# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



# **PARISH Masses**

# Weekend:

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



# THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

YEAR A

3 & 4 JUNE 2023

# Weekday:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6.30pm Adoration

7:00pm Mass & Confession

(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 10am to 11am

**Adoration & Confession** 

(Reconciliation)

# **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

# **SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER**

God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification made known to the human race your wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty. 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.* 

# **MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses**

Sundays 7:00am Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

**BAPTISMS** 

RECONCILIATION

FOR THE SICK

**MARRIAGES** 

**FUNERALS** 

Fr Shansana: 0437 884 233

# **SELF REFLECTION: PURE LOVE**

Sunday's Gospel, John 3:16-18 Jesus says "'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life."

God intervened and gave his only son to show us how much he loves us. God loves the world, loves each one of us.

- Do I truly believe that God loves me and wants me to be completely happy?
- How can I show love for God?
- Do I sometimes feel that God is judging me?
- Do I do as God asks me through Jesus?
- How can I help others to believe and have eternal life?



#### PRAYER:

Dear Lord, thank you for the sacrifice of your son our Lord Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. Help us so to love others, that we are willing and ready to give to those in need whenever you call us to do this. Help us to demonstrate your love in real and practical ways today and throughout our lives. Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9 (JB)

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Responsorial Psalm:**

R. Glory and praise for ever!



Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (JB)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with you all.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!



#### GOSPEL: John 3:16-18 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John God sent his Son to save the world through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus,
'God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.'

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

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

Source: Liturgia Brisbane 2023

# POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2023

# FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.



# GOSPEL REFLECTION Sunday, June 4 TRINITY SUNDAY

Exodus 34:4-6,8-9; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

Only in chapter 3 of John's Gospel do we find the story of the encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus, a Pharisee. Jesus tells Nicodemus of the need to be born again or from above. That encounter ends with the words we hear today: God loves the world, God gave his only Son, God wants us to have eternal life, God does not condemn the world, God wants to save the world. This is some of the richest theological reflection on the divine will and human destiny in the Scriptures. These words go well together with those found in Exodus: God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, forgiving sin. We are reading these passages, however, in the context of Trinity Sunday.

This is another of those Sundays that perhaps should not exist. Every Sunday is a Trinity Sunday, every action of God is an action of the Trinity, every prayer we make is made to a triune God. Yet, it is all too easy for us to think only of the Son and the Father, as we find in the passage from John about Father and Son loving and wanting to save the world.

In the earliest Christian centuries, there was strong debate about the relationship between Son and Father, as Christian thinkers grappled with seemingly contradictory passages of Scripture: 'the Father and I are one' (John 10:30) and 'the Father is greater than I' (John 14:28). Christians believed in Father, Son, and Spirit because they are mentioned in the New Testament, but just how to preserve there being only one God, and also Father, Son, and Spirit, taxed their ingenuity. Was Jesus truly God? Was Jesus just the Father in human form? Eventually some outstanding thinkers, including Augustine of Hippo, who wrote ten books on the Trinity, would talk about one God in three persons, each person being distinct but not separate from the other in terms of internal relationships: the quality of the Father is to be unbegotten, the quality of the Son is to be begotten (but eternally, such that God has never existed apart from being Father and Son), and the quality of the Spirit is to proceed from the Father (and from the Son, although this would cause disagreement with Christians in the East).

In Sermo 71 Augustine reflects on the nature of the Trinity for his community: 'the property of the Father is to be the author and origin of the others, the property of the Son is to be born, the property of the Holy Spirit is to be the communion of Father and Son, and the property of all three is to be equal to each other'. If that is all there is to it, then it would merely be a dry and abstract theological puzzle without much significance. However, as Augustine points out, the true meaning of the Trinity is that we are invited to be part of it. 'So by what is common to them both the Father and the Son wished us to have communion both with them and among ourselves; by this gift which they both possess as one, they wished to gather us together and make us one, that is to say, by the Holy Spirit who is God and the gift of God. By this gift we are reconciled to the godhead, and by this gift we enjoy the godhead. After all, what use would it be to us to know any kind of good if we didn't also love it?' (Sermo 71).

We are thankful today for a God who is love, for a Father whose love begets the Son, for a Son who loves totally and completely, for a Spirit who unites them in perfect harmony. We are thankful today for the invitation to share in this life. We begin to experience the life of the Trinity through our sharing in eucharist. We taste what it is to love totally and we begin to realise the great promise God holds before us.

# LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

June

Monday 5 Readings: Tobit 1:3, 2:1-8. Mk 12:1-12.

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

St Boniface, bishop, martyr.

Tuesday 6 Readings: Tobit 2:9-14. Mk 12:13-17.

R: The hearts of the just are secure, trusting in the Lord.

St Norbert, bishop.

St Marcellin Champagnat, religious.

Wednesday 7 Readings: Tobit 3:1-11, 16-17. Mk 12:18-27.

R: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Thursday 8 Readings: Tobit 6:10-11, 7:1, 9-14; 8:-9. Mk 12:28-34.

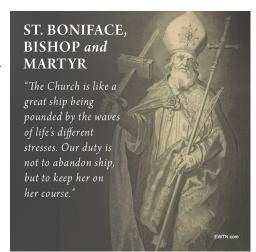
R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Friday 9 Readings: Tobit 11:5-17. Mk 12:35-37.

R: Praise the Lord, my soul! **St Ephrem, deacon, doctor.** 

Saturday 10 Readings: Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20. Mk 12:38-44.

R: Blessed be God, who lives for ever.



#### 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:



# ST.VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Vinnies Arcadia Conference will be holding our annual Winter Appeal on the weekend of 10/11 June.

This will be an envelope appeal as well as a hamper appeal. We are hoping to collect any **non-perishable food and toiletries** you may be able to donate.

We also want to express our gratitude for the generous donations we have received through the Poor Boxes in the church. These donations and those from our appeals are hugely appreciated as we are helping so many more families suffering hardship in these difficult times.

We take this opportunity to welcome Marie Endicott as a new member of Arcadia Conference. We are delighted to have her on board.

Rita, Lila, Marie & Karen - Vinnies Arcadia.

# SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

# **OUR NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

**is now open**, commencing with Confirmation (child must be in year 3 or above, this year). Confirmation classes will be held in August 2023.

The forms are available in the sacristy, otherwise please email the parish if you would like your child to be added to the list. The form is also available on the parish website.

In the Diocese of Broken Bay, the order of receiving of the sacraments is:



Confirmation, Reconciliation, then Eucharist. Children are usually prepared for these sacraments in Years 3 and 4.

# HELP NEEDED

We need a volunteer to help with children's Masses. Someone who can organise the children to do the readings, Prayer of the faithful and offertory.

Please help out if you can. It's only once a month, children's mass which is the first Sunday of every month 10.30am Mass. Contact Fr Shansana or Paula.

# **URGENT REQUEST**

A family of 8 plus a dog, looking for a place to rent long term. Never behind in payment. Would like to stay in the Hills or Hornsby areas.

Please call John on 0450 977 793.

#### **NIGHT OF PRAYER & REPARATION**

The Sydney Archdiocesan Committee of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to a "Night of Prayer & Reparation" taking place at

St. Mel's Parish - 7 Evaline Street, Campsie

on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus & the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Friday 16th & Saturday 17th of June.

Doors open at 8.30pm with Solemn Mass at 9pm Rosary at 10pm Re-dedication & Reparation to the Sacred Heart before the Blessed Sacrament Exposed, followed with a short break. Rosary, 12.15am, Morning Mass with prayers for the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary 12.30am.

We look forward to you joining us as we intercede for World Peace.

Further details please call us on 0403578994 or 99848988.

# **VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!**

For the nomination this week we would like to thank:



**JUDY HORTON** 

Thank you for all your help taking photos of events and advertising in the bulletin and Galston Community News! Also for the awesome readings you do for us!

# 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 Karl Maurer, Gina Volpato (John's mum), Tony Takchi, Brother Mario & Brother Terry, Koana Zouein (Rita Sarkis' mum) and Jenny Taylor.

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially Mania BouMerhe.







Do you feel stuck – like there's something you just can't resolve on your own? Counselling supports with CatholicCare Broken Bay are now available. We offer face-to-face sessions at our Artarmon, Brookvale, Tuggerah and Waitara based Family Centres as well as via telehealth. Short wait lists.



# PASTORAL WORKS

Your support and generosity are vitally important. It has made a huge difference in the past to many people and the May appeal will do so again.

You may decide to contribute this weekend or next or perhaps later in the month. At any time, we can support each other and our community.

There are some envelopes in the Church which is separate to the parish Collection.

Or you can donate online by visiting the Diocese of Broken Bay website or the QR code featured on the envelopes. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. These donations contribute to our Parish target for these ministries to amount to a little over one million dollars.

Everyone's gift you give makes a difference.

Thank you and God bless you for your time and generosity.

# **CATECHISTS' NEWS**

Within the broader charismatic tradition of the New Testament, then, we can see that certain baptized persons exercised the ministry of transmitting in a more organic and stable form related to different situations in life the teaching of the apostles and evangelists (cf. SECOND VATICAN ECUMENICAL COUNCIL. Dogmatic Constitution Revelation Dei Verbum, 8). The Church wished to acknowledge this service as a concrete expression of a personal charism that contributed greatly to the exercise of her mission of evangelization. This glance at the life of the first Christian communities engaged in the spread of the Gospel also encourages the Church in our day to appreciate possible new ways for her to remain faithful to the word of the Lord so that his Gospel can be preached to every creature.

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter 10 May 2021 Instituting the Ministry of Catechist

Free training available for all Catechists -

 Safeguarding Children training for all Catechists Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 9.30am – 12.30pm in the parish

If you would like to learn more about being a Catechist or a helper, please talk to myself, or one of our parish Catechists or any of our priests. Training, a Teacher's Manual and workbooks are provided free.

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

#### **THANK YOU**

A big thank you to everyone who donated money towards purchasing of the chasubles (vestments).

It was really appreciated and we were not expecting so many to help out. God bless you all for your kindness and generosity.

# PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2023/2024

Envelopes are ready for collection for the year 2023/2024. They are in alphabetical order on the front pew of the church. Please collect them ASAP.

#### **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.

# **ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP**

Every Monday 2.00pm. Everyone welcome. For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.



#### **PARISH NEWS**

# **MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS**

As the season of Easter draws to a close for 2023, the Music Ministry of our parish of St Benedict, Arcadia will commence the introduction of a new setting of the sung parts of the mass.

This mass called the **Mass of Saint Benedict** was written by Paul Taylor in 2013.

#### Why this particular setting?

Paul Taylor has dedicated this composition to the following three Benedictine communities: **The Monks here at Arcadia**; The Good Samaritan Sisters who have had a long association with our parish community here at Arcadia; and the Benedictine community at St John's Abbey in Collegeville (a leading Catholic university in USA). Paul also includes Pope Benedict XVI in his dedication.

Paul Taylor is also the composer of the **Mass of Saint Francis**, which has been a long time Mass Setting in our parish repertoire.

#### An Invitation to all parishioners

The singers and musicians will be workshopping the new Mass setting on <u>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm at the parish</u>. Please feel very welcome to come and join them in learning this new addition to our parish repertoire. We plan on being able to sing it entirely by the weekend of the Feast of St Benedict in July which would be most apt timing indeed.

We assure you that the **Mass of Saint Benedict** will be a very singable addition to our current list of known Mass Settings, and we look forward to its regular use in our future liturgies.

With every blessing,

The Music Ministry



# **BEING PART OF A COMMUNITY**

Being part of a community can bring countless benefits to your life, both personally and professionally. When you are part of a community, you have a sense of belonging, support and connection that can help you thrive. Here are some reasons why being part of a community can be so beneficial:

- **1. Support:** Being part of a community means having people around you who can offer you support and encouragement when you need it. Whether you're going through a tough time or just need someone to talk to, having a group of people who care about you can make all the difference.
- **2. Inspiration:** Being part of a community means being exposed to new ideas, perspectives and experiences. Whether you're learning from others or sharing your own insights, being part of a new circle of friends can be a great source of inspiration and help you grow as a person.
- **3. Opportunities:** Being part of a community means having access to opportunities that you might not have otherwise. Even if it's networking events, job openings or other opportunities, being part of a community can help you advance your career and achieve your goals.
- **4. Fun:** Being part of a community can also be a lot of fun! You could attend events, participate in group activities or just hang out with friends, being involved in these activities can add joy and excitement to your life.

So, if you haven't already, consider joining a group that aligns with your interests and values. You never know what amazing opportunities and experiences may come your way!

"Dear God, I pray for the strength and courage to be an active member of my community. May I find belonging and support, be a source of inspiration, seize opportunities and enjoy the companionship of others. Help me to use my talents to make a positive difference and build a better world together. Amen."

Source: majellan.media

# Saint Norbert, bishop

# Feast Day June 6

C. 1080-1134



# Patron Saint of expectant mothers and Bohemia

Saint Norbert did not begin his life as a saint. He was born in the town of Xanten, within the Holy Roman Empire and the Kingdom of Germany, to noble parents. Because of his nobility, he was educated at the Church of Saint Victor in Xanten and later became a canon in that church. Though not ordained, he was considered a cleric, receiving the ministry of subdeacon. In his role as a canon, Norbert prayed the Divine Office each day with the other canons and received a salary for this simple duty—the primary reason he accepted the canonry. However, he soon discovered a way to increase his income. He paid someone to take his place praying the Divine Office each day in Xanten and moved to the court of the Prince-Archbishop of Cologne. Soon after, he became a member of the court of Holy Roman Emperor Henry V and was put in charge of distributing the royal alms. The income from his canonry and his position at the court enabled him to live a very comfortable lifestyle.

In the court of King Henry, Norbert witnessed firsthand an ongoing controversy between the pope and the emperor. In 1111, Henry V traveled to Rome to resolve a dispute called "the lay investiture controversy." The emperor wanted to retain spiritual authority to appoint and invest bishops, to which the pope was opposed. Once negotiations broke down, Henry apprehended the pope and held him captive until the pope agreed to his terms. The pope finally agreed, but once Henry left, the pope excommunicated Henry. Norbert was sympathetic to the pope's position and was shaken by this controversy.

Over the next year, Norbert began to have a moral awakening. That awakening came to a head one day as he rode his horse during a violent storm. Lightning struck, knocking him off his horse. In that near-death experience, Norbert sensed God asking him why he was living such a vain life, to which Norbert replied, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" The Lord responded, "Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." This experience initiated a profound conversion. He resigned from the emperor's court and spent the next three years in prayer and penance in the Abbey of Siegburg, just south of Cologne. After his three-year-long period of prayer and penance, Norbert approached the Prince-Archbishop of Cologne in 1115 and requested priestly ordination, which was granted. He then returned to his hometown, to the church of Saint Victor in Xanten to celebrate Mass and preach. The newly converted Father Norbert was not well received by the younger and worldly canons of that church. His newfound zeal and opposition to worldly living convicted them. They eventually forced him to leave. After leaving, Father Norbert sold all his property and possessions, distributed the money to the poor, and began walking from town to town across Europe, often barefoot, preaching the Gospel, calling for the reform of the Church, and begging for food as he went.

In 1118, controversy with King Henry V continued under the new pope, Gelasius II. Soon after, the pope had to flee Rome for fear of Henry. While the pope was in exile, Father Norbert met up with him in France and sought his direction for his priestly ministry. The pope encouraged Father Norbert and granted him universal faculties to preach and minister anywhere he felt called. In 1119, after Pope Gelasius died, Father Norbert sought out the counsel of his successor, Pope Calixtus II, who encouraged him to found a religious order. At the invitation of the bishop of the Diocese of Laon, in northern France, Father Norbert and his one companion decided to found their monastery of priests in a remote part of the diocese called Prémontré, a valley within a forest. Upon arriving, they were joined by twelve others. They built small huts around a chapel and later built a larger monastery. They adopted the rule of Saint Augustine and structured their daily life in such a way that they could become true contemplatives so that they could then bring that contemplative union they enjoyed into their priestly ministry to the people. The order was named Canons Regular of Prémontré, or the Premonstratensians. Later, it would become known as the Norbertines after their founder. Within a few years of its founding, women's branches were established, and more than a dozen monasteries were erected in France, Germany, and Belgium.

In 1126, Father Norbert and his companions traveled to Rome to obtain final papal approval for his new order from Pope Honorius II. On their way home, they traveled through the city of Würzburg, where Father Norbert cured a blind woman. He also cast out demons and restored peace between feuding noble families. The people were so impressed that they and others from Magdeburg rallied to have him appointed as their bishop. The king of the Germans and the papal legate agreed, and the pope appointed him as Archbishop of Magdeburg, a post Norbert reluctantly accepted.

Bishop Norbert served as archbishop for about eight years until his death. As archbishop, he continued to work on reforming the Church by weeding out immoralities among the clergy, resolving schisms, securing the right of the Church to govern itself without the interference of the civil authority, helping the Premonstratensian Order to grow, and preaching to the people, converting many.

Saint Norbert started his life as a worldly cleric, living a lavish lifestyle. After experiencing a profound encounter with God, he entered a period of deep prayer to more clearly discern God's will. During this time, God took hold of him and never let go, leading him to great fruitfulness for the Church. If you find yourself pursuing worldly goals, let Saint Norbert's story inspire you. Choose to focus on that which is eternal, and God will begin to work great spiritual transformations within your soul today.

# Please join us for morning tea after the 9am Mass

# **NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER** 10/6/23 to 11/6/23

#### THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST YEAR A

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 10.30am
Acolyte		Jerry L	Paul E
Reader1	Margaret B	Matt W	HOLY COMMUNION
Reader2	Miriam B	Kath M	HOLY COMMUNION
Prayers	Maria G	Nigel M	HOLY COMMUNION
TV		Sebastian W	Xavier F
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		Noelle T	Jack F
Music			Keith W
Music			
Morning Tea		NO MORNING TEA 9am due to Holy Communion at 10.30am	Sophie R
FLOWERS	GABE & MONA		

**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

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312

Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

**Parish Administrator:** Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB

Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com

After hours: 0437 884 233

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159 Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159 Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia

MONASTERY: 9653 1159 Facebook

arish Rost

**BANK DETAILS for ONLINE only donations:** 

BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141

Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:

**CBA—Catholic Development Fund** 

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:

Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.