

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

9 & 10 NOVEMBER 2024



The Widow's
Offering

Seeing
Beyond
Appearances

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

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep from us all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.

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:

HEART OVER APPEARANCE

This Sunday's Gospel, In Mark 12:38-44, This passage invites me to reflect on living with a humble, generous, and trusting heart, focused not on appearances but on what truly honours God.

- Am I more concerned with how others perceive me than with serving God and others?
- Am I willing to give, trusting God to provide?
- Do I trust God enough to surrender everything to Him, like the widow?
- Am I willing to give without anything in return simply because I trust in God's provision?

**GOD LOOKS AT
THE HEART.**

Dear Lord,

Help me to examine my heart. Guard me from seeking praise or recognition, and teach me to serve others with humility and sincerity. Like the widow, may I give generously, trusting that You will provide for all my needs. Strengthen my faith, that I might trust You fully, surrendering all I have to Your care. Let my actions reflect a heart devoted to You alone. In Jesus' name, Amen.

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16 (JB)

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28 (JB)**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

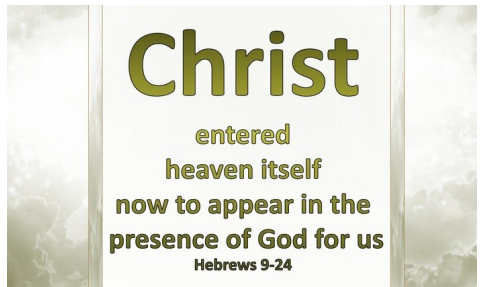
Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit;

the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44 (JB)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, November 10

1 Kings 17:10-16 / Psalm 146:7-10 / Hebrews 9:24-28 / Mark 12:38-44

She, from her poverty, has contributed all she had. (Mark 12:44)

What a contrast! The scribes in today's Gospel were conscious of how they appeared to others. Their long robes matched up nicely with their long prayers, and who wouldn't agree that time spent in the synagogues was time well spent? Compared to these men, the widow seemed insignificant. Anyone looking at her could probably tell that she was poor. Her clothes were probably torn, and her shoes were worn thin. It could be easy to see her two small coins as a reflection of her own limited value.

But looks can be deceiving. “The Lord looks into the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7), and this widow's heart was given over to the Lord. By being willing to give “all she had, her whole livelihood,” she was also offering the Lord her energy, her time, and her prayers (Mark 12:44). The scribes should have been willing to do the same. But Jesus knew that their hearts were full of themselves. They clung too tightly to their pride and their position as scholars of the Law and expected everyone to treat them with great honor and respect.

Let's use this Gospel passage today to examine our own hearts. Are we willing to offer “all that we have” to the Lord? Or do we hold on to some things—or some people—too tightly? Maybe we cling to our status and the respect that comes with it. Maybe we are holding onto our money too much instead of giving generously to those in need. Maybe we have too tight a grasp on our free time instead of being willing to serve someone. We might even struggle with “letting go” of someone close to us, like our adult children.

If you detect that you are holding onto something or someone too tightly, don't despair! Imagine the Lord standing before you, smiling as he receives whatever gift you offer him. Then hear him say, “Don't worry. I can give you all that you need!”

“Jesus, I want to offer everything I have to you. Help me to do it!”

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

NOVEMBER

- Monday 11 Readings: Titus 1:1-9. Lk 17:1-6.
R: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
St Martin of Tours, bishop.
- Tuesday 12 Readings: Titus 2:1-8, 11-14.
R: The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
St Josaphat, bishop, martyr.
- Wednesday 13 Readings: Titus 3:1-7. Lk 17:11-19.
R: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
- Thursday 14 Readings: Philemon 7-20. Lk 17:20-25.
R: Blest are they whose help is the God of Jacob.
- Friday 15 Readings: 2 Jn 4-9. Lk 17:26-37.
R: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!
St Albert the Great, bishop, doctor.
- Saturday 16 Readings: 3 Jn 5-8. Lk 18:1-8.
R: Happy are those who fear the Lord.
**St Margaret of Scotland.
St Gertrude, virgin.**

Prayer for serving others with joy inspired by Saint Martin of Tours

Dear God,
bless me with the greatest gift
of serving You and others.
Help me to be able to see the needs of others
and to respond to those needs
with joy and hope.
Amen.



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*

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing **FATHER DAVID** a very happy birthday!

9th NOVEMBER



Wishing you a day filled with joy, peace, and blessings. Your kindness, wisdom, and dedication are a true gift to all who know you. May this year bring you continued strength, good health, and all the love you so generously share with others. Enjoy your special day!

Happy Birthday

ANNIVERSARY OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

Brother Mario Yong Ching

9th November 1991 - 33 years

Congratulations and best wishes on the Anniversary of your Religious profession commitment.

The parish of St Benedict's give thanks to the Lord for Brother Mario's vocation and his faithful commitment to the Lord. May God continue to bless and accompany him to be a wonderful instrument in proclaiming His mercy and love.

"Connecting to the Mission of Jesus Christ!" NOVEMBER 2024 APPEAL



The Pastoral Works Broken Bay November 2024 Appeal is now underway!

PWBB supports two key charitable works in the Diocese: the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and our Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program.

Asking for donations is never taken for granted, especially in challenging economic times. However, parishioners have been extremely generous in supporting the diocese's charitable works.

Our Pastoral Works Appeal connects everyone to the mission of Jesus Christ in our Diocese. Every gift or donation brings comfort, friendship, or security and often opens the doorway to a faith-filled life.

Donation envelopes are available in the pews, and parishioners can also scan the QR code on the envelopes, posters and social media tiles if they want to donate using the option on our website. While donations can be made at any time, The Pastoral Works November Appeal is the last one for the 2024 calendar year, and **all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.**

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION & RENEWAL DAY AT ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY

You are invited to the Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia on Sunday, 17th November.

Arrival from 10am to register for a 10:30am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, Middle of the Day Prayer with the monks, Mass at 2pm, conclusion at 3pm. Book display and morning tea provided, please BYO picnic lunch. Extensive grounds and a labyrinth.

General enquiries:
Ann Lomas/ atlomas@bigpond.com / 0437 340 250

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:



MYRA & GREG

A heartfelt thank you to Myra and Greg for their consistent kindness in bringing up the bins from the bottom of the driveway every week. Your thoughtfulness and reliability mean so much, and we truly appreciate all the little things you do to make life easier for everyone. Thank you again!

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.

FLOWERS ROSTER HELP NEEDED



We need more volunteers for flower roster. This will be every 6 to 7 weeks. Please help us out.

ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE



18 ladies gathered on Wednesday night for our Candle Making Workshop. We were having such a lovely time together that we forgot to take a group photo, sorry! But we did work hard at rolling some beeswax candles for Fr Shan to use in the candelabras during Adoration! Special thanks to Tania and Kathy (pictured with our cooling

candles) for sharing their passion and candle making materials with us.

Save the date for our final Maker's Table for the year at:

7.30pm on December 11th

CLAY WORKSHOP

Themakerstablesydney@gmail.com
Martine 0458-533-250 Nerida 0425-834-017

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

Our final SRE/Scripture dates are –

Middle Dural – Wednesday 20th November

Arcadia, Galston and Glenorie PS – Wednesday 27th November

Hillside – Friday 29th 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 or 8379 1643 for the training and Advent Reflection.

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 srearcadia@gmail.com

Parish Catechist Co-ordinator

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



We are still in need of volunteers aged 14-16 who 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 Margaret of Scotland

Feast Day: November 16

c. 1045–1093

**Patron Saint of learning, parents of large families,
parents who have lost a child, queens, and widows**



Margaret of Wessex was born into English royalty, the daughter of Edward the Exile and Agatha, the daughter of the Holy Roman Emperor. When King Edward the Confessor became king but did not have an heir, he called Margaret's parents to the royal court. After Edward the Confessor died in 1066, fighting raged among his potential heirs. With William the Conqueror of Normandy victorious in the Battle of Hastings, Edgar Ætheling, Margaret's brother, gave up his claim to the throne.

In 1068, the widowed Agatha decided to protect her children from the Norman conquerors and potential chaos from a future rebellion. She boarded a ship with Edgar, Margaret, and their sister, Cristina, likely setting sail for Hungary. Legend has it that the ship, tossed off course, wrecked on the shores of Scotland. There, King Malcolm III welcomed the royal family and ensured their safety.

From childhood, Margaret had grown in her love of God. She lived an ordered life, studied the Sacred Scriptures and holy books, and grew in understanding of the things of God. Her earliest biographer described her as another Mary of Bethany, listening at the feet of Jesus. Her soul's beauty—evident in her piety, virtue, and intelligence—and her physical beauty attracted King Malcom, a widower with two sons. The two fell in love and were married, making Margaret Queen of Scotland.

Queen Margaret quickly realized that the power and influence she had received ought not to be used for selfish purposes, but for the betterment of Scotland and, especially, for the increase of the Kingdom of God. As queen, she soon won the people's love and admiration.

For centuries, the Scottish Church had followed the old Celtic traditions. When the Romans withdrew from Britain in the fifth century, the Scottish Church became isolated from the Roman Empire and the Church's development. Scottish abbots provided Church influence and governance, rather than bishops. Liturgical practices differed, including the liturgical calendar and customs.

Raised in the Roman tradition, Queen Margaret, with Malcom's support, initiated change in the Church of Scotland. She convened synods to address how Celtic practices differed from the rest of the Church, such as when Lent and Easter were observed, the way Mass was celebrated, observance of the Lord's Day, and the laws on marriage. In so doing, she strengthened ties to the pope, ending the Scots' lengthy isolation. Queen Margaret refurbished rundown churches, built new ones, and introduced Benedictine monks to Scotland by building the renowned Dunfermline Abbey, later burial site of several Scottish monarchs. In her charity, she fed the hungry, stooped to wash the feet of the poor, cared for orphans, and organized religious education throughout the kingdom.

King Malcolm and Queen Margaret had eight children, six sons and two daughters. Three sons became kings of Scotland, one became an abbot, and a daughter became the Queen of England. In 1093, King Malcolm and Margaret's oldest son, Edward, was killed in battle. When the forty-nine year old Margaret, bedridden in Edinburgh Castle due to ill health, heard the news, she died of grief three days later.

Saint Margaret, Queen of Scotland, you received much on earth, but gave so much more. The glory of God and the salvation of souls were your greatest desires. Please pray that I will use what I have received, not for selfish gain, but for the fulfillment of the will of God in all things. Saint Margaret, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

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.

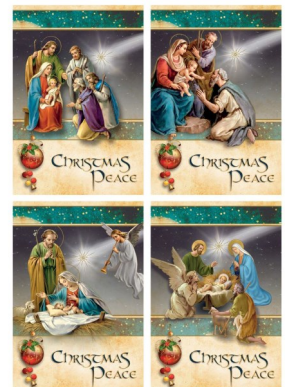
Custom Requests: If you're looking for something specific that we don't have in the shop, let us know by December 1, and we'll do our best to accommodate your needs. We can't wait to help you celebrate the season with meaningful gifts and decorations!

All nativities and large items will be on display. To ensure you get the items you want, please place your orders by December 1st. After that date, all nativities and large items will be available for immediate purchase off the shelf.



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

**16/11/2024 TO 17/11/2024
33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B**

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Paul E	
Reader1	Maria G	Nigel M	Tim J
Reader2	Margaret B	Judy H	Sam J
Prayers	Miriam B	Ann L	Tanya J
TV		Jules O	Trey O'C
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Keith W	Martina J
Music		Don R	Theresa N
Music			
Morning Tea		Tania T	
FLOWERS	Gabrielle W		



**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.

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.

THERE IS NO PLACE FOR

**DOMESTIC
& FAMILY
VIOLENCE**
IN OUR COMMUNITY



CatholicCare
1800 324 924

1800 RESPECT
1800 737 732

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay



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