





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

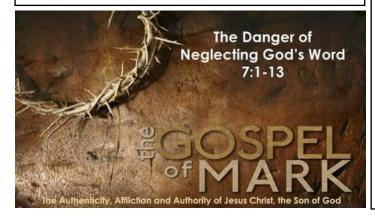
Fr Hilarion: 0478 909 541

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

28 & 29 August 2021

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends of St. Benedict Parish community,

As we are heading for another lockdown, hope and pray you are well and coping with the restrictions.

If you or your family or neighbour are in any need or wish to speak to someone (even to the monks) please call immediately. There are many good people, waiting to assist anyone in any need.

As we are trying to update the parish data-base, you could help us, by asking your family, friends and neighbour in the parish, to send us, their emails and contact numbers.

Please do not fail to notify the parish office, the names of the sick and anniversaries of the departed (R.I.P), so that we can pray especially for them.

Be assured of our humble prayers for you and all your loved ones.

May the blessings of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come upon you to guide and protect you!

Yours in Jesus, Dom Hilarion OSB.

PRAYER BY POPE FRANCIS:

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, united with Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman people, know what we need, and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that, as at Cana of Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. He who took our suffering upon Himself, and burdened Himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of Resurrection.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas — we who are put to the test — and deliver us from every danger. O glorious and blessed Virgin. AMEN.

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 (JB) A reading from the book of Deuteronomy You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you - keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27 (JB) A reading from the letter of St James Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (JB) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,

while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,

the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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). <u>Acknowledgement</u>: 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



Homily Story

STARTER: MARK TWAIN'S SARCASTIC REMARK

Mark Twain was always suspicious of overly pious Christians. One day at a dinner party a man cornered Twain and said, "Before I die, I am going to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. When I arrive, I will climb Mount Sinai, and from the very top I will boldly proclaim the Ten Commandments." Twain replied, "I have a better idea. Why don't you stay right here at home and obey them?" Twain's sarcastic remark actually echoes a theme in today's readings, a theme that plays out the difference between talking and doing. The letter of James says, "**Be doers of the word, not hearers only.**" And Jesus uses the prophet Isaiah in today's gospel to register his complaint: "**This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.**"

Gospel Reflection

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition. (Mark 7:8)

Given their strict attention to hand washing, these Pharisees and scribes would probably feel right at home in our pandemic-conscious world! Of course, they were concerned about religious purity, not personal hygiene, but we can all relate to how meticulous they were.

Still, Jesus rightly called their purity practices what they were: "human tradition" (Mark 7:8). Nowhere in Scripture does God command his people to be so rigorous in cleansing themselves or their household items. Instead, what began as a precaution among priests gradually morphed into a litmus test for every Israelite. If you didn't wash your hands just so, you were impure. It meant your faith was defective—or worse, you were defective.

Litmus tests can make things clear and simple, but the Pharisees were using them in the wrong way. To determine what was pure and impure, they needed to focus on what was lurking in their own hearts, not what was contaminating them from the outside. As Jesus warned them, it is "**the things that come out from within**" - our own sinful inclinations—that defile us (Mark 7:15).

Our rules for handwashing today are aimed toward preventing disease, but we can easily fall into the same habit as these Pharisees did. We can focus more on what's on the "outside" - the culture or the actions of other people—rather than facing the sinful desires in our hearts. After all, it's painful to see just how capable we are of falling into sin. It's easier just to apply a litmus test to the sins of the people around us.

Jesus came to save us from sin, and we can count on him to give us the grace to deal with whatever is "within" us. Today, ask the Lord to search your heart. Ask him to help you see ways in which you are susceptible to sin—and ask him to keep cleansing you.

"Jesus, purify my heart today!"

Source: 'Word Among Us" (India) Daily Gospel Reflections.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Friday 3 September 2021:

St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor

SPRING EMBER DAY - Australia

Special day of Prayer and Penance



EMBER DAYS mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. In Australia, the Church observes the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) as special days of prayer and penance, focusing on the environment, the seasons and God's providence.

Ember Days originated in pagan celebrations connected with harvest, vintage and seed time that were taken into the Church calendar. They were four groups of three days (always Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) of fasting and abstinence observed after the first Sunday of Lent, Pentecost Sunday, the feast of the Holy Cross on September 14th and the feast of St Lucy on December 13th. Ember Days corresponded roughly with the beginning of each of the four seasons.

THE RULE OF ST BENEDICT

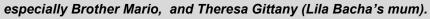
Chapter 4

Not to render cursing for cursing, but rather blessing.

PARISH FUNDS	BAY CONNECT	
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	Evangelisation Broken Bay has launched a new program of online events called Bay Connect. The program provides an online program of regular activities commencing on 30 August, to converse, reflect and connect spiritually online during this challenging time.	
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,	The program commences on Monday, 30 August, and includes:	
please consider maintaining your Planned Giving donations.	• THE CHOSEN MONDAY	
Your support as always is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account here are the details:	Mondays @ 7:30-8:45pm via Zoom - Join us as we go through the first season of <i>The Chosen</i> , viewing one episode every Monday, breaking open some themes and coming to know Jesus in a fresh new way.	
PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK DETAILS	• TUESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS	
Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:	Tuesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Instagram Live	
BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141 Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank: CBA—Catholic Development Fund	(@cybbaus) - A place for the community to come together for prayer and to praise God from the setting of your home. All youth, young adults, singles and families, parishioners and clergy are invited.	
God bless you all!	• HUMPDAY HANGOUT W/ BR BERNARD	
MAJOR EARTHQUAKE HITS HAITI Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the	Wednesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Zoom - Our jolly friar Br. Bernard Mary will host the session with time for prayer, 'Banger' of the week, casual chat and an entertaining selection of activities. • FORMATION FRIDAYS	
people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake.		
Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches and schools have been damaged in the quake, and reports indicate that more than 30,000 families have been left homeless.	Fridays @ 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom - An opportunity to get some simple Catholic formation on various aspects of the faith, from the basics to the hot topics, featuring a different guest speaker each week, followed by some time for questions/discussion.	
The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence.	"Through this, we hope that those in our community who are seeking opportunities to come closer to Christ can do so in a new and fresh way," said Tomasz.	
There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground.		
To provide support, you can donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal.	To find out more and register online, visit the Bay Connect page on the Diocese of Broken Bay website:	
Denete today at youry earlies are av	https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/covid-19-updates/ prayer-resources/bay-connect	
Donate today at <u>www.caritas.org.au</u> or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.		
or by caning 1000 024 410 ton nee.		

In Our Parish

We remember in our prayers, all our dearly beloved who have died. We pray for the sick of our Parish,





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 <u>info@catholiccaredbb.org.au</u>. 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.



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY AUGUST 29, 2021

CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

The Social Justice Statement 2021-22 provides theological foundations to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life.

In the Statement, the Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action.

The Statement especially encourages Catholic families, communities and organisations to: listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*; and plan their next steps towards the Laudato Si' Goals.

Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor will be a useful resource throughout our seven-year journey to total sustainability.

More information: https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/socialjustice-statement-2021-22/



NOBODY SHOULD HAVE TO GO HUNGRY



900 snack packs 250 self-care packs 130 hampers

Distributed to locals in need

While some of our critical outreach services are unable to get out within communities to provide their usual support, we've been finding new ways to ensure help is there for those who need it.

Our staff and volunteers have recently distributed 900 snack packs, 250 self-care packs and 130 hampers through a range of services, including Redfern Youth Connect, Parramatta Mission Meals Plus and many of our own local support hubs.

Help is here for those who need it right now, to find out more about what support is available head to vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw

PRAYERS NEEDED



Our hearts are grieving and our prayers go out to the people of **Haiti and Afghanistan.**

O merciful Father, who have taught us in your holy word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: **Look with pity upon the sorrows of the people of Afghanistan and Haiti,** for whom our prayers are offered.

Remember them, O Lord, in mercy, nourish their souls with patience, comfort them with a sense of your goodness, lift up your countenance upon them, and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



If you would like to add prayers here please email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com



Safeguarding Month September 2021 Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities

Dear Clergy and Parishioners of Broken Bay, You are invited to join the following initiatives

WEEK 1: 1-4 September

Like Diocesan social media posts that show how Children and Young People participate in our Catholic communities

WEEK 2: 5-11 September

Celebrate National Children Protection Week (NAPCAN) by visiting their national webpage www.napcan.org.au/ and learn about the theme: Every child, in every community, needs a fair go.

Wednesday 8 September – Online Launch of new resource for adults of Broken Bay – Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities: A guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People. Access the e-resource here www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021 Printed copies are available from the Office for Safeguarding (Chancery) P 8379 1605 or E safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au

Thursday 9 September @ 12.30pm – 1.30pm – Free webinar facilitated by NAPCAN - eSafety's guide to online sexual harassment and image-based abuse. The webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 13 - 18. To register click here: register.gotowebinar.com/ rt/8331659724914836752

Thursday 9 September @ 7pm, Liturgy of Lament – an opportunity to gather and pray to God in acknowledging the suffering caused to our most vulnerable and to give public expression to our sorrow. The liturgy will be broadcast. Click here to view: www.bbcatholic.org.au/ safeguarding-month-2021

WEEK 3: 12-18 September

- Sunday 12 September, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday - join Bishop Anthony Randazzo in celebrating Mass at 9.30am via livestream from OLOR, Cathedral. Click here to view: www.youtube.com/channel/ UCNenwlfl7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ
- Prayers Remember in your prayers this week the wellbeing and safety of Children and Young People especially those who are particularly vulnerable due to covid-19. Prayer resources are available from our webpage: www.bbcatholic.org.au/ safeguarding-month-2021

WEEK 4: 19-25 September

Wednesday 22 September @11.00am to 12.30pm, via zoom – Ministering to a Church in Trauma presentation by Rev Dr David Ranson, Vicar General. To register and receive your zoom link click here: bbcatholic.zoom.us/ meeting/register/tJltce2qpjovHtWs7V ymz9XkWVhlVTlq22Px

WEEK 5: 26-30 September

The Diocesan Office for Safeguarding places a special devotion to Mary Undoer of Knots. Her feast day is celebrated Tuesday 28 September. You are invited to pray the Mary Undoer of Knots Novena. A wonderful prayer resource can be accessed here: www.praymorenovenas .com/mary-undoer-knots-novena

Thank you for your participation



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Gregory the Great

c. 540 - 604

Feast Day: September 3



Patron Saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers

A gifted nobleman serves Rome, becomes a monk, and then a consequential pope

When your salad is *awesome*, your car *amazing*, and your internet connection is *great*, there's a problem. Overused superlatives diminish their own meaning and crowd the linguistic space reserved for things which are truly *awesome*, *amazing*, and *great*. Today's saint sent the large missionary party that trekked across Europe and converted Saxon England to Catholicism, establishing a culture that endured for almost a millennium. **That's** *awesome*! He wrote a theological work that was used for centuries by thousands of bishops to help them become more fatherly pastors. **That's** *amazing*! Gregorian chant is named after him; he is one of the four Latin Fathers of the Church; he was the first pope to use "Servant of the Servants of God" as a papal title; he alone preserved the memory of Saint Benedict with a biography; he made revisions to the content and structure of the Mass which are part of the liturgy until today; and he was the most impactful pope of the long span of centuries from the 500s to the 1000s. **That's** *great*! These accomplishments thus truly merit the title *Great* with which Saint Gregory has been justly crowned by history.

Pope Saint Gregory the Great was born into a noble Roman family with a history of service to Church and empire. The family home was perched on one of Rome's seven ancient hills, the Caelian, which Via San Gregorio still cuts through today. His father was a Roman senator, although at a time when Italy was in decline and the imperial government was based in Constantinople. Gregory received an education in keeping with his class and became the Prefect of Rome, its highest civil position, in his early thirties. In 579 he was chosen by the pope as his emissary to the emperor's court in Constantinople, primarily to seek the emperor's assistance in protecting Italy from the Lombard tribes that had long ago overrun her.

Gregory was elected the bishop of his home city in 590 and was thus obligated to abandon the quiet life of a monk, which he had been living with some friends for a few years in a small monastery near his family home. In numerous letters which have fortunately been preserved, Pope Gregory, soon after his election, bemoans the loss of his monastic solitude, peaceful recollection, and life of prayer. But he had only been a monk for a few short years. Gregory's skills as an administrator, honed in his long years of prior civil and church leadership, proved valuable when he sat on the Chair of Saint Peter. He drew into the orbit of papal authority the bishops of France and Spain who had, until then, been operating somewhat autonomously. He secured the allegiance of Italy's northern tribes to orthodox Catholicism, compelling them to abandon the counterfeit Arian Christianity they had held for centuries. And Gregory made the fateful decision to personally organize and promote the great, and highly successful, missionary journey of Saint Augustine of Canterbury to the Kingdom of Kent in England.

Pope Saint Gregory the Great's legacy in liturgy, pastoral doctrine, and miracles left a deep mark on medieval Europe and beyond. The Council of Trent in 1562 mandated the suppression of votive Mass cycles for the dead or for any other need. But the Council Fathers made one exception: The Mass of Saint Gregory, a cycle of thirty Masses on thirty consecutive days for the release of a soul from purgatory, were not suppressed. Almost a thousand years after his death, Gregory's memory was too venerable to suppress. Gregory was an encourager of the encouragers, a bishop who modeled, strengthened, and explained how and why his fellow bishops should be fathers first and lords second.

Pope Saint Gregory the Great, your example of holy leadership, of scholarly practicality, of balance between universal and local concerns, helps all Christians to weigh their many duties in a proper balance and to choose correctly what matters most to God and their own salvation. Amen.

SOURCE: mycatholic.org

PRAYER FOR OVERCOMING LONELINESS

Dear God, I feel alone.

Please bring the warmth of relationships into my life. Please cover my thoughts with hope. Please send your love into my heart. I know you are alive in all I experience. May the birdsong speak to my soul, May the trees remind me of life, May the bread I eat nourish my soul with its goodness, As I connect with the world around me. I give thanks for all those who love me, For all those who care. Help me to receive your hope in my heart, To embrace your life flowing in mine. I know I live and breathe as part of your family and dwell safely in you. I know you understand me. I am not alone. Amen.



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 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PLEASE WEAR MASKS.

Please use QRCODE 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.

Parish Office:	Mondays & Fridays: 10.30am to 2.30pm (CLOSED) 9653 2312 Fr. Hilarion Fernando OSB 0478 909 541	Website: Facebook: Address:	www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia stbenedictsarcadia Cnr Fagans & Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159
Email:	arcadia.parish@bigpond.com	Monastery:	9653 1159
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159		Bank Details for ONLINE only donations:	
Safeguarding	Occupational Health & Safety and Children matters aine Dailey on 0416 081 882.	BSB: 062 784 Acct: 100002141 (NEW BANK DETAILS) Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank: CBA—Catholic Development Fund	