

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia

To fulfil God's commandments daily in one's deeds.

Rule of St Benedict, Chapter 4



COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

Masks are mandatory

**One person per 2sqm
Maximum 300 people**

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



The Ascension of the Lord Year B

15th & 16th May 2021

Entrance Procession

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.

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.*

Responsorial Psalm

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17-23 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 16:15-20 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
*The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of God.*

Communion Antiphon

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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 Bernard for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Fr Bernard: 0416 032 497

Gospel reading for this Week**Mark 16:15-20 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

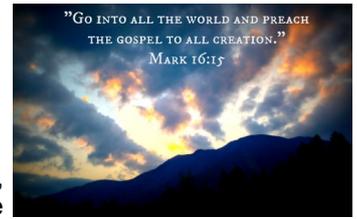
The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world, proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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****Mark 16:15-20 (JB)**

Mark 16:17-18 described five signs of the end times, all done in the name of Jesus. They were:

- 1) expelling demons.
- 2) speaking new things in tongues.
- 3) picking up snakes (serpents).
- 4) not being harmed if poison is drunk.
- 5) healing the weak.

Notice that signs 1 and 3 parallel each other. So do signs 2 and 4. Signs 1 and 3 signaled the power of the disciple over Satan. (The snake or "serpent" symbolized evil personified in the culture of Jesus.) The follower could handle or expel the Evil One in the name of Jesus.

Signs 2 and 4 signaled the power of proclaimed Word. In a culture that distrusted novelty, people would be amazed at new message God communicated through Jesus and his followers. The message could be a new revelation, a proclamation to a new (and foreign) audience, or a new prayer. No matter. Through Jesus and his followers, everyone would hear God's Word. And nothing, not even poison, would stop God's work!

Signs 1 and 2 described the work of the end times in positive terms (the good the disciples would perform). Signs 3 and 4 described the work in negative terms (the evil the followers would be free from). Sign 5 bridged the gap between the two sets of signs. The disciples would free the weak, those who were "bitten by the snake" and "poisoned." In other words, the believer would partake in the ministry of Jesus: to bring others from the powers of Satan (whether physical, spiritual, or moral evil) to the Father.

Christ's Ascension into heaven symbolized his Lordship. He now revealed his participation in the Father's power and authority. What the Son possessed by his divinity nature, he made manifest in the economy of salvation.

While Christ now reigns with his Father, he still dwells in his Body, the Church. Through the Church, Christ acts in the world. Through the Church he announces the immanence of God's Kingdom. The Church, imperfect as an assembly of sinners, still dares to declare the Kingdom. For the Church is made whole through the work of Christ's Spirit.

So, we await the coming of our Savior in these "end times." At Christ's second coming, all that God promised will happen. We will live forever in justice, love, and peace.

What notions do you have about the end of the world?**How does this gospel differ from your expectations for the end?**

What will the end be like? Will it come in a fiery battle between good and evil (Hollywood's preferred ending)? Or will it come in the blink of an eye, where everything is changed? We don't know how it will happen, but we do know who will be present at the end. Christ will return to raise up the faithful and send away the evil. Then there will be eternal peace with the Lord in charge. Do we really need to know anything else about the end?

Slowly pray the Our Father.

Reflect on its meaning, not as a prayer for present need, but as a prayer for the coming of the last day.

How does your recitation change your outlook on the prayer?

Source of Content: www.word-sunday.com

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest

c. 1380 - 1444

Feast Day: May 20

Patron Saint of advertising and gambling

Saint Bernardine of Siena vowed to poverty, chastity, and obedience as a Franciscan Friar. Saint Bernardine was also ordained into the one Priesthood of Jesus Christ by a successor of the Apostles. And he had received a long and complete theological and humanistic education before he ever opened his mouth in front of a crowd. He was even a doctor of canon law.

Fifteenth-century Italy was hot with reform of the Church. Ever since 1417 and the end of the Great Schism (an era of two and even three competing popes), talk of Church reform was on the lips of anyone who believed enough to care. Unfortunately, every effort to compel a bishop to live in his diocese, to form better educated priests, to purify indulgence selling, to streamline Church courts, to appoint holy bishops, to stop commerce in relics, and so on, was ignored or resisted. The roots of some weeds are tangled and ferocious. They cannot be pulled from the ground. The 1400s were a lost century for efforts to reform the Church. The popes tightened their grip on Church power so that no council would ever pry their fingers from the levers of ecclesial governance. The needed reforms would have to wait until the immensely successful Council of Trent in the mid-sixteenth century. But it was too late by then. Father Martin Luther and others had been tired of waiting. The Reformation began in 1517, one hundred years after the Great Schism ended. Vast populations of Northern Europe were cleaved from the true Faith because the needed reforms came too late.

Saint Bernardine of Siena was one of the many bright lights of fifteenth-century Italy who did everything in his power to create a holier Church through his preaching and witness. He was such a thoroughly compelling and entertaining speaker that enormous crowds turned out to hear him, normally first thing in the morning. He encouraged devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus and often held the IHS monogram in his hand when preaching. This devotion was later incorporated as a feast day into the universal calendar of the Church. Bernardine dramatically exhorted his congregations to melt their mirrors, playing cards, perfumes, dice, wigs, and other worldly distractions in a “bonfire of the vanities” roaring near his pulpit. This was true drama.

In the Franciscan tradition, Bernardine of Siena walked everywhere. No horse or mule or carriage for the journey. He excoriated usury, superstition, and the deplorable scourge of homosexual acts, in the starkest terms. Compared to the modern penchant for market research, polling, and tailoring a message to audience expectations, Saint Bernardine was fearless. He spoke the unvarnished truths of his religion to the adherents of the same. Preaching, he understood, was an essential charism of the Priesthood of Christ, not an add-on. Saint Bernardine also published, far ahead of his time, works on entrepreneurship, business practices, a just wage, and the determining of just values for a product or service. Saint Bernardine was a sophisticated thinker with a common touch.

The fact that Saint Bernardine lived almost to the dawn of the age of the printed book meant that many of his sermons and works were accurately preserved. It also meant that images of his likeness were uniform and accurate. A famous painting by El Greco shows the emaciated friar in a worn franciscan habit, the three knots on his white cincture visible, representing poverty, chastity, and obedience. His right hand holds a standard bearing the monogram of the name of Jesus—IHS. In his left hand is a book, perhaps the Bible. And at his feet are three bishops' miters, resting on the ground. Saint Bernardine was three times offered to be made a bishop by the Holy See. And three times he said, “No.” Thus, in addition to all of his other considerable virtues, our saint also possessed the queen of the virtues as well—humility. No bishopric for him. Bernardine of Siena was the Saint Paul of his era and was canonized in 1450, just six years after he died, numerous miracles having already been attributed to his intercession.

Saint Bernardine of Siena, inspire all preachers to not count the personal cost of stating uncomfortable truths but instead to suffer the repercussions of honest talk. Help priests to fortify their preaching with impeccable lives of prayer, fasting, devotion, and virtue, just as you did. AMEN.

Source of content: mycatholic.life

In Our Parish

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

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

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

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

Daily in one's prayer, with tears and sighs, to confess one's past sins to God.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION & RENEWAL DAY

Sunday 16 May

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's **Monastery** on Sunday, 16 May.

Arrival from 10.00am, QR code in use, 10:30am start, Presentations, Introduction to Meditation, period of Meditation for ongoing meditators, BYO picnic lunch and other refreshments, Mass, conclusion at 3.00pm. No need to register ahead of time. Donations welcome.

Enquires Ann Bergman: anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas: atlomas@bigpond.com or 9653 2637.

Peace,
Fr Michael Kelly osb : mkelly@silvestrini.org

WANTED



Could anyone help out with operating the PowerPoint on the TV screen at the 9am Sunday Mass? The PowerPoint will be already created (courtesy of Josephine Cali), so all that will be

required of the operator will be to:

- Be at church by 8.30 to set up the laptop (Parish laptop and instructions sheet provided)
- Check in with the musicians
- Sit beside the laptop and forward the slides at the appropriate moment (guide sheet provided)

Josephine has been doing this job ever since we first installed the screens. Thank you Josephine!! It is now time for other parish members to be on a roster (so you won't be needed every week).

Josephine has kindly offered to help with training and she will continue to create the weekly PowerPoint.

Please consider this request. Minimal basic IT skills required and a keenness to participate in this important ministry.

If you are interested, please contact the office on 9653 2312 or see Josephine after Mass.

JOSEPH HOUSE



Are you a young man seeking to hear God's voice and discover His plan for your life?

Do you know any young men who might benefit from living in Joseph House?

The responsibility of nurturing strong vocations lies with each and every one of us. Bishop Anthony looks to all members of the community of the Church of Broken Bay to be the ambassadors of Joseph House, to inspire young men you may know to consider seriously reflecting on God's call for their life. He looks to each one of us to be partners in the mission of the Church to build a vocational culture, so that our young people might discover the divine purpose of their lives.

For more information about Joseph House, a newly established house of discernment for young men, visit bbcatholic.org.au/josephhouse or [download the flyer](#).



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*:

ACN Australia has just launched its new *Healing the Wounds of Religious Extremism in Africa* Global Campaign.

Tragically, Africa is the continent with the highest number of murdered priests, religious and catechists and it is also home to 234 million Catholics. As such, ACN views its task in supporting the Catholic Church there as necessary. To help support our brothers and sisters in Africa visit www.aidtochurch.org/africa.

MEMORARE TO SAINT JOSEPH



Remember, O most chaste spouse of the Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who implored your help and sought your intercession were left unassisted. Full of confidence in your power I fly unto you and beg your protection. Despise not O Guardian of the Redeemer my humble supplication, but in your bounty, hear and answer me. *Amen.*

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

The Roster is now available for pick up in the Sacristy. Please collect your copy.

NEEDED—ACOLYTES - for Saturday 7pm Mass.
Our Priests need YOUR help.

Training will be provided. Please contact the office on 9653 2312 or see Father Bernard after Mass.

22/5/21 to 23/5/21 Pentecost Sunday Year B

	Saturday 7pm	Sunday 9am
Acolyte	Need help	Nigel Morgan
Reader1	Miriam Brown	Kath Moran
Reader2	Teresa Gambino	Helen Facione
Prayers	Margaret Bensley	Marcelle Doublas
TV		Cali Family
Music		Mark Quirk
Music		Gregorian Group
Music		Theresa Neely
Music		



Fatima Committee Meeting

For all committee members and guests.

7:00pm Wednesday 19 May 2021

In the St Benedict's Parish Meeting Room.

SAVE THE DATE

Father Alberic's 60th Ordination Anniversary celebration will be held at our parish on Sunday July 11th 2021 10.30am Mass followed by barbecue and cake.

Everyone Welcome!

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The planned giving envelopes are ready for collection. They are available in the front of the church alphabetical order by surname. Thank you for your kind contribution.

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting held every

Friday nights:

after 7pm Mass

Wednesday mornings:

after 9.30am Mass.



Everyone welcome.

For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CATECHIST NEWS

This year celebrates 200 years of formal Catholic Education in Australia, as such there will be a celebration throughout Australia on Monday 24th May, on the Feast day of Our Lady Help of Christians. Mass will be held in our parish at 9:30am, all are invited to attend.

Classroom Vacancies:

Arcadia PS

Wednesdays 11:30am – 12:05pm – a class of 7 students in Years 3&4.

Helper for Glenorie PS

Wednesdays 10:10am – 10:50am

Catechists (or Scripture teachers) come from many different walks of life – male, female, retired, working or students. Their main similarity is a love of God and a love of children. If you are interested to know more, even if you can't commit to being a full-time Catechist, please give me a call.

God bless,

Miriam Brown 9652 0558 or srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

We really need help with more volunteers. This is only for an hour or so once a month.

If you are interested in helping out please call the office on 9653 2312 (Mondays & Fridays), or simply grab a broom!

FRESH FLOWERS

Thank you for the volunteers bringing in the fresh flowers for our altar. If anyone can bring **fresh** flowers from their garden for the Church altar it would be greatly appreciated. God bless you!

PARISH STALL



Thank you for all your support. There will not be a stall in June, but we will back in July.

Thank you and God bless you all!

Lila Bacha Ph: 96521113 or 0418360024.

PLAYGROUP



Every Monday 10am to 12pm.

We meet every Monday **during school terms.**
No need to book just turn up. Everyone welcome!

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details call Angela Egiziano. Ph: 9653 2312.





Amoris Laetitia
Family
Year 2021 - 2022

Family Love: Vocation and Path to Holiness

Heavenly Father,

We come before You to praise You and to thank You for the great gift of the family.

We pray to You for all families consecrated by the Sacrament of Matrimony. May they rediscover each day the grace they have received, and as small domestic Churches, may they know how to witness to Your presence and to the love with which Christ loves the Church. We pray to You for all families faced with difficulty and suffering caused by illness or circumstances of which only You know. Sustain them and make them aware of the path to holiness upon which You call them, so that they might experience Your infinite mercy and find new ways to grow in love.

We pray to You for children and young people: may they encounter You and respond joyfully to the vocation You have in mind for them; We pray for parents and grandparents: may they be aware that they are signs of the fatherhood and motherhood of God in caring for the children who, in body and spirit, You entrust to them; and for the experience of fraternity that the family can give to the world Lord, grant that each family might live their specific vocation to holiness in the Church as a call to become missionary disciples, in the service of life and peace, in communion with our priests, religious, and all vocations in the Church. Bless the World Meeting of Families.

Amen!

Alive in the Spirit

Alive in the Spirit is an Australian national virtual Conference to support parishes in mission and ministry, inviting people to new vision, new energy, new life - to be the community that Christ calls us to be. The conference aims to bring renewal, connection, inspiration and formation through keynote speakers, workshops, liturgy and prayer. With 30+ on-demand workshops and interactive encounters, participants can explore areas of best practice for planning for mission, reaching beyond the margins, RCIA, pastoral care, social justice and much more. It can be accessed individually, or run as a personalised experience in your own community.

Open to all lay and clergy, staff, leadership teams, finance teams, pastoral councils, pastoral ministers and volunteers, those in education, counselling, pastoral care, youth ministry, family ministry, aged care and chaplaincies and anyone who wants to be Alive in the Spirit.

The conference is hosted by The Pastoral Ministry Network, the Christian Initiation Australia Network (CIAN), and the Mission Planners Network of Oceania.

Contact: Pina Bernard on 0432 682 239 or pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au

Registrations are now open at <https://aliveinthspirit.com.au/>

BOOKS FOR PRISONERS NEEDED

I was in prison and you came to visit me. (Mt. 25:36)



A Boot Load of Books was delivered to Brush Farm Corrective Services Academy Library, from here they are sorted and delivered to prisons across NSW. The Librarian was very grateful, and commented "what a wonderful community".

I'm collecting books for Prisons in NSW. If you have unwanted books, and would like to donate, please pack them in a box, leave it by the kitchen in the parish and I will come and collect it. Please no Hardcover, or text books. Fiction and Lifestyle are preferred.

If you have any queries, please phone Cathy 0403 062 255.

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

I delivered the clothes this morning to Sr Mary Leahy from Stella Maris Apostleship of Seafarers. She is blown away by the generosity and good hearts of the community, and asks me to pass on "*Many Thanks to St Benedicts Parish at Arcadia, what wonderful people they are!*".

Stella Maris Seafarers, a Catholic organisation helping seafarers, would appreciate any donations of second hand men's clothing, as well as any personal hygiene items such as **soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste** etc.

Please leave the items in the meeting room near the kitchen and they will be picked up weekly and taken to Sr Mary Leahy and I can tell you she will be most excited. Many Thanks for your kind Generosity.

(Sr Mary boards every ship that pulls into Botany Bay and checks on the welfare of the sailors, she is also a trained nurse and if she sees sick, injured or suspects abuse etc she is onto it.)

Cheers, Cathy Holling Ph: 0403 062 255

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (YEAR B)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:15-16

We celebrate today one more step in the completion of the mission of the Son of God. Humanity had sinned at the beginning of time and fallen from the Original Innocence. God immediately began to prepare the world for the gift of eternal redemption by establishing a covenant with Noah, Abraham and Moses. He raised up various prophets and kings to further prepare His people for what was to come. And then, when the time was right, God entered our world through the Blessed Virgin Mary. Jesus, the Son of God, eventually entered into His public ministry, teaching, performing miracles, gathering the faithful to Himself, dying, rising, and then appearing to His disciples in preparation for the Ascension. The Ascension completes the mission of the Son of God, and today we honor that one definitive moment when God the Son, in His transformed and resurrected Human nature, ascends by His own power to the Father, bringing with Himself our humanity so that all humanity may ascend with Him.

As we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus, we must first see all that led up to that moment and seek to unite ourselves with all of those preceding events. We must listen to the words of the patriarchs and prophets of the Old Testament. We must especially listen to the teachings of Jesus in the New Testament and embrace His words without hesitation. And we must unite ourselves with His own death, dying to sin, so that we may also share in His Resurrection. Today, we must further see the invitation we are all given to ascend with Jesus to the Father. We must understand that where Jesus has gone, we are invited to follow if we only believe, embrace, and live all that took place leading up to this glorious moment.

The Ascension was the end of Jesus' life on Earth but also the beginning of our sharing in the life of Heaven. As Jesus ascended, He commissioned His disciples to go forth and "preach the gospel to every creature." They were to preach to all about the saving plan of God that began at the time of Adam and Eve and was completed with the Ascension.

Reflect, today, upon your calling to not only share in this glorious moment of the Ascension of Jesus but also your calling to go forth and to do all you can to draw others into this new life. Reflect upon Jesus, Who also speaks to you today to invite you to bring others to that mountain. By teaching friends, family and all with whom God has entrusted to you to share the Gospel, you fulfill Christ's mission to "go into the whole world" to gather the scattered people into the one fold of Christ so as to ascend with Him one day into eternity.

My ascended Lord, all things throughout history were but a preparation for the moment when You drew fallen humanity into Heaven to be with Your Father forever. Help me to always heed Your holy words, so that I, too, will share in Your Ascension. Use me, dear Lord, to also go forth and to draw many others to You so that the Kingdom will be filled with all those whom You have called. Jesus, I trust in You.



NATIONAL MASS

TO CELEBRATE THE BICENTENNARY OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA

MONDAY 24TH MAY

9.30AM

JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION

AT

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH ARCADIA



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR MAY

THE WORLD OF FINANCE

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work
With governments to regulate the financial sphere and
Protect citizens from its dangers.



COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

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 Bernard 0416 032 497, Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882, Office for Safeguarding 83791605.

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
Parish Office: 9653 2312
Parish Priest: Fr. Bernard McGrath OSB
After hours: 0416 032 497
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia
Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd,
Arcadia 2159

Monastery: 9653 1159
Good Samaritan Sisters: 9653 1231

Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

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