

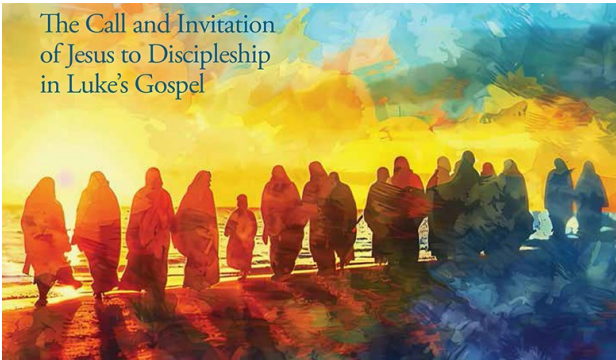
St Benedict's Parish

Arcadia



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

8 & 9 FEBRUARY 2025



The Call and Invitation of Jesus to Discipleship in Luke's Gospel

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends:

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

Weekdays:

Mondays to Thursdays 9:30am

Fridays 6:30pm Adoration
7:00pm Mass & Confession
(Reconciliation)

Saturdays 9:00am to 10:00am
Adoration & Confession (Reconciliation)



MONASTERY CHAPEL Masses

Sundays 7:00am
Daily 7:00am

Please contact Father Shansana for the following:

**BAPTISMS
RECONCILIATION
FOR THE SICK
MARRIAGES
FUNERALS**

Parish Priest:
Fr Shansana 0437 884 233



ENTRANCE PROCESSION

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care,
that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace,
they may be defended always by your protection.
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.

SELF REFLECTION: FAITH'S CALL

In Luke 5:1-11, Jesus calls Peter and his friends to follow Him after a miraculous catch of fish. This passage reminds me that even when I feel unsure or unworthy, Jesus sees potential in me. Like Peter, I may have doubts, but when I trust in God's guidance, He can do more than I expect. It challenges me to step out in faith, let go of control, and follow where He leads, knowing that He will equip me for the journey.

- How do I respond when Jesus asks me to step out in faith, even when it doesn't make sense?
- What areas of my life am I holding onto control instead of trusting God?
- How can I recognise God's presence and power in moments when I feel unworthy or doubtful?
- Am I willing to follow Jesus even when it requires leaving my comfort zone?
- What "nets" do I need to let go of to fully follow God's calling??

Faith
is not hoping
God can
it is knowing
He **Will**

Lord,
thank You for calling me, even when I feel unworthy or unsure. Help me trust You, step out in faith, and follow Your lead. Teach me to let go of control and rely on Your guidance. Use me for Your purposes, and strengthen my trust in Your plan. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Here am !! Send me.

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out one to another in this way, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said: 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said: 'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: 'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (JB)

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

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you - believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

They left everything and followed him.

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats - it was Simon's - and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Here I Am.
Send Me.

Isaiah 6:1-8



"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

GOSPEL REFLECTION
Sunday February 9, 2025
Luke 5:1-11

Catechism Theme: The Holiness of God (CCC 206-209)

Confronted with the size of the catch, Simon realized the power and presence of God before him. As he begged Jesus to leave, he was shaken to his core. Before the sign, Simon had his life laid before him: another nameless, faceless fisherman who would live and die by the Sea of Galilee. After the sign, however, he was faced with a reality that demanded a response. And a change.

An encounter with God is an experience that transcends our perceptions. Moses encountered God in the burning bush. When asked for a name, God responded with an enigma that transcended understanding: "I Am who I Am." The name itself described the unknowable and totally Other. Yet, the name also revealed God's eternal presence. He who was beyond all understanding would be close, present to whom he revealed himself. The encounter and the name revealed told Moses that God always was and always would be present. God was eternally transcendent, yet eternally immanent. An encounter with such a reality demanded a response. It could not be ignored.

An encounter with God also transcends our expectations. God is radically free. And he calls us to his will. We do not call him to ours. Simon could not anticipate or expect a call from God. Yet, he received a call to reach beyond himself and follow the Lord. We, too, receive the same call. Reach beyond and follow Jesus.

How has God "caught you in his net?" How has that experience changed your life?

I've never caught a fish. But that doesn't mean I haven't been caught. In fact, I was caught a long time ago. Chances are most of you who have read this have been caught, too. God, through people, went fishing. God caught more than my average. A lot more. Let's pray we can be part of that fishing expedition.

How can you be part of God's fishing expedition this week? Remember who the Captain of the boat really is.

Source: <http://www.word-sunday.com/>

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

FEBRUARY

- Monday 10 Readings: Gen 1:1-19. Mk 6:53-56.
R: May the Lord be glad in his works.
St Scholastica, virgin.
- Tuesday 11 Readings: Gen 1:20-2:4. Mk 7:1-13.
R: O Lord our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!
Our Lady of Lourdes
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK
- Wednesday 12 Readings: Gen 2:4-9, 15-17. Mk 7:14-23.
R: Bless the Lord, my soul!
- Thursday 13 Readings: Gen 2:18-25. Mk 7:24-30.
R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- Friday 14 Readings: Gen 3:1-8. Mk 7:31-37.
R: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.
Sts Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop.
- Saturday 15 Readings: Gen 3:9-24. Mk 8:1-10.
R: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.



A Prayer for Strength

*Lord, our God
We are in the shadow of Your wings.
Protect us and bear us up.
You will care for us as if we were little children,
even to our old age.
When You are our strength, we are strong,
but when we are on our own, we are weak.
We now return to you,
O Lord, that we may never turn away again.*

Amen

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

Source: Ordo 2025



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2025

For vocations to priestly and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community may welcome the desires and doubts of young people who feel called to serve Christ's mission in priestly and religious life.

ANNIVERSARY OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

FR DAVID ORR
13th February 1967 - 58 years

Congratulations and Best Wishes on Your Religious Profession Anniversary.

On this special anniversary of your religious profession, we, the parish of St. Benedict's, give thanks to the Lord for the gift of your vocation and your faithful commitment to His service. Father David, we celebrate your dedication and the profound witness of your life. May God continue to bless and guide you, and may you remain a true instrument of His mercy, love, and grace in all you do. We are grateful for the many ways you proclaim His goodness.

With heartfelt prayers and best wishes,
The Parish of St. Benedict's

DRAFT ROSTER FINAL CALL

Draft Roster is now at the Sacristy window. Please check your names. This is the final weekend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK February 11, 2025

Lord, we lift up all who are sick and suffering today. May Your healing presence be with them, bringing comfort and strength. Bless the hands of those who care for them, and grant peace to their hearts. We trust in Your love and mercy, knowing You are always by our side. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY 2025 February 9, 2025

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on February 9 in 2025.

Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God.

Visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

URGENT HELP NEEDED

Catechist Vacancy at Glenorie Public School

Are you available for just **40 minutes a week**? We are looking for a catechist (teaching religion) to join us on **Wednesdays from 10:50am to 11:30am** at Glenorie Public School. If you enjoy working with children and have a heart for teaching, this could be a perfect opportunity for you.

No experience is required as full **training, support, and materials** will be provided.

If you are available on Wednesday or Friday mornings during school terms and feel called to make a difference in children's lives, we would love to have you join this wonderful ministry!

For more details or to sign up, please contact:

Miriam srearcadia@gmail.com or Paula 9653 2312.

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay



WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE
OUR NEW ACCREDITATION FOR
HOME CARE PACKAGES



EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST NOW
P: 1800 324 924
E: info@catholiccaredbb.org.au
W: www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

We want to know if our Home Care Packages are of interest to you, or a loved one and want to prioritise the needs of our parishioners before we promote to the general public.

As a Catholic organisation we want the seniors we support to know they are truly cherished and valued and we're confident our services will be very well received.

There's no obligation to partner with us. We may contact you to discuss your needs, but you're welcome to opt-out at anytime.

In Our Parish

(please let us know if you would like someone added here)

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

We pray for the sick of our Parish, especially Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, Father Alberic.

**We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died,
Especially Carmel Russo, Margaret McKinley, Joe Guiana,
Michael Swan (Therese Murphy's brother), Vanessa Papandrea,
Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry & Colleen Bennett**

~ May they rest in Peace.



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteers of the week nomination goes to a few people:

MARY ABOUD

RAMZA SALIBA

SONYA SALIBA

A very big Thankyou to Rosie, Mary Aboud, Ramza Saliba and her daughter for all your help in the piety shop, last week. I really couldn't do everything on my own. The piety shop is a great success because of the team work. I really appreciate it.
Thankyou, *Lila*

If you know someone who deserves to be recognised as next week's volunteer, please send an email to the parish.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

Parish Piety Shop Hours

The Parish Piety Shop is open every Sunday. Additionally, it opens on the first Saturday night of every month and the first Sunday of each month, after the 7:00 AM Monastery Mass.

Be sure to stop by and browse our offerings!



Watch this space for updates on what's new in the shop.

Exciting Easter stock is coming soon!

LITURGICAL FORMATION SERIES

Throughout the year we will be hosting a number of formation opportunities for those interested and engaged in Liturgical Ministries. Please see date claimers below:

- Saturday 15 March – The Art of Celebrating Holy Week
- Saturday 10 May – Back to Basics
- Saturday 16 August – RCIA – Practical Foundations | Liturgical Fundamentals | Ongoing Formation
- Saturday 25 October – Rekindle Our Wonder

For more information, or to register your interest, please email mission@bbcatholic.org.au

ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every **Monday 2.00pm.**
Everyone welcome.



For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.

CRAFT GROUP

The quilting and craft group will meet every **4th Tuesday** of the month at 10.30am in the parish meeting room.

Bring your craft and come and join us!

CCC PRAYER GROUP



Prayer meeting held every **Wednesday morning:**
after 9.30am Mass.

Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!

For more details call
Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

CATECHISTS' NEWS

This week's training went well. A big thanks to Kristy and Maricel from the CCD for coming to the parish to help us to stay up to date! Thanks to those who were able to attend. All present left with ideas on additional classroom strategies!

SRE starting dates –

Middle Dural – this Wednesday 12th February

Arcadia, Galston and Glenorie – Wednesday 19th February

Hillside – Friday 7th March

Please keep our Catechists and students in your prayers as the school year begins.

If you are free on Wednesday or Friday mornings during school terms and love being with children, why not consider joining this worthwhile ministry. Training, support and books are provided. A big thanks to Martine Musumeci for offering to teach at Arcadia Public School and Martina Jutrisa for helping at Middle Dural Public School! Also another big thanks to Lisa Welsman for being available to help at Glenorie Public school for this month.

Catechist Vacancy –

Glenorie Public School on Wednesdays
10:50am – 11:30am

If you are interested please contact myself or Paula at the parish office or any of our priests.

God bless,

Miriam Brown srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator



ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

St. Benedict's Youth Group Announcement
COMMENCING FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY



- **Fridays SCHOOL TERM**
- Time: 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
- Ages: 8-12 years old

If you are aged 14-16 and would like to help out, please email the parish office.

All our youth leaders have Working With Children Checks.

Thank you,
Gabe & Jules!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Cyril, Monk c. 827-869

and

Saint Methodius, Bishop c. 815-885

Feast Day: February 14



Co-Patrons of Europe, Slavic peoples, unity of Eastern and Western Churches

Cyril and Methodius' story began in Thessalonica, Greece, a territory evangelized by Saint Paul. Then named Constantine and Michael, the two were among seven sons born to a Greek-speaking imperial magistrate and his wife. Along with Greek and Latin, the two learned their mother's unwritten Slavic language. After completing his education in Constantinople, Constantine became a priest and teacher. At that time, Constantine's brother Michael abandoned his civil service career and became a monk, taking the name Methodius.

While in his thirties, Constantine gave up his teaching career to embrace a life of prayer in his brother's monastery. A few years later, the two brothers responded to Byzantine Emperor Michael III's request to evangelize the Jews and Turks of Khazars, modern-day Russia, Ukraine, and Crimea. The two brothers learned Hebrew and Turkish to speak to the people in their native tongues.

Within a couple of years, Prince Rastislav of Moravia asked Emperor Michael III to send missionaries to Great Moravia, today's Czech Republic. His people had rejected paganism and embraced Christianity, but they didn't have anyone who could explain the faith to them in their native Slavic language.

In Great Moravia, Constantine and Methodius began to translate the Bible and liturgical books into the Slavic language. Since there was no written form of the language or even an alphabet, Constantine created one. He translated the various sounds into symbols, enabling the two brothers to write down the sacred texts. They taught the people and future Slavic clerics how to read their new written language. The new alphabet developed into today's Cyrillic alphabet, the basis of many Eastern European and Asian languages used by more than 250 million people today.

In the face of German criticism of teaching the Slavs in their native language, Constantine and Methodius traveled to Rome. Pope Adrian II ordained them bishops and sent them back to Great Moravia. Before leaving Rome, however, Constantine fell sick. Before dying, he fully consecrated himself to God as a monk in one of the Greek monasteries, taking the monastic name Cyril. His brother Methodius then returned to Great Moravia to continue his work.

Bishop Methodius spent the next fourteen years evangelizing the people in their native language, forming clergy, and effectively administering the Church. He continued to endure harsh treatment from the Germanic clergy, even being imprisoned by them for a time, but he pressed on, extending his missionary work beyond the borders of Great Moravia.

A millennia later, the brothers received the universal honor they deserved when the Western Church added them to its liturgical calendar. A century after that, Pope John Paul II, a Slav himself, honored Cyril and Methodius with the title of co-patrons of Europe and Apostles to the Slavs.

Saints Cyril and Methodius, you gave your lives God's service with zeal, creativity, and determination. Please pray for me, that God may use me to bring the Good News to people in ways to which they can relate. Saints Cyril and Methodius, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

FIRST FRUITS OFFERING 2025

Our First Fruits Offering is coming next week (16th Feb 2025)

Next weekend, on Sunday, 16th of February 2025, we will launch our First Fruits Offering, which focuses on our Planned Giving Renewal Program. We encourage you to find out more about this program, which will help our Parish increase its income and ensure its survival and growth in the long term. The Planned Giving Program is an opportunity for our valued Parishioners to pray, reflect on their financial commitment to our Parish, and learn more about how you can help. We will distribute material before and during our campaign to give you the information you need. Please read the letter below from our Parish Priest Fr Shansana to all parishioners and reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

God Bless you.

FIRST FRUITS OFFERING LETTER FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST FR SHANSANA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessings in this year of Jubilee! As members of the Parish of Arcadia, we are blessed to come together in faith to experience God's love in the celebration of the Mass, and through one another as a community of faith. I am deeply grateful for your meaningful participation, contributions and support in the life of our parish.

As we continue to journey together as the People of God, I invite you to prayerfully consider becoming an ongoing Planned Giver as part of our First Fruits Offering, taking place over the next two weeks.

Planned Giving is a prayerful commitment to dedicate a portion of your financial income to God and His Church in gratitude for His many blessings. It helps ensure the mission and ministries of our parish continue to thrive for both our present community and future generations. Your contributions remain within our local parish and support:

- Liturgical needs (vestments, bread, wine)
- Ongoing ministries (youth, seniors, RCIA)
- Special ministries (Catechetics, sacramental programs, aged care visits)
- Equipment and resources (computers, photocopiers)
- Rising utility costs, insurance, repairs, and staff wages

To assist you in prayerfully reflecting on this important decision, the Diocese has prepared materials and resources that are available for you to take home. These include information about First Fruits Offering and pledge envelopes. We encourage you to take some time to review these resources, pray, and discern how you can support our parish in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Becoming a Planned Giver is a simple yet profound way to demonstrate your faith and commitment to God's work. If you are not yet a Planned Giver, I encourage you to take this step. If you are already contributing on an ongoing basis to the Parish, thank you. I invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your offering as you are able.

For more information or assistance with Planned Giving, please contact the parish office. We are happy to help.

Thank you for your generous support. May God bless you abundantly as you continue to live out your faith and share in His mission.

In Christ's peace and love,

Fr Shansana Samarasinghe
Parish Priest



SERVE YOUR PARISH THROUGH PLANNED GIVING

"Our Parish communities, much like our own households, rely on financial resources to operate and to thrive. God fulfills this need through you - **you are the Parish.**"



+ Anthony Nandyo



Share what God has given you by joining our Planned Giving Program today.

Parish Roster

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS**

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

**15/2/2025 to 16/2/2025
6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul E	
Reader1	Miriam B	Nigel M	Doug M
Reader2	Mary C	Ann L	Lorna B
Prayers	Natasha S	Judy H	Eva F
TV		Teresa G	Max F
Music		Karina S	Melanie H
Music		John T	Jack F
Music		Noelle T	Sandra M
Music			
Morning Tea		Mandah V	
FLOWERS	Tania T		



**Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers,
we really appreciate it!**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St Benedict's Parish are committed to fostering a community of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help. These people in our parish can help: Fr Shansana 0437 884 233 - Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882 - Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.

**For all parish OH&S and Safeguarding Children matters Contact:
Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm
(School holidays only open Fridays)

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia 2159
Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia

Parish Priest: Fr Shansana Samarasinghe OSB
Email: sanshanasamarasinghe@yahoo.com
After hours: 0437 884 233

Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia



MONASTERY CHAPEL

Liturgy of the Hours

*"Seven times a day I will praise you" Psalm
119:164*

The liturgy of the hours is a set of prayers (psalms, hymns, readings and other prayers). It is recited in the Monastery Chapel daily at the following times:

5.45am Office of Readings
6.30am Morning prayer - Lauds
12.45pm Midday prayer
6.00pm Evening prayer - Vespers
8.00pm Night prayer - Compline

ALL are welcome to attend any time.

EASTER 2025

Ash Wednesday – 5th March

Monastery – 7.00am
Parish Church – 9.30am & 7.00pm

Palm Sunday – 13th April

Monastery - 7.00am
Parish Church - 9.00am and 10.30am
Latin 4.30pm

Holy Thursday 17th April

Parish Church only - 7.30pm

Stations of the Cross - Good Friday 18th April

Parish Church - 10.30am

Passion of the Lord - Good Friday 18th April

Parish Church - 3.00pm

Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday 19th April

Parish Church - 7.30pm

Easter Sunday - 29th April

Monastery - 7.00am
Parish Church - 9.00am
Latin 10.30am



YOU ARE CALLED TO BE
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

JUBILEE 2025

IN THIS HOLY YEAR
24 DEC 2024 - 6 JAN 2026



MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159
121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

**PARISH BANK DETAILS for
ONLINE only donations:**
BSB: 062 784 Account: 100002141
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:
CBA—Catholic Development Fund