

# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



## THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

2 & 3 NOVEMBER 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

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;  
be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help,  
O Lord, my strong salvation!

### SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Let us pray.  
Almighty and merciful God,  
by whose gift your faithful offer you  
right and praiseworthy service,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may hasten without stumbling  
to receive the things you have promised.  
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: LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS

*This Sunday's Gospel, In Mark 12:28-34, a scribe asks Jesus which commandment is the greatest. Jesus replies that the most important commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. He also says to love your neighbour as yourself.*

- *How can I deepen my love for God in my daily life?*
- *In what ways do I show love to my neighbours and those around me?*
- *Are there any barriers that prevent me from loving others as myself?*
- *What specific actions can I take this week for these commandments?*

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for reminding me of the greatest commandments: to love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love my neighbour as myself. Help me to live these truths daily. Grant me the strength to deepen my relationship with You and the compassion to serve those around me. May my actions reflect Your love and grace. Amen.**

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6 (JB)**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.*

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

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

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

**Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28 (JB)**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.*

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL: Mark 12:28-34 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

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



**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

**Sunday, November 3**

**Deuteronomy 6:2-6 / Psalm 18:2-4, 47, 51 / Hebrews 7:23-28 / Mark 12:28-34**

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart. (Mark 12:29)*

Higher-end cameras have a setting called “portrait mode,” which focuses only on the face of the individual you are trying to capture while blurring out everything in the background. In today’s Gospel, Jesus congratulates a scribe who has come to see God in this way. The scribe understands that *loving* God and his people is the most important thing he can do. Everything else is background—not erased, of course, but secondary when compared to the main picture!

You can probably recall times when you have lost your focus on the Lord. Maybe your gaze was fixed on a new car or some other pricey object you wanted to buy. Perhaps duties and deadlines pulled your vision away. Or maybe there have been times when you approached your spiritual life as routine and focused on secondary tasks and needs instead. This doesn’t usually happen all at once, and sometimes we aren’t even aware that it has happened until some challenge wakes us up to our predicament.

So how can we keep our focus on the Lord as this scribe did? How can we make sure that we are placing a priority on loving him? We can remember to dedicate even the ordinary parts of our days to the Lord. We can make a morning offering to him every day when we wake up and try lifting up some spontaneous prayers at different times during the day. We can invite the Lord into a stressful meeting, look for him in our fellow commuters, or pause to acknowledge the Holy Spirit at the kitchen sink.

Loving God with all our hearts doesn’t have to be an intense, all-day prayer marathon. Sometimes all it takes is a glance toward heaven to refocus our hearts on him. The more you do this, the more you’ll find your preoccupations and worries fading into the background—and Jesus, your loving Savior, filling your heart and your vision!

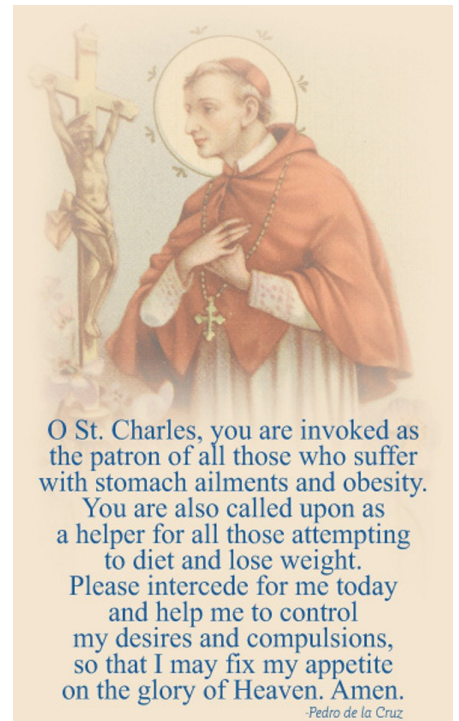
**“Jesus, draw my eyes to you more and more as I offer you this day and all that it brings!”**

Source: Word Among Us India

**LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK**

**NOVEMBER**

- Monday 4 Readings: Phil 2:1-4. Lk 14:12-14.  
**R:** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.  
**St Charles Borromeo, bishop.**
- Tuesday 5 Readings: Phil 2:5-11. Lk 14:15-24.  
**R:** I will praise you, Lord,  
in the assembly of your people.
- Wednesday 6 Readings: Phil 2:12-18. Lk 14:25-33.  
**R:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.
- Thursday 7 Readings: Phil 3:3-8. Lk 15:1-10.  
**R:** Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.
- Friday 8 Readings: Phil 3:17-4:1. Lk 16:1-8.  
**R:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- Saturday 9 Readings: Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 or Cor 3:9-11, 16-17.  
Jn 2:13-22.  
**R:** The waters of the river gladden the city of God.  
**The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**



O St. Charles, you are invoked as the patron of all those who suffer with stomach ailments and obesity. You are also called upon as a helper for all those attempting to diet and lose weight. Please intercede for me today and help me to control my desires and compulsions, so that I may fix my appetite on the glory of Heaven. Amen.

Pedro de la Cruz

Source: Ordo 2024



**POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER 2024**

**For anyone who has lost a child**

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.



# NOVEMBER

THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month of Holy Souls in Purgatory. In honour of this sacred tradition, our parish Church will have a designated **book available where you can write the names of your loved ones who have passed away.**

Rosary will be recited every day after the daily 9.30am morning Mass for the intentions of the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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

## CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S LEBANON CRISIS APPEAL

Lebanon is currently facing a dire crisis, and the need for your support has never been greater. Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability, leaving countless families without access to basic needs like food, water, and medical care. Our Caritas Australia partners on the ground are doing everything they can, **but they desperately need your help.**

Please show your *love for Lebanon* and donate today to help supply essential items such as food, shelter, and medical aid, as well as long-term support to rebuild communities.

Donate today: [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon)



### LEBANON CRISIS APPEAL

Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability. Please help provide families with food, water, and medical care.




**DONATE NOW** [caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://caritas.org.au/lebanon)  
1800 024 413

Photo: Caritas Lebanon

## REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of:



**BIAGIO ABIGNANO**  
27/10/24



**Rosary** will be at the Monastery Chapel on Wednesday 6th November 7pm

**Funeral** Service will be held at:  
St Benedict's Church  
Thursday 7th November at 11am

Afterwards at Castle Hill Cemetery.

Please join us afterwards for the **wake** at  
The Hills Lodge  
1 Salisbury Road, Castle Hill.

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

**We are forever grateful to Biagio for everything he has contributed to our parish over the years. He was a gentle soul and truly a lovely man, always bringing warmth and kindness to our community. His presence and dedication have touched many lives, and he will be deeply missed by all of us in the parish. Thank you, Biagio, for your unwavering support and love.**

**Our prayers and thoughts are with Nicolina, family and friends.**

## 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 Joseph Guiana, Charlie Micallef, Brother Mario, Father Alberic.**

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

**Especially Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry & Colleen Bennett**



## VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:



**NEDA MARDESIC**

A heartfelt thank you to Neda for polishing the two candelabras in the church. We truly appreciate the time and effort you put into this important task! God bless you!

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

### DRAFT ROSTER

**Draft Roster is now at the Sacristy window. Please check your names.**

### BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Yossi and Jen Cascun on the baptism of their first child:

Eliana Cascun.

This is a joyous occasion for your family, and we celebrate with you as you welcome Eliana into the faith community. May her life be filled with love, grace, and countless blessings.



“Connecting to the Mission of Jesus Christ!”

### NOVEMBER 2024 APPEAL



PASTORAL  
WORKS  
Brooklyn Bay

Confraternity of  
Christian Doctrine (CCD)



Hospital Chaplaincy  
and Pastoral Care



### 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

We are now in our final month of SRE (Scripture) classes. Our **final dates** are:

- Middle Dural – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November
- Arcadia, Galston and Glenorie PS – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November
- Hillside – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

The CCD invites all Catechists to an Advent Reflection & Craft Day on Friday 6 December 10am-2pm at Chatswood parish (arrive from 9:30am for morning tea) as a way of saying thanks.

Free training –

- Ongoing Classroom Management renewal training for fully authorised Catechists via Zoom – 2 sessions –
  - Thursday 21 November 6:15-8:30pm
  - Friday 22 November 10am-12:15pm

RSVP [registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au) or 8379 1643 for the training and Advent Reflection.

A quote heard this week “God does not ask for our ability. God asks for our attendance!” If you have time next year and an interest in children, please consider giving time to this ministry. God will use the ability that you have, if you are prepared to give your attendance.

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

God bless,  
Miriam Brown *Parish Catechist Co-ordinator*  
[srearcadia@gmail.com](mailto:srearcadia@gmail.com)

## ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

St. Benedict's Youth Group Announcement

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



If you're a volunteer 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!

**PLEASE NOTE YOUTH GROUP WILL NOT BE ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH.**

# FEAST OF THE WEEK

## DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Feast Day: November 9



The most important temple is that of a person's soul. In the secret center of our being is the sacred sanctuary where we meet God. In addition to the temple of the soul are other sacred places—shrines, churches, basilicas, grottos, and cathedrals set aside for the worship of God. They are to be a Heaven on earth, a place where we join the Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones in their angelic praises of the Most Holy Trinity. Today's feast commemorates one such place.

Rome is home to four major basilicas. The first three are Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, and the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. The fourth is the Archbasilica Cathedral of the Most Holy Savior and of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist in the Lateran, also called Saint John Lateran, or the Lateran Basilica for short. Of the four major basilicas, Saint John Lateran is the oldest and most important. Though the pope lives next to Saint Peter's Basilica, Saint John Lateran is the official cathedral of Rome. Saint John Lateran is the mother church of the Archdiocese of Rome and the mother church of the entire world.

In AD 64, Roman Emperor Nero blamed a devastating fire in Rome on the Christians. In retaliation, he ordered the execution of many Christians, including Saints Peter and Paul. In 65, Counsel-designate Plautius Lateranus (Lateran) was part of a conspiracy to kill Nero. When Nero learned of the plot, he beheaded Lateranus and confiscated his home, the Lateran Palace. Over the next 250 years, Roman emperors used the palace in various ways. In 312, Constantine the Great became the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire and took possession of the Lateran Palace. In 313, after issuing the Edict of Milan with Eastern Emperor Licinius, Constantine donated the Lateran Palace to Pope Miltiades who first used it for a synod of bishops before constructing the first Basilica in Rome. Upon its completion in the year 324, it was dedicated by Pope Sylvester and given the name the "House of God," with a special designation to Christ the Savior.

Constantine the Great greatly helped the Catholic Church flourish after legalizing its practice. He had the Lateran Basilica beautifully decorated with gold and silver. He built churches in Rome, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Constantinople. After centuries of persecution, the Church had its first cathedral in the heart of Rome, beautifully decorated, with the Roman emperor's full support.

Though the basilica was dedicated to Christ the Savior, in the tenth century Pope Sergius III added a new baptistry and rededicated the basilica to Saint John the Baptist. In the twelfth century, Pope Lucius II dedicated the basilica to Saint John the Evangelist. Today, the basilica honors Christ the Savior first and the two Saint Johns as the co-patrons.

The Lateran Basilica has remained the pope's cathedral from the time of its dedication, and the Lateran Palace, next to the Basilica, was the papal residence from 324–1305. In 1305, Pope Clement V refused to move to Rome after his election, moving the entire papal court to Avignon, France in 1309, where it remained until Pope Gregory XI returned to Rome in 1377. By then, the Lateran Palace was in disrepair due to two fires. The pope built a new palace next to Saint Peter's on Vatican Hill, where every subsequent pope has resided until today.

*Christ our Savior, through the intercessions of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, I pray for the Church. I pray for your abundant mercy upon every sinner whom you are calling for reconciliation. I pray for my local parish, diocese, country, and the Universal Church headed in Rome. I especially pray for the Holy Father, the pastor of the Lateran Basilica and shepherd of the whole Church. Draw him close to You, make him holy, and use him to draw many people to Yourself. Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, pray for us. Jesus I trust in You.*



# PIETY SHOP NEWS

## PIETY SHOP TRANSFORMING INTO PIETY CHRISTMAS SHOP!

**Opening Date: November 10, 2024**

Get ready for the holiday season! Our Piety Christmas Shop will feature:

- **Nativities:** Over 40 different sizes and styles available.
- **Christmas Cards:** Beautiful designs to share the joy of the season.
- **Christmas Candles:** Create a warm and festive atmosphere.
- **Christmas Angels:** Add a touch of elegance to your decorations.
- **Tree Baubles and Ornaments:** Perfect for personalizing your tree.

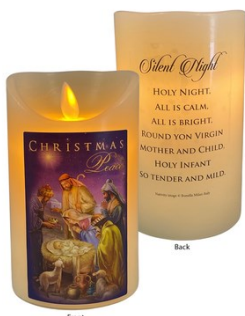
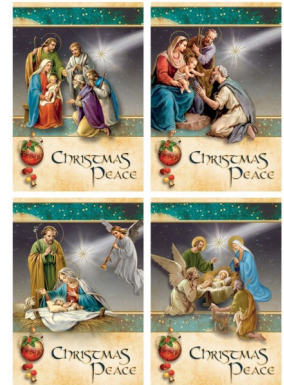
**Special Orders:** If we run out of stock, we offer special orders! Please place your order by December 8.

**Custom Requests:** If you're looking for something specific that we don't have in the shop, let us know by December 8, and we'll do our best to accommodate your needs. We can't wait to help you celebrate the season with meaningful gifts and decorations!



**OPENING HOURS:**  
First Saturday of the month 6.30pm to 8.30pm  
Sundays: 8.30am to 11.30am  
Mondays: 9.30am to 2.30pm  
Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PIETY SHOP ROSTER**  
Contact Lila 0418 360 024



# Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA  
AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

9/11/2024 TO 10/11/2024  
31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	George A
Reader1	Mary C	Matt W	Michael E
Reader2	Edyn V	Keith W	Doug/ Sandra
Prayers	Daniel V	Gabrielle W	Leanne A
TV		Sebastian W	Teresa G
Music		Karina S	Gregorian
Music		John T	Choir
Music		Noelle T	
Music			
Morning Tea		Sophie R	
FLOWERS	Rose G		



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 the 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.

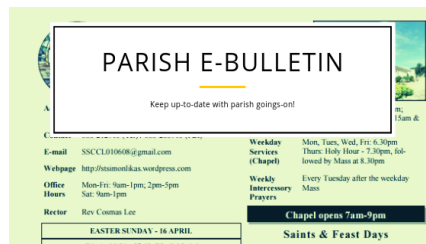
## PARISH E-BULLETIN

The Parish is offering the Parish bulletin electronically in addition to the printed version.

If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send your email address to the parish office at:

arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

Remember, the bulletin is also available weekly on the Parish website and Facebook page.



## PILGRIMS OF HOPE

### Youth Ministry Event - 15 November 2024

All Young Adults and Senior High School students are warmly invited to attend "Pilgrims of Hope" a PraiseFest style event including Mass and Keynote Speaker which will be hosted by the Parish of Chatswood.

For further information, please contact

[mission@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:mission@bbcatholic.org.au)



MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159  
121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159

PARISH BANK DETAILS for  
ONLINE only donations:  
BSB: 062 784 Account: 10002141  
Account Name: Catholic Parish of Arcadia Bank:  
CBA—Catholic Development Fund