a poor family and lower class in the Roman culture of the day. St. Ambrose described Helena as a "good stable-maid."

Despite her background, Helena married Constantius Chlorus. With him she birthed her only son, Constantine, around the year 274. Nearly two decades later in 292, Constantius, now co-Regent of the West, got swept up in his rising stature and divorced Helena for Theodora, the step-daughter of Emperor Maximianus Herculus. It is believed he did this to advance his own reputation and advance his standing in the Roman society.

Constantine was forever loyal to his dear mother, whom he loved very much. As he grew and became a member of the inner circle, he never left Helena's side. Following the death of Constantius in 308, Constantine became Emperor and summoned his mother back into inner circle and the imperial court. Helena received the title of Augusta.

Constantine ordered all to honor his mother. He even had coins minted, bearing her image. Through her son's influence, Helena began to embrace Christianity. With her title of Augusta Imperatrix, Helena was given free reign over the imperial treasury. She was tasked with locating relics of Christian tradition.

Between the years 326-328, Helena took a trip to the Holy Places in the Middle East. During her journey, Helena had many churches constructed, including the one at the site of Jesus Christ's birth - the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem and another at the site of his ascension - Church of Eleona on the Mount of Olives.

During this time Jerusalem was still being rebuilt after Titus' destruction. Around the year 130, Emperor Hadrian had a temple built over the site of Jesus' death. This temple was believed to be dedicated to Venus. Helena had this temple destroyed and chose a site in this location to be excavated. This led to the discovery of three crosses.

Tradition says Helena brought a woman near death to the crosses. There she had the woman place a hand on all three crosses. Nothing happened when she touched the first two crosses, but when she placed her hand on the third cross she suddenly recovered. Helena declared the third cross to be the True Cross. At this site, Constantine ordered the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to be built.

Theodoret of Cyrus, an influential theologian, wrote that that during her search, Helena also discovered the nails of the crucifixion. She had one of the nails placed in Constantine's helmet and one in the bridle of his horse to aid him with their miraculous powers. Churches were built at these sites, as well.

Several of the relics believed to be found by St. Helena are located in Cyprus. Among these are parts of Jesus' tunic, pieces of the holy cross, and pieces of the rope used to tie Jesus to the cross. When Helena returned to Rome from Jerusalem in 327, she brought parts of the True Cross back with her. She stored these in her palace's chapel. They can still be seen to this day, though her palace has been converted to the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem.

St. Helena died around 330 with her dearly devoted son by her side. She was then buried in the Mausoleum of Helena outside of Rome. Her sarcophagus can be seen in the Pio-Clementine Vatican Museum.

St. Helena was renowned for helping not only individuals, but entire communities through her works of charity. She often sought out to help the poor and destitute. She would visit churches and leave them with rich donations. St. Helena was a very devout servant of God, so much so that one would easily believe her to have been a follower of Jesus Christ from birth. Through her influence and work, Christianity continued to spread throughout the known world.

Source: catholic.org

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Feast day 15 August

Solemnity

15 August the Church celebrates the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady when according to our faith, the Holy Mother, "having completed her course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory".



The Assumption signals the end of Mary's earthly life and marks her return to heaven to be reunited with Jesus. While the bodies of both Jesus and Mary are now in heaven, there is a difference between the Assumption and the Resurrection. Where Jesus arose from the tomb and ascended into heaven by his own power, Mary's body was taken up to heaven by the power of her Son. For this reason we use different words to describe each event. One is the Ascension of Christ and the other, the Assumption of Mary.

Source: <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/>

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers, all our dearly beloved who have died,
especially Moussa Moussa (Nancy Kazzi's dad)...may he rest in Peace.



We pray for the sick of our Parish,
especially Brother Mario, and Theresa Gittany (Lila Bacha's mum).



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2021

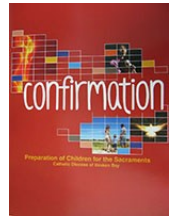
CONFIRMATION HAS BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL LATER THIS YEAR

Everyone registered should have received an email regarding the Sacramental Program for 2021. If you have not received an email please contact Theresa Neely on 0447 425 077. You can download the enrolment form from our **website** or click the below link:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/ArticleDocuments/11692/Confirmation%20Enrolment%20Form%202021.docx.aspx>

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/ArticleDocuments/11692/Information%20for%20Parents%202021.docx.aspx>

Once you fill out the enrolment form please email it with a copy of the baptism certificate to:
arcadia.parish@bigpond.com



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2021

The Church

Let us pray for the Church,
that she may receive from the Holy Spirit
the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.
AMEN.



COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS—ALL MASSES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PLEASE WEAR MASKS.

Please use QR CODE or write your name and phone number on the sheets provided at both entries.
Please adhere to social distancing guidelines of 2sqms and sanitize your hands at the door.
Also wipe seats down afterwards with wipes provided at both entries.

IF YOU ARE NOT WELL OR EXPERIENCING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS,
PLEASE STAY HOME, ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.

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.

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.

Office Hours: Mondays & Fridays:
10.30am to 2.30pm (CLOSED)
Parish Office: 9653 2312
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Arcadia 2159
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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: 1446 8001
Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund