

# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

20 & 21 JULY 2024

### 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**



### INTRODUCTORY RITES

See, I have God for my help.  
The Lord sustains my soul.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,  
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

### SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants  
and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace,  
that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity,  
they may be ever watchful in keeping  
your commands.  
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: COMPASSION

This Sunday's Gospel, Mark 6:30-34, Jesus said to His disciples: "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Jesus is inviting us to come away from the busyness of our life and to go into that quiet space so that we can be with Him. He always listens to our prayer and invites us to share our hopes, concerns and dreams with him.

- *Am I ready to walk with Jesus away from the life's distractions?*
- *Does my life centre around Jesus?*
- *Do I chat with Jesus about what I have done and what I might do in all my situations?*



**Jesus, look at me with compassion, see how I need shepherding and care. Allow the flock of my concerns to be recognised and held in your healing gaze. Amen.**

Source: sacredspace.ie

**First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6 (JB)**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*The remnant of the flock I will gather to me, and bring them back to their pastures.*

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered - it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds - it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost - it is the Lord who speaks!

'See the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. and this is the name he will be called:

The Lord-our-integrity.'

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

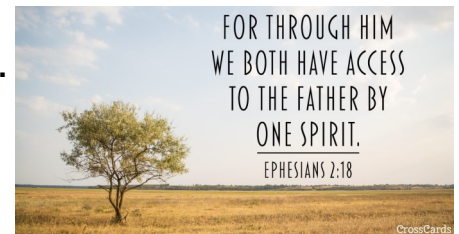
**Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Christ, our peace, has made us one.*



In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

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

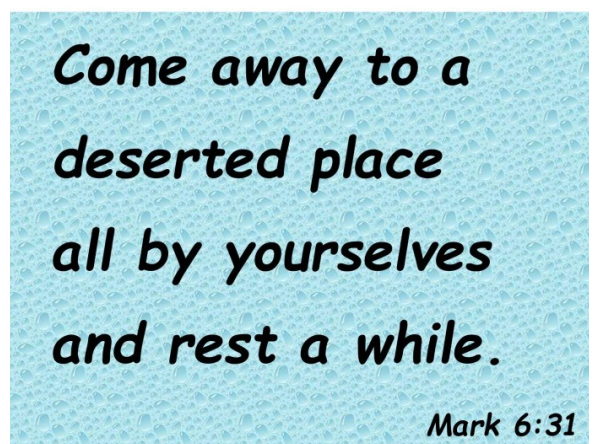
**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*They were as sheep without a shepherd.*

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

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

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, July 21

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 23:1-6

Ephesians 2:13-18

Mark 6:30-34

### ***His heart was moved. (Mark 6:34)***

Anyone who is a parent or caretaker of young children can relate to the dilemma Jesus' apostles faced in today's Gospel. They had just returned from their first attempts at preaching the good news and healing the sick (Mark 6:30). It must have been so exciting seeing God work so powerfully through them. But missionary work is demanding, so they were probably bone tired as well. They must have appreciated Jesus' suggestion: "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while" (6:31).

But their plans were disrupted when a huge crowd showed up. They must have felt the way exhausted parents can feel when everyone in the house has come down with the flu: stretched beyond their limits and more than a little dispirited. Some of them might have even wished that the people would go home—and take their diseases, their demons, and their troubles with them.

But not Jesus. In contrast to his apostles, he put aside his hopes for some R&R and devoted his whole day to teaching them "many things" (Mark 6:34). He saw a need and he met it—immediately and unquestioningly.

What a marvel Jesus is! We all get tired at times, and some of us are *always* tired. But the God of Israel "never slumbers nor sleeps" (Psalm 121:4). Jesus never gets worn out. He never complains, and he never feels sorry for himself. Just as he did throughout his life, and especially on the cross, he continues to give without counting the cost.

Hold this image of Jesus close to your heart as you celebrate Mass today. Believe that, in the midst of all the other prayers arising to him right now, he still sees you and hears you. He is never too tired for you; he always has time for you. So quiet your racing heart and let him minister to you. Bring him your needs, and wait patiently to hear what he has to say to you.

***"Jesus, I am amazed at your tireless, endless love for me!"***

Source: Word Among Us India

## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

### JULY

- Monday 22 Readings: Song of Songs 3:1-4. John 20:1-2, 11-18.  
**R:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.  
**St Mary Magdalene**
- Tuesday 23 Readings: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20. Matthew 12:46-50.  
**R:** Lord, show us your mercy and love.  
**St Bridget, religious**
- Wednesday 24 Readings: Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10. Matthew 13:1-9.  
**R:** I will sing of your salvation.  
**St Charbel Makhluf, priest**
- Thursday 25 Readings: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15. Matthew 20:20-28.  
**R:** Those who sow in tears, shall reap with shouts of joy.  
**St James, apostle.**
- Friday 26 Readings: Jeremiah 3:14-17. Matthew 13:18-23.  
**R:** he Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.  
**Sts Joachim and Anne, parents of Blessed Virgin Mary**
- Saturday 27 Readings: Jer 7:1-11. Mt 13:24-30.  
**R:** How lovely is your dwelling-place, Lord, mighty God!



Source: Ordo 2024



### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY 2024

#### **For the pastoral care of the sick**

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

## THANK YOU - ST BENEDICT'S FEAST DAY

Thank you for all those who helped on St Benedict's feast day last Sunday! It was such a wonderful morning after Mass with barbecue, sweets, coffee, tea and don't forget the fun jumping castle! The kids had an amazing time!

A special thank to **Gebran and Loretta Azzi** and family for supplying and organising the barbecue. God bless your family!

Also thank you to **Fr Michael, Kath Moran and Sr Wendy** for organising the historical books table. Thank you to **Lila Bacha** for holding the Piety Stall. Thank you to **Teresa Gambino** organising sweets and morning tea along with many others who helped. We have such a beautiful community who are always willing to help out! God bless you all.

Here are a few of photos from the feast day:



## PARISH FINANCE UPDATE PASTORAL WORKS

End of Financial Year 2023/2024

Parish Quota:	\$13,052.00
Payment (parishioner donations):	\$ 7,717.30
Balance we owe Diocese:	\$ 5,334.70

Thank you to everyone who donated to Pastoral Works the past year. We really appreciate it.

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing

**BROTHER TERRY**

a very happy birthday!

**JULY 21ST**

God bless you on your birthday and keep you safe and healthy!



## IN MEMORIUM

ONE YEAR MEMORIUM MASS

SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST 2024 10.30AM  
AT THE PARISH



**ANTOINETTE NATI**



*Eternal Rest grant to her O Lord,  
And let the Perpetual light shine upon her,  
May she Rest in Peace.  
Amen*

*Our prayers and thoughts are with  
Antoinette's family and friends.*



CatholicCare  
Diocese of Broken Bay

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www.fostering.org.au

## 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 **Sam Musumeci, Brother Mario, Father Alberic & Brother Terry.**

We remember in our prayers all our dearly beloved who have died, especially **Maurine Tiutiunnik.** *May they rest in Peace.*



## VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:

*Thank you!*

**JOSEPH BONIEL**

Thank you Joseph for repairing the men's toilet. Also thank you for everything else you do when we need help. We are really grateful! God bless you in all you do for our parish!

*Who would you like to nominate for next week's volunteer?*

## NEXT SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

**PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT  
THIS MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024 7.30PM**

Our next Sacramental Program enrollment is now open for students in Year 3 or above, starting with Confirmation. This includes students over the age of 8 who have not yet received Confirmation. Confirmation sessions are scheduled for August 2024, with the Confirmation Service set for September 12th, 2024. Reconciliation and Holy Communion will be held in 2025.

Enrollment forms can be obtained from the sacristy. If you prefer to receive the form by email, please send a request to [arcadia.parish@bigpond.com](mailto:arcadia.parish@bigpond.com), and we will promptly send you the form.

Please submit your completed enrollment form to the parish as soon as possible.

For more information contact Paula on 9653 2312.

## ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

Come join our St Benedict's Youth group for **8-12yr olds** will be held **every Friday during school term only**. 4pm to 5.30pm. (**Back on Friday 2nd August**).

To register your child either just turn up on the afternoon or email the parish:  
[arcadia.parish@bigpond.com](mailto:arcadia.parish@bigpond.com)

**Volunteers aged 14-16yrs who would like to assist us please email the parish office.** Our youth leaders all have Working With Children Checks.



Thank you, Gabe & Jules!

## CATECHISTS' NEWS

Term 3 resumes this week, Monday 22nd July. SRE classes resume this week.

Free training in Term 3, commencing this week –

- Available to Catechists with full Authorisation – Level 1 Training “Prayer in the Classroom” this Wednesday 24th July via Zoom in the evening 6.15pm-8.30pm.
- For all Catechists, family or friends - Level 3 Course “A Reflective Study of the Psalms” being held over 12 weeks, starting this Friday 26th July at 10am via Zoom

RSVP registrations@bbccatholic.org.au

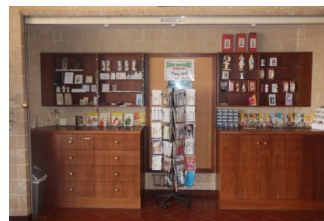
Helpers and part time Catechists are welcome to assist when Catechists are away. If you are interested to learn more about the ministry of being a Catechist, please talk to one of our priests or contact me.

God bless,

Miriam Brown [srearcadia@gmail.com](mailto:srearcadia@gmail.com)

Parish Catechist Co-Ordinator

## EXCITING PARISH NEWS PERMANENT PIETY STORE OPENING SOON!



This will be opposite the Sacristy, in the old sound room. Lila Bacha will be organising this with her family. God bless the Bachas! We all can't wait!

## ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

Please join us for our upcoming Maker's Table workshop at St Benedict's!

Bullion Rose Embroidered  
Handtowel Workshop  
Wednesday, August 7th 2024  
7.30-9.30pm  
Cost: \$10  
RSVP by 4/8/24



[themakerstablesydney@gmail.com](mailto:themakerstablesydney@gmail.com)

Martine 0458 533 250

Nerida 0425 834 017

[www.themakerstable.org](http://www.themakerstable.org)

at St Benedict's Parish hall

## CCC PRAYER GROUP



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

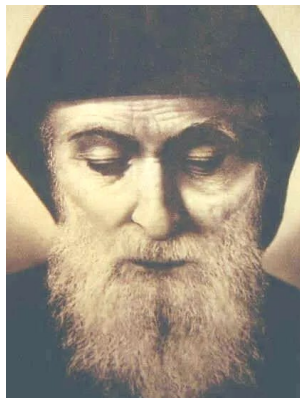
**Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!**  
For more details call Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

## ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP

Every Monday 2.00pm.  
Everyone welcome.

For more details call  
Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.





## SAINT OF THE WEEK

**SAINT CHARBEL MAKHLUF, Priest, Hermit**

**Feast Day: July 24  
c. 1828-1898**

**Patron Saint of Lebanon**

Yousef (Joseph) Antoun Makhoulf was born in Bekaa Kafra, North Lebanon and baptized in the Catholic Church's Maronite Rite. His family of seven lived in Lebanon's highest mountain village. After Yousef's father, a mule driver, died when Yousef was only three, his mother remarried. His stepfather was later ordained a priest, in accord with the Maronite custom of a married priesthood. From a young age, Yousef lived a holy and devout life, inspired by the example of two uncles who were hermits. As a boy, he tended the cattle and spent long periods of prayer in the wilderness while his cattle grazed. Devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he set up a shrine to her in a nearby cave.

In 1851, at age twenty-three, Yousef entered the Monastery of Our Lady in Mayfouq, of the Maronite Rite. As a monk, he took the name Charbel, after Saint Charbel the Martyr, a second-century military officer, martyred in Antioch during the reign of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. For the first twenty-four years of his religious life, Brother Charbel's superiors required that he live in community. After finishing his studies in theology and philosophy, he was ordained a priest in 1859, at age thirty-one, and resided at the Monastery of Saint Maroun for the next sixteen years.

Father Charbel received permission to live as a hermit due to a miracle. Some of his fellow monks played a prank on him, filling his oil lamp with water. When he returned to his cell and lit his lamp, it burned. Father Charbel's superiors inspected the lamp and found it filled with water. They saw it as a sign of Charbel's sanctity and sent him to the Hermitage of Saints Peter and Paul where he spent the next twenty-three years in solitude, embracing a strict regime of daily prayer, manual work, and severe asceticism. In 1898, at age seventy, Father Charbel suffered a stroke while offering Mass, dying eight days later on Christmas Eve. He was buried without a coffin, per his order's custom.

After Father Charbel's death, his holiness became well known. A mysterious light shone forth from his grave, drawing villagers who braved the cold and snow to see it. After four months, Church authorities granted permission to exhume his body that was found to be incorrupt, his skin and joints still soft and flexible. Cleaned of the dirt and mud from his gravesite, he was placed in a coffin in the monastery chapel. Afterward, blood and sweat came forth from his pores, soaking his habit so that his clothing had to be changed twice a week. In 1927, two physicians from Beirut examined his body before it was placed in another coffin and sealed in a tomb inside the monastery wall.

In the 1950s, a blood-like liquid flowed from the wall behind which Charbel was buried, and his tomb was opened three times. In 1965, his body was found again to be incorrupt, exuding the same blood and sweat. In 1976, the year before his canonization, his body had finally decayed down to the bones, interestingly coinciding with the early days of the Lebanese civil war that broke out in 1975.

In the 1950s the monks began to track the miraculous cures attributed to Father Charbel's intercession. Within two years, the list included more than twelve thousand reported cures. Devotion to Charbel, along with reports of numerous miracles, led to a new evangelization across Lebanon.

*Saint Charbel, you responded to the call to live the solitary life of a monk and then a hermit. You kept your eyes upon Christ who transformed your humble soul into a glorious beacon of light for the world to see. Please pray that I will receive the grace I need to be faithful to the vocation God has given me and that I will respond with the generosity and commitment that you manifested in your earthly life. Saint Charbel, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

## GCEA SPRING DINNER

Saturday 14 September, 2024  
6pm—10pm At the Galston Club

It's just 12 weeks to our GCEA Spring Dinner.

We are anticipating it to be a huge event this year so book early.

Here is the link to book your tickets:

<https://events.humanitix.com/gcea-spring-dinner-2024>

Our focus this year is on SRE teachers and the needs for schools in our local area.

The GCEA is our primary focus with Paul El-Chaar, our teacher at Galston High School, but we see the importance of SRE in all schools.

There will be a silent auction on the night. Come and support this ministry.

**St Benedict's parish will be hosting a table to show our support for Paul El-Chaar. Please contact Paula to reserve your spot and join us for what promises to be another enjoyable event, just like last year!**

## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE TIMELINE CHART

Presenter: Charbel Raish  
Duration: 8 weeks  
Start date: Thursday, 10th October 2024  
Time: 7pm to 9pm  
Location: Middle Dural  
Price: Free

Please message Tania on 0401597278 if you would like to attend or know anyone who will be interested.



JEFF CAVINS and SARAH CHRISTMYER

PRESENTED BY CHARBEL RAISH

# ENCOUNTER TIMOR LESTE

19 - 31 OCTOBER 2024

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Meet Palms personnel and dedicated partner organisations who are working together to build self-reliance and sustainability, building on the strengths of their people.

The tour departs from Dili. Visa, accommodation, meals, museum entry and local transport is included.

\$3,500 pp | [palms.org.au/encounters](https://palms.org.au/encounters)  
02 9560 5333 | [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

 Palms Australia



## PALMS AUSTRALIA

### Position Vacant: Recruitment Coordinator – 1dpw

Palms Australia seeks a passionate and committed Recruitment Coordinator to join the friendly team at our office in Petersham.

The successful candidate will drive the implementation of strategies to recruit Palms participants for overseas mission and extend the legacy of Palms Australia built over six decades.

Strong interpersonal and organisational skills are required with ideally lived experience of an international placement to proclaim the benefits of mission.

Initially one day per week, \$64,731 p.a. pro rata.

For the full Job Description, contact Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)




# Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA  
AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

27/7/2024 to 28/7/2024  
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Mary C	Ann L	Martina J
Reader2	Miriam B	Melanie H	Mirko J
Prayers	Maria G	Doug/Sandra	
TV		Trey O'C	Michael E
Music		Rebecca R	Karina S
Music		Pauline H	John T
Music		Adam F	Noelle T
Music		Theresa N	
Morning Tea		Sophie R	
 FLOWERS	Hannah A		

## SUPPORT ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

### ARE YOU CONSIDERING SELLING YOUR PROPERTY

We are delighted to introduce Gavan Kohen, Sales Director at **Ray White Dural**, a proud member of the Parish of St Benedict's.

Gavan is generously offering to support our parish by donating a portion of his commission from any sale referred by our parishioners. Thank you Gavan, we appreciate your kind gesture.

For any real estate enquiries, please contact:

Gavan Kohen on 0414 911 070.



## Our Lady of Fatima FEAST DAY

St Benedict's Parish, 12:30pm Sunday 13 October 2024

Invitation to children to take part in the Fatima Play, which will be part of the Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day.

Please phone 0438 521 421 for further details.



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

If anyone would like to join our parish roster please contact the parish office.

### 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.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312  
Email: arcadia.pariah@bbcatholic.org.au

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

Address: 2 Fagans Road, Arcadia NSW 2159  
Postal address: 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia NSW 2159

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia  
Facebook: stbenedictsarcadia

MONASTERY: 9653 1159



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

For all parish Occupational Health & Safety and Safeguarding Children matters Contact: Lorraine Dailey on 0416 081 882.