

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 contact Father Hilarion for the following:

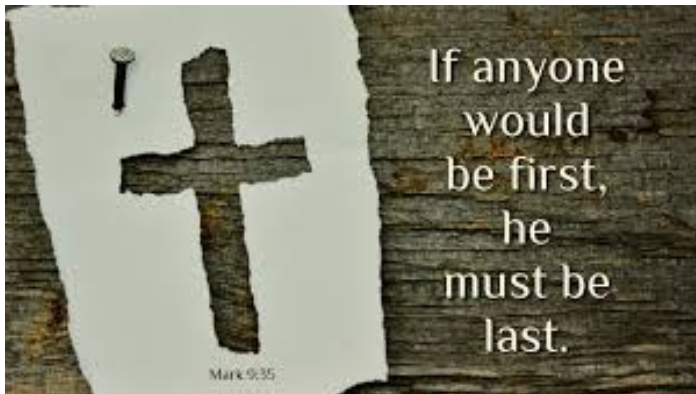
**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

Lord Jesus Christ,

Pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you, who are the bread of angels and the fulfilment of the soul's deepest desires. May my heart always hunger for you, so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence.

Amen. (prayer of St. Bonaventure).



SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Collect (Presidential Prayer of Sunday Eucharist)
Let us pray.

O God, who founded all the commands
of your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our neighbour,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
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.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

18 & 19 September 2021

FR HILARION WRITES

Dear friends in Jesus,

We are eagerly waiting for some normality with less restrictions to begin our parish community faith journey almost after 3 months.

I notice that the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has not met over a year.

I am sure some members of PPC are still willing to join with a few new members to organise parish activities. So I invite you to volunteer, nominate or propose some names. PPC meets less than 6 times per year, normally from 7 to 8 pm on a Tuesday.

Let us serve the Lord with gladness!

May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit descend upon you and all your near and dear ones and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Yours in Jesus,

Dom Hilarion OSB



A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION BY SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you already here, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.



First Reading

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 (JB)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

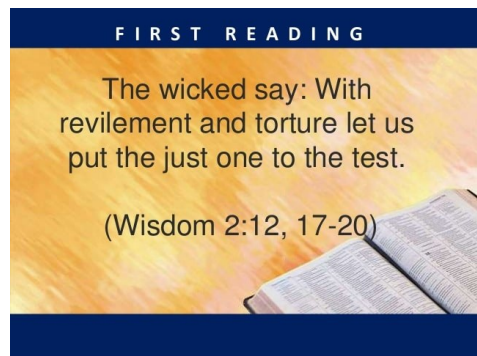
Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.
Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.
If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.
Let us condemn him to a shameful death

since he will be looked after - we have his word for it.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Second Reading

James 3:16 - 4:3 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St James

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity- All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY STORY

THE LOUDEST SOUND IN THE WORLD

Which is the loudest sound in the world? Is it an atomic bomb or a speeding jet plane? According to Fr Christopher Coelho OFM, in his book “And Now I can See!” it is the cry of a small child. Once, while sitting in the quiet of his room, he could hear the cry of a tiny little baby from about two-compounds-distance away. He felt the sound rousing him up to action. To him, the baby’s cry signalled an injustice done, perhaps something unfair...like the child’s parents trying to give it a bath. Such a small voice, and yet such a profound disturbance leading to insight!

THE CHILD AS A SYMBOL OF GOD’S PRESENCE & GOD’S VOICE

No wonder that in today’s Gospel, Jesus tells his apostles that when they receive a little child with affection, it is as if they had received him. Jesus turns a little child into a symbol for how we are to receive the voice of God and God’s presence into our lives. Jesus is also holding out the child’s gentleness, purity and harmlessness as an example for us to imitate.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.
Mark 9:30-37

The disciples were caught red-handed, and they knew it. Jesus had asked them what they were arguing about, and they had no choice but to tell him: they were caught up in a heated debate about which of them was the greatest disciple. In reply, Jesus told them to focus on being servants, not on becoming great. This probably wasn’t the first time he said something like this to them, and it surely wouldn’t be the last!

But then instead of going deeper into his teaching about serving, he pivoted to the theme of receiving a child in his name. So why did Jesus change the subject? He didn’t. He just had a different definition of service than the disciples did—and probably a different definition than we do. Like the disciples, we might think of service in terms of quantity and impact. But that’s not how Jesus sees it. If you lead a Bible study with fifty people and your neighbour leads one with five people, that doesn’t necessarily make you a better servant. If you are spending all your free time helping out in numerous parish ministries and your neighbour is able to give up only one extra hour a week, that doesn’t automatically mean you’re more of a servant.

What makes you a servant? Your willingness to welcome Jesus no matter how he comes to you. If you’re willing to “waste” your time with a child or any other vulnerable person, you’re a servant. If you’re willing to imitate Jesus’ humility as he washed his disciples’ feet, you’re a servant. If you’re willing to imitate his compassion as he stood up for a woman caught in adultery, you’re a servant.

Jesus promised that those who become “the last of all and the servant of all” are the “first” (Mark 9:35). May we learn how to live in the humility and lowliness of Christ.

“Jesus, give me the heart of a servant. Give me your heart of love.”

(Source: Word Among us. India)



LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 20 September 2021:

Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, Martyr
Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, Martyrs
Mass of the Saints.

Tuesday 21 September 2021:

St Matthew, apostle

Thursday 23 September 2021:

St Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest

Source: Ordo 2021

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

Chapter 4

Not to render cursing for cursing, but rather blessing.

PARISH FUNDS



THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the parish by helping out in the past few weeks. We really appreciate it.

With the suspension of Liturgies and Masses, our parish income has been severely affected. Planned Giving, Donations and Electronic Transfers can keep us going during this difficult time. If you are in a position to do so, please consider maintaining your Planned Giving donations.

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**

God bless you all!

HOPE OUT OF HORROR

Webinar on Refugees

Thursday 23 Sep 7.00pm to 8.00pm

In the wake of the tremendous difficulties currently being faced by those in Afghanistan and by Afghans currently in Australia on temporary visas.

SJAB (*Social Justice Around the Bay*),

St. Vincent de Paul,

Northern Sydney / Central Coast Regional Social Justice Committee and

Jesuit Refugee Service Australia (JRS) are holding a Webinar titled:

**Hope Out of Horror – Seeking Refuge in Australia
Thursday, 23 September, 7.00pm – 8.00pm**

This is a chance to hear the stories of those seeking Refuge and Asylum in Australia and to join a cry to Canberra to:

1. Offer Permanent Protection to all Refugees
2. Enable access to Family Reunions for Refugees
3. Offer a Safety Net, including Medical and Financial Assistance to those in need of refuge

REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS ESSENTIAL

To register click on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stories-of-hope-and-courage-seeking-refugee-in-australia-tickets-166888717647>

FIRST PLENARY COUNCIL ASSEMBLY MOVING FULLY ONLINE

At long last, starting 3 October 2021, the Catholic Church in Australia will gather for the first Assembly of the Plenary Council. Due to the current climate the format of the assembly has evolved from a large gathering, to smaller hubs and now to a fully online gathering with one person per device. While not ideal, and not what we had hoped, the national team will continue to assist and support the members and delegates so that they may participate as effectively as possible.

While many may question why we are proceeding with the Plenary Council at this time; the desire to fulfil Christ's mission, no matter how difficult the circumstances may be, is part of the thinking in moving ahead. It is precisely the challenges that people are now facing, the isolation and disconnect, that we are hoping the Church will be able to address. Please continue to pray for the Plenary Council, the members and delegates as they prepare to fulfill their role in the coming months.

You can keep abreast of all the latest news, access the Instrumentum Laboris and sign up to the Plenary Council Newsletter by heading to the National website: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

In Our Parish

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

We pray for the sick of our Parish,

especially Brother Mario, and Theresa Gittany (Lila Bacha's mum).



CATHOLIC CARE BROKEN BAY

Are you struggling to pay the bills? CatholicCare can help with Coles or Woolworths vouchers.

Times are tough. You might have lost work due to the lockdown, or you might be finding it hard to put food on the table. Please call CatholicCare on (02) **9481 2600** or email them at info@catholiccaredbb.org.au. They are here to help our parish families.

Please note this support is able to be offered due to Government funding so they will require ID and some documentation to access assistance but they can walk you through the requirements.



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

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

One Million Children Praying the Rosary: ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity and peace in the world on the 18th of October. Be part of this prayer campaign and join many others! Register and learn more at

www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children

FOSTER CARE WEEK: WE NEED FOSTER CARERS

A struggle that rarely makes news headlines is that of children and young people in our community who are suffering. Many have been through experiences few of us could begin to fathom and who, without our help, will go through childhood without the love and support of a family. CatholicCare provides essential support, care and stability for these children and young people often affected by abuse and neglect, to enable them to recover and thrive. The reality is though, we just don't have enough carers. If you have a spare bedroom and the time to help, you'll be showing them they haven't been forgotten. We need carers for babies, right through to kids aged 18 years.

Please visit www.fostering.org.au for more information.



International Day of Peace

To celebrate this day
you are invited
to join an online



International Day of Peace Interfaith Prayer Service

All are warmly invited to celebrate the UN International Day of Peace with an online Interfaith Prayer Service.

When: Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 2.00pm

Where: Zoom -

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/96010303812>

Occasional address: Rev. Simon Hansford, the Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia NSW & ACT Synod.

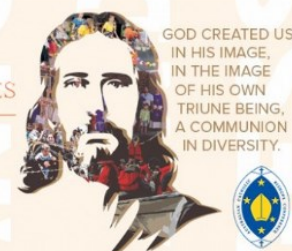
Religious leaders from Aboriginal, Bahai, Brahmakumaris, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Mandaean, Sikh, Sufi and Zoroastrian communities will offer prayers for peace.

There will be an opportunity to light a candle for Peace during the service, so please keep a candle and matchbox ready.

107th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

SUNDAY: 26 SEPTEMBER 2021

TOWARDS AN EVER
WIDER "WE"



WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES - 26 SEPTEMBER

Sunday 26 September is World Day for Migrants and Refugees, where Pope Francis invites us to "journey together towards an ever wider 'we'."

As we reflect on our experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pope Francis encourages us to build on a shared understanding of our common humanity, "on the truth of 'we' that the pandemic has placed before us" which "stands in sharp contrast with the emphasis on the individual that has until now pervaded our times".

This year, for World Day of Migrants and Refugees let us remember the vast numbers of people who are at any one time traversing our world as migrants and refugees and open our hearts towards an ever wider 'we' in our disposition to all people. Go to <https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/> for more information and resources, including a Migrant and Refugee Kit.



Virtual Open Day
Tuesday 28 Sep

campion.edu.au/virtual-open-day



PRAYER FOR HEALING DURING THIS PANDEMIC

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: Holy Mary, health of the sick,
All: **Pray for us.**

Leader: St Joseph, guardian of us all,
All: **Pray for us.**

(Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane)

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.
We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.
We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response.
We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing
our national, community and medical leaders.
We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable.
This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts,
we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

*(Ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches.
We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.)*

SAINT OF THE WEEK

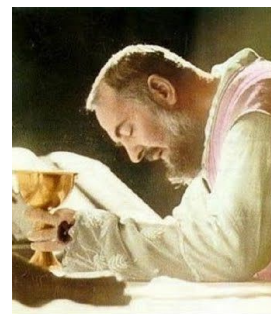
Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest

1887 - 1968

Feast Day: September 23

Patron Saint of Civil defense volunteers and adolescents

A humble friar's love for Christ burns holes through the palms of his hands



Padre Pio grew up dirt poor and uneducated in a village near Naples, Italy, in 1887. Neither his parents nor his grandparents could read or write. He was baptized as Francesco and helped on the family's small plot of land as a boy. The family was deeply religious, in the good, medieval way that persisted in rural, southern Europe far longer than it did in northern lands. Saints, feast days, devotions, processions, fasts, the Mass, angels, saints, the Virgin, and God saturated the atmosphere of Pietrelcina. Little Francesco and his family breathed Catholic air. It entered their bloodstream, circulated in their veins, and oozed out of every corpuscle. When he was about ten years old, Francesco decided to dedicate his life to God as a Franciscan friar. After completing some schooling and being privately tutored, he entered a nearby Franciscan friary at age fifteen. He took the name Pio (Pius) in honor of a saint honored in his hometown. He was ordained a priest in 1910.

Padre Pio lived virtually his entire priestly life at a modest Franciscan friary in the rural town of San Giovanni Rotondo. Beginning in 1918 he began to experience the stigmata, or marks of the sufferings of Christ. He bled where Christ bled. Holes perforated his hands. He had sharp pains in his side. He also began to display supernatural gifts: bilocation, prophecy, miracles, and healings. His personal routine of prayer and mortification was itself stupefying. He did not want his private passion to play out in public, but it did. He became famous in Italy for being holy. Then he became widely known the world over. By the time of his death in 1968, Padre Pio was a bona fide Catholic superstar.

Padre Pio had mystique. That mystique was not rooted in good looks, a chateau on the Côte d'Azur, or in movie roles. It was how he said Mass. People flocked to witness Padre Pio say long, intense, devotional Masses. In the modern world, sin has mystique. It's cool, retrograde, impulsive, and "edgy." A life of sin and vice is seen as more authentic than a life of goodness and virtue, because the sinner does not hide his real self behind a social curtain. Padre Pio hid nothing. He was totally authentic, totally sincere, and totally holy. His life was a rebuke of sin. He did not fake "share" others' burdens by joining them in sin. He entered into the real drama of life by embodying Christ. A true Christian is authentic when he separates himself and his friends from sin, when he creates the mystique of Christ around him, and, like Christ, draws all men to himself.

Saint Pio, your intense love of God was communicated to the faithful in your celebration of Mass, your wise counsel in the confessional, and in your mystical experiences. What was so manifest in you was rare, but lies latent in every priest. Help every priest to be an icon of Christ.

SOURCE: mycatholic.org

STS ANDREW KIM TAE-GON, PRIEST MARTYR, PAUL CHONG HA-SANG & COMPANIONS C. NINETEENTH CENTURY

FEAST DAY: 20 SEPTEMBER



The struggle to establish an organized Church structure in Korea was brutal. Today's martyrs, whose names are all known and about whom basic facts are verified, stand in the fore. Yet behind them stand, faceless and nameless, thousands of other martyrs known to God alone. They perished by the sword, by crucifixion, in prison, or of starvation, rather than renounce their Christian faith when faced with certain torture and death. The Catholic Church in South Korea today is immense and vibrant, fully Korean and fully Catholic. The Church in North Korea does not effectively exist, and martyrs may still be dying there today, squeezed to death in the iron grip of its dictators. The story of the Korean Church is one of daring, one of steely courage, but one of tears. Only in 1886 did the century of persecution end, with a French-Korean treaty. Pope Saint John Paul II canonized Fr. Andrew Kim, Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and 101 other Korean martyrs on May 6, 1984, at a Mass in Seoul, South Korea. It was, at that time, the largest gathering of humanity in the history of the Korean peninsula. The martyrs' blood was fertile.

Holy Korean martyrs, known and unknown, we implore your powerful intercession in heaven. Give us half your courage, a quarter of your daring, and just one percent of your faith. With that we can emulate you in the easy circumstances of today, where we suffer metaphorically, but rarely in our bodies. Amen.

SOURCE: mycatholic.org

A PRAYER FOR FORGIVING YOURSELF

Dear Lord,

I come before you humbly today asking you to help me forgive myself. I have looked back on my past way too long. And I am tired of feeling like I could have done better every single day. To be honest, when I think this way a part of me knows that it is right. I really could have made better choices, but I cannot go back and change it. The only thing I am in control of now is my future. I cannot live life backward.



Lord, right now I release all my anxiety into your hands. It is not your will that I hate myself for all the things that I have done. Lord, when I hate myself, I hate the very thing that you have created. I must know that is a sin.

Not only do I pray for myself but I also pray for other people that are struggling with forgiving themselves. Unforgiveness can make you feel so insecure. Help them accept themselves for their shortcomings because your Holy Word states: *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). **AMEN.**

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.
AMEN.



COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS—ALL MASSES 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
Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB
After hours: 0478 909 541
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia
Address: Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd,
Arcadia 2159
Monastery: 9653 1159

Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 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: 100002141 (NEW BANK DETAILS)
Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund