

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

O God,

the source of all our good, deliver us from the deception of false gold that glitters but does not give life. Empty us of our self-seeking that we may be filled with Christ and live lives of self-giving in Him. who lives and reigns for ever.

Amen.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

25 & 26 September 2021

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.



FR HILARION WRITES

Dear friends in Christ,

As we confront various situations in our social, political and religious life, sometimes we wonder, where is God in all these? Our faith tells us that God is always in charge and knows to bring good even out of evil. Jesus' whole mission was and is to impress us, of the importance of the health of the soul. Let us remember that we belong to Christ, and He does have answers to all problems.



God sometimes looks at things differently than we do. We might be weighed down by a reluctance to change or dislike of the unexpected. But God wants to work in the lives of his people, and He is so eager to pour out his Spirit that He won't always follow our script. He challenges our narrow viewpoint.

That can be a really good thing.

Have a wonderful week with the Lord!

Yours in Jesus,

Dom Hilarion OSB

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray:

*O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.
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.*



First Reading**Numbers 11:25-29 (JB)**

A reading from the book of Numbers

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Second Reading****James 5:1-6 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St James

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them - listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL****Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

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

HOMILY REFLECTION

Mark 9:38-48

Pope St John Paul II was deeply grieved by the paedophilia crisis. Shortly before he died he summoned all of the bishops from the US to Rome and spoke to them of the gravity of the situation. In order to underline the seriousness with which he viewed this crime, he quoted from today's Gospel reading: 'Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown in to the sea' (v.42). Sobering and really quite frightening words.

Sin and evil are a mystery. God is infinitely good, and the world we live in is wonderful and beautiful in so many ways, but we cannot escape the dark side, the shadows so prevalent both in our own nature and in the world at large. St Augustine famously reflected, 'I sought whence evil comes and there was no solution.' His quest for an answer to this dark problem led him ultimately to conversion to Christ and the living God. Years later he would say that 'the mystery of lawlessness is clarified only in the light of the mystery of faith.' There is no escaping the reality of sin in human history and in our own lives. We, for our part, must resist the tendency so prevalent today to ignore it or to give it a name other than sin. This kind of approach is futile, because giving it another name does not change its awful reality.

Sin is really an abuse of our freedom as creatures, leading us into darkness and all kinds of confusion. We are sinners, we live in a sinful world, and in this life at least, we cannot be free from sin and its influence. However, we can resist it, we can overcome it, and we can learn to recognise and identify those movements in our own hearts and minds which lead us away from God and Christ.

'Finding ourselves in the midst of a battlefield we have to struggle to do what is right, and it is at great cost to ourselves and aided by God's grace that we succeed in achieving our own inner integrity.' (Gaudium et spes 37)

(From: Bible Alive (UK) - Daily Reflections. Pg. 45)

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Monday 27 September 2021: | St Vincent de Paul, priest |
| Tuesday 28 September 2021: | St Wenceslaus, martyr St Lawrence Ruiz and companions, martyrs |
| Wednesday 29 September 2021: | Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels |
| Thursday 30 September 2021: | St Jerome, priest, doctor |
| Friday 1 October 2021: | St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor |
| Saturday 2 October 2021: | The Holy Guardians Angels |

Source: Ordo 2021

Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels **September 29 – Feast**



Patrons of soldiers & police (Michael); messengers & postal workers (Gabriel); travelers & the blind (Raphael)

Today's feast is about the created spiritual beings known as angels who fill the space between God and man, communicating His message, protecting man from harm, and battling against the armies of Satan. The Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael transmit some of God's most important messages.

Michael leads the war cry in a mysterious, metaphysical battle against the Devil and his minions in the Book of Daniel. "There is no one with me who contends against these princes except Michael, your prince" (Dan. 10:21), and "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise" (Dan. 12:1). Michael means "Who is like God."

Gabriel is an essential figure in the events surrounding the Incarnation. We first meet him in the Jerusalem temple, announcing the birth of Saint John the Baptist to his father Zachary: "I am Gabriel, I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news" (Luke 1:19). He later conveys the message of all messages to the Virgin Mary, eliciting her "Yes" to God's sublime invitation. Gabriel means "the strength of God."

Raphael appears in the disguise of a man in the Book of Tobit, guiding the young Tobiah along his journey. "... God sent me to heal you and Sarah your daughter-in-law. I am Raphael, one of the seven angels who stand ready and enter before the glory of the Lord" (Tobit 12: 14-15). Raphael means "God heals."

Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, we invoke your powerful intercession before the throne of God in heaven. By your spiritual assistance, protect us from harm, heal us of our infirmities, and convey to us God's will for our lives. Amen.

SOURCE: mycatholic.life

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, especially we have not had a fete for two years. 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!

Plenary Council Online Prayer Vigil

Saturday, 2 October

The First General Council Assembly starts Sunday 3 October and we are inviting the community of the Church of Broken Bay to an online prayer vigil with Bishop Anthony on Saturday 2 October from 7.00-7:30pm.

"Listen to what the spirit is saying" has been the theme of this Plenary Council acknowledging the importance of prayer and God's relationship with His Church. This prayer vigil will call the community to come together as one Church to offer our prayers of support to the Bishop, Members, Delegates, and the whole Assembly gathering.

We encourage you to attend and take part in this special prayer night. To register please visit:

www.bbcatholic.org.au/bayconnect

"LOVE WITHOUT LIMITS" WEBINAR

Jesus taught us to both love our neighbour and to go make disciples. Join Cardinal Tagle, Nicky Gumbel and friends for an honest conversation around how we can live out this calling in the modern world.

Date: 30 September 7:00pm OR 1 October 7:00am

Register at: www.tfaforms.com/4927075



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,
especially Gilbert Watt's father.

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.

**SUBSCRIBE
TO OUR
NEWSLETTER**

SENT OUT QUARTERLY

CatholicCare
Broken Bay



**Virtual Open Day
Tuesday 28 Sep**

campion.edu.au/virtual-open-day



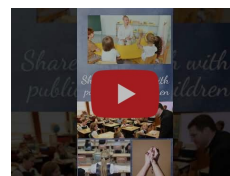
ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE AS A WITNESS TO YOUR FAITH?

If you have ever thought about becoming a catechist, now is a good time to respond and make an enquiry.

CCD is offering Zoom training in Term 4 to upskill new catechists and helpers to enable them to teach, or assist an experienced catechist, in one of our public schools in 2022.

Click on the link for more information or contact our Parish Catechist Coordinator:

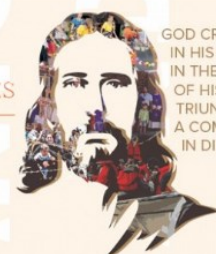
Miriam Brown on 9652 0558



**107th
WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

SUNDAY: 26 SEPTEMBER 2021

**TOWARDS AN EVER
WIDER "WE"**



GOD CREATED US
IN HIS IMAGE,
IN THE IMAGE
OF HIS OWN
TRINE BEING,
A COMMUNION
IN DIVERSITY.



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.

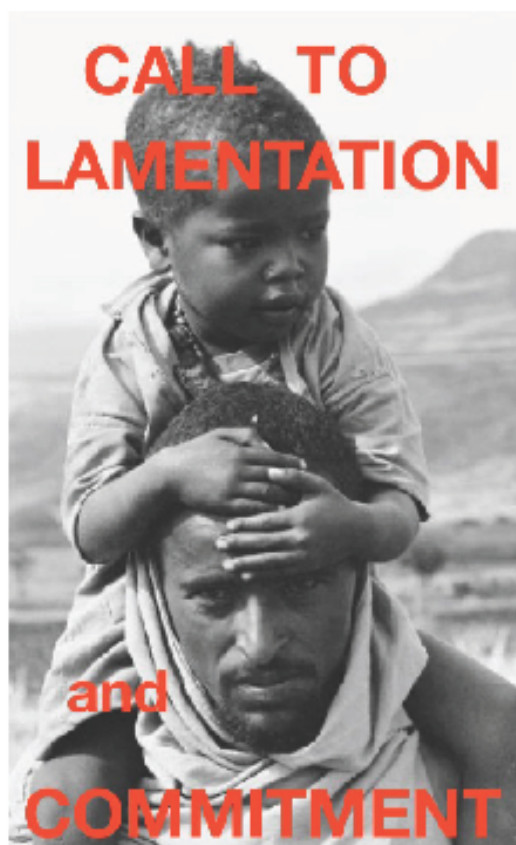
INVITATION

26 September 2021

Zoom Candlelight Prayer 7.00 – 7.30 pm

<https://bit.ly/Calltolamentation>

CALL TO LAMENTATION



and COMMITMENT

Who could have imagined when we began the journey of 150 Days of Action for refugees that we would be grieving for the beautiful country of Afghanistan? As we watched the Kabul airport fill with fear, bombs and those desperately seeking safety, we knew we were watching the beginning of life on the road for thousands of people.

Let us stay with the prayers and thoughts and political action necessary to change hearts and minds in our country Australia!

We think of those we have left behind after twenty years in their country. We think of those who need to find safety from the Taliban and ISIS.

The world is watching the next movement of refugees begin. Will we live up to our obligations when they reach these shores?

The 150 Days initiative began because Pope Francis declared 2021 to be the year of Joseph, Patron of Refugees. He and Mary were forced to flee with Jesus, their refugee child. Pope Francis named Joseph as "the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty."

Australia needs a new heart, a new way to show mercy.

We have been using our resources and talents at schools, parishes, within our own communities and organisations to call for three things:

1. to provide income support and a financial safety net for all people seeking asylum in Australia
2. to end temporary protection visas and create a clear pathway to permanent residency
3. to ensure access to family reunion for refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia.

On September 26 – Migrant and Refugee Sunday – we join together for all those held in Australia's temporary visa system and for all forced to flee their homelands.

We welcome you, your families and communities to be a part of a ritual on Zoom. *Click the link to register:*
<https://bit.ly/Calltolamentation>

The Ritual:

Welcome to country and a sung call to prayer

Light a candle

Listen to people's stories

Honour the names of those who died in Australia's camps

Prayer of lamentation and commitment

Call all our elected representatives to respond to the three demands of government

The ceremony will be recorded and the video will be sent to every Senator and MP in the Federal Parliament.

Any queries please contact Julie Macken or Jan Barnett
Julie.Macken@sydneycatholic.org
Jan.Barnett@scsj.org.au

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr

c. 907 – 929

Feast Day: September 28

Patron Saint of Czech Republic and Slovakia

A young duke is killed by a jealous brother and becomes a Czech icon



When the famous die young, their unwrinkled faces, dark hair, and youthful vigor are frozen in time, forever vital, forever attractive, forever young. Time is not given its chance to run over their skin like water over rocks. No shaping, cracking, molding or shifting of the surfaces. Before the modern cult of celebrity held up athletes, movie stars, and musicians for supreme adulation, most cultures revered their royalty, soldiers, or holy men. Kings and princes, bishops and saints, chiefs and warriors served the common good by governing, praying for, and protecting the people. There simply was no class of entertainers to distract a populace from the leadership that mattered. Today's saint, Wenceslaus, Duke of Bohemia, was felled in a fateful encounter with his brother Boleslaus the Cruel. Wenceslaus was already famous when he died so young and so dramatically. All the ingredients needed to guarantee a lasting legacy were present, and his memory did last. He was recognized by the Church as a martyr, posthumously given the title of King, and quickly became an iconic figure to the Bohemian people such that his Feast Day, September 28th, is a national holiday in the modern Czech Republic.

Wenceslaus lived as Christianity was still dawning in central Europe. German missionaries had been laboring for a few generations with success, but underneath the visible layer of a Christian culture there was a substrata of paganism that was rock hard. Central and Eastern Europe were passing through the normal stages of evangelization, as an age-old culture with all its customs and traditions was slowly pushed back by a greater force moving like a glacier. Catholicism had moved into Bohemia by the 900s, but the religious landscape was not yet monolithic. As our martyr's death attests, religious and political divisions ran cracks through the culture.

The grandfather of Wenceslaus may have been converted by no less than Saints Cyril and Methodius themselves. His grandmother Ludmila was an ardent Catholic and oversaw Wenceslaus' excellent education in which he learned to read and write both Slavonic and Latin. Wenceslaus' mother, Drahomira, clung to the old ways, though she was nominally a Christian. When Drahomira thought Ludmila was encouraging Wenceslaus to assume power as a teen, Drahomira had her mother-in-law strangled to death with her own veil. Once he did take power, Wenceslaus banished his own mother, solidified control of western Bohemia, and became an honorable ruler. He followed the law, favored education, and promoted the form of Christianity practiced in Germany, not in the east. This was a fateful decision. Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia are Slavic peoples of the Latin Rite, unlike their Orthodox and Byzantine Rite Slavic cousins just to the east. Wenceslaus was pro-Western theologically and liturgically, while retaining his Slavic identity and independence in other essential matters. This pattern was to endure, giving Slavic Catholicism its unique features.

But for all of Wenceslaus' brief successes, in the shadows lurked Boleslaus, creating a power center in eastern Bohemia. When Wenceslaus' wife gave birth to a son, Boleslaus knew he would not succeed his brother, so he plotted his murder. Boleslaus and his henchman struck down the young duke Wenceslaus in 929 on the Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian and on the Vigil of Saint Michael the Archangel. "Brother, may God forgive you" were our martyr's last words.

Saint Wenceslaus, you were the model of a just ruler in your brief reign. You saw it as your sacred duty to promote the true God and His religion. Help all rulers and leaders to see morality, liturgy, prayer, and catechesis as the bedrock of a just society. Amen.

VOLUNTEERING FOR HAPPINESS

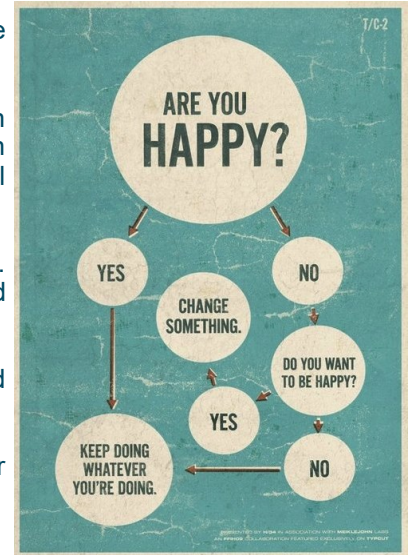
You may already know that volunteering your time in service of others can make you a happier person.

There are so many ways to volunteer your time in service of others. You can volunteer in person or help remotely from home. Either way, helping others can make you feel good. Plus, it can help you feel connected to others while still getting in some quality alone time.

Research volunteer opportunities in your area, community or even at Church. God knows we always need the help here at Church. It's important to find something that feels right to you

If the first thing you try doesn't work out, it's perfectly reasonable to move on and look for something else.

Perform a random act of kindness whenever the opportunity presents itself, or contact the parish office for anything you can help us with!



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