

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 16 & 17 NOVEMBER 2024

WATCH, KEEP ALERT, AND
PRAY; FOR YOU DON'T
KNOW WHEN THE TIME
IS.

MARK 13:33 WEB

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

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.

You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good.

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: BE ALERT

In this Sunday's Gospel (Mark 13:24-32), Jesus reminds us that while everything else will fade away, His words will last forever. It's easy to get distracted by temporary things like possessions, status, and achievements. This passage calls us to focus on what is eternal—God's truth and His Word.

- *Do I focus too much on things that won't last?*
- *How can I invest more in my relationship with God and in things that have eternal value?*
- *Am I paying attention to the signs of God at work in my life?*
- *Are there ways God is inviting me to grow closer to Him or deepen my faith? Am I listening?*

These questions help us evaluate where we place our energy and how open we are to God's presence in our lives.

Lord,

*Thank You for Your unfailing promises. Help me stay ready and trust in Your return. Open my eyes to Your work in my life, and give me faith to focus on what lasts forever. Fill me with hope and peace, knowing You are coming again and Your words will never fade. **Amen.***

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm:****R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.****Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 (JB)**

A reading from the letter of to the Hebrews

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-32 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.'

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, November 17

Daniel 12:1-3 / Psalm 16:5, 8-11 / Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 / Mark 13:24-32

In those days . . . (Mark 13:24)

When will “those days” come (Mark 13:24)? When will we see the final tribulations that lead up to Jesus’ return? Many early Christians expected to see them in their own lifetimes. Even today, some think the end is approaching when they hear of wars, pandemics, earthquakes, and other disasters. But as Jesus tells us in today’s Gospel, only our heavenly Father knows when that day will come (13:32).

What is certain, though, is that there *will* be an end. After a period of great distress and tribulation, Jesus will come “to judge the living and the dead,” as we proclaim in the Creed. We hope to be one of “the elect” whom the angels gather from the ends of the earth (Mark 13:27). But the images in today’s first reading and the Gospel can still frighten us.

But instead of making us feel afraid of the future, these readings should influence the choices we make today. The truth is, we can’t presume on God’s mercy forever. As St. Paul wrote, “Now is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2). *Now* is the time to turn to the Lord. To follow him the best we can. To ask for forgiveness every time we detect sin in our lives. *Now* is the time to live in a way that makes us ready to meet the Lord whenever he comes again.

So don’t procrastinate! Offer him your day each morning in prayer. Receive the sacraments as often as you can—there’s grace available to you every time you do. Call that needy friend today, not tomorrow, and ask how you can serve her. The Lord will give you all the grace you need to be ready to meet him face-to-face.

It’s so easy to let other things take priority in our lives and push out the time and energy we need to devote to our relationship with God. Don’t let that happen! No matter when the end times come, Jesus wants you to follow him now so you can be with him forever in eternity.

“Jesus, help me to always put you first in my life.”

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

NOVEMBER

Monday 18

Readings: Rev 1:1-4, 2:1-5. Lk 18:35-43.

R: Those who are victorious I will feed from the tree of life.

Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul, apostles.

Tuesday 19

Readings: Rev 3:1-6, 14-22. Lk 19:1-10.

R: The one who is victorious I will sit beside me on my throne.

Wednesday 20

Readings: Rev 4:1-11. Lk 19:11-28.

R: Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!

Thursday 21

Readings: Rev 5:1-10. Lk 19:41-44

R: The lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary.

Friday 22

Readings: Rev 10:8-11. Lk 19:45-48.

R: How sweet to my taste is your promise!

St Cecilia, virgin, martyr.

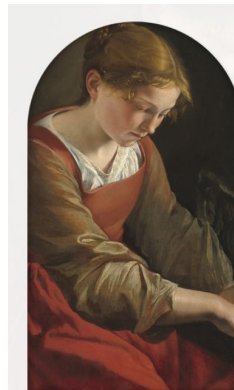
Saturday 23

Readings: Rev 11:4-12. Lk 20:27-40.

R: Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!

St Clement I, pope, martyr

St Columban, abbot



November 22, St Cecilia

Dear Saint Cecilia, one thing we know for certain about you is that you became a heroic martyr in fidelity to your Divine Bridegroom.

We do not know that you were a musician but we are told that you heard Angels sing.

Inspire musicians to gladden the hearts of people by **filling the air with God's gift of music** and **reminding them of the divine Musician who created all beauty.**

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.

MEMORIAL ONE YEAR MASS



In Loving Memory of

LUIGI BISOGLIO

Tuesday, 26th November 2024, 7:00 PM
At the Monastery

We invite you to join us for a heartfelt remembrance of Luigi Bisoglio, as we gather for a prayer service in his honour, followed by a warm gathering with coffee and tea.

Your presence will be deeply appreciated as we celebrate his life and cherish his memory together.

Here's a prayer attributed to St. Luigi Gonzaga:

"O God, I offer You my heart and soul. Teach me to love You more deeply and to serve You faithfully. Grant me the grace to resist temptation and to grow in virtue. May my life be a reflection of Your love. Amen."

DRAFT ROSTER

Last weekend to check draft roster. Please check your names.

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 Myra Martin, Biagio Abignano, Phil Dailey, Brother Peter Hancock, Brother Terry & Colleen Bennett** ~ May they rest in eternal Peace.



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



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

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.**



YOU ARE INVITED TO
Come and See
A DISCERNMENT WEEKEND AWAY WITH
THE SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATA



Friday 29th November - Sunday 1st December 2024



Email the Sisters on
vocations@immaculata.org.au

Fundraising

ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY FUNDRAISING EVENING

Sunday 24 November 2024
5.00pm to 8.00pm at the Monastery.

Presenters: Steve and Vicki Austin, world famous dog training and education team who, with their dogs, will demonstrate the important conservation work they undertake in many parts of the world, including Antarctica.

The event is organised by BenedictUs, support group for projects of Sylvestrine Benedictine monasteries in developing countries. The aim on this occasion is to raise \$14,000 for a classroom at the monastery's school in Butembo, Congo.

Tickets \$40 single, \$80 family; include entry, pizza and drink.

They are available only online:
scan QR Code or visit
www.trybooking.com/CWPBL
Contact: Penny 0409 309 344



REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of



MYRA MARTIN

**Went into eternal rest on the 7th of November 2024
Aged 93 in Brisbane**

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

WELCOME FATHER EUGENE DESILVA

We welcome Father Eugene DeSilva to join our Benedictine community. Eugene is a monk from our Sri Lankan community. He has received a visa for four years. Once we have completed the necessary Diocesan documents he will be working with our community. Please make him welcome.

David Orr osb

ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

**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

CATECHISTS' NEWS

As we approach the end of the year, this week saw a celebration of SRE (Scripture) in NSW schools held at NSW Parliament House as a thank you to all providers of SRE and the Diocese held the Annual Catechist Mass at our Cathedral in Waitara, on Saturday to recognise and thank Catechists for their work throughout the year.

Our final SRE/Scripture dates are:

- Middle Dural – next 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

JOIN OUR YOUTH GROUP!



Fridays during School Term
Time: 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Ages: 8-12 years old

We are currently seeking volunteers aged 14-16 to assist with the youth group. If you're interested in helping out, please email the parish office. All of our youth leaders are accredited with Working With Children Checks.

Thank you, Gabe & Jules!

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.

CCC PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meeting every **Wednesday morning** after the 9.30am Mass.
Come and meet new people and have a cuppa!

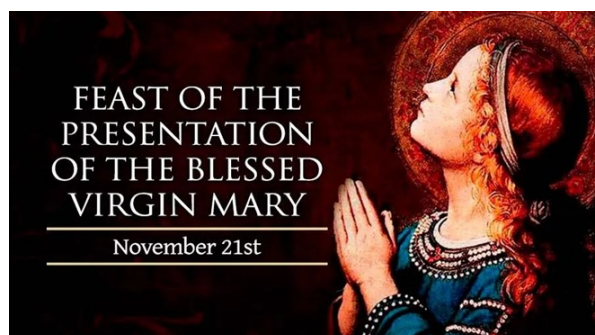


For more details call
Mary Camilleri on 0403 116 987.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Feast Day: November 21



Three “gospels” have heavily influenced today’s memorial—the Protoevangelium of James, the Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew, and the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary. The earliest was the Protoevangelium of James (also called the “Apocryphal Gospel of James”), most likely written sometime in the second century. It is not considered to be part of the inspired word of God, i.e., the canon of Scripture, because it does not appear to have actually been written by the Apostle James. Nonetheless, like many early Christian documents, this apocryphal gospel held great influence in the early Church. It is from this writing that the Church takes the traditional names of the Blessed Virgin Mary’s parents—Saints Joachim and Anne.

The Protoevangelium of James details Mary’s Immaculate Conception, birth, presentation in the Temple, and her life in the Temple until age twelve where she is depicted as praying continuously while angels ministered to her. The story continues with her miraculously arranged marriage to Saint Joseph, Jesus’ birth, Herod’s encounter with the Magi, the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, and the martyrdom of Zechariah, Saint John the Baptist’s father. The Apocryphal Gospel of James does not contradict anything in the canonical Gospels, and more details are added that could be true.

When the Blessed Virgin Mary was born, it was not uncommon for some children to be presented in the Temple, to be raised there and to enter into service at the Temple. They assisted the priests and acted as servants of charity. Though every firstborn boy was ritually presented to the priest in the Temple eight days after birth for consecration to God, sometimes girls were also presented, but for the purpose of entering into the Temple’s service. In *Glories of Mary*, Saint Alphonsus Liguori, an eighteenth-century Doctor of the Church, wrote a description of her presentation in the Temple.

The feast is believed to have originated in the Eastern Byzantine liturgy around the sixth century when Byzantine Roman Emperor Justinian I built a church in Jerusalem near the ruins of the Temple called the Basilica of Saint Mary the New. By the ninth century, several monasteries in the Latin Church observed this feast; it was added to the Universal Church calendar in the fifteenth century.

In 1953, Pope Pius XII tied this memorial of the Presentation of Mary to an annual commemoration of the World Day of Cloistered Life. This sprang from the belief that the Blessed Virgin was presented in the Temple as a child, living out her childhood in prayer and solitude, a model for those in the cloister.

In 1974, Pope Saint Paul VI wrote a beautiful apostolic exhortation, *Marialis Cultus: For the Right Ordering and Development of Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary*, in which he speaks of the development of Marian devotion in the life of the Church. Regarding feasts like today’s, which come to us in part from apocryphal sources, he says, “There are still others [feasts] which, apart from their apocryphal content, present lofty and exemplary values and carry on venerable traditions having their origin especially in the East.”

Most Holy and Immaculate Virgin Mary, you were conceived without sin and remained sinless throughout your life. With the perfection of every virtue and grace, you loved and served God even as a young child. Please pray for me, as I help to inspire young people in the ways of holiness, that I will never shy away from pointing them to you as a model and mediator of God’s grace. Most Holy Blessed Virgin Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

PIETY SHOP NEWS

PIETY SHOP TRANSFORMING INTO PIETY CHRISTMAS SHOP!

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 for DECEMBER 2024:

Saturdays: 6.30pm to 8.30pm

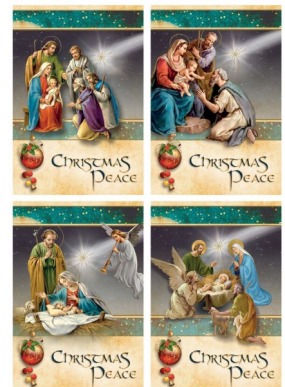
Sundays: 8.30am to 11.30am

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

23/11/2024 TO 24/11/2024
CHRIST THE KING - YEAR B

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	George A
Reader1	Miriam B	Kath M	Sandra
Reader2	Mary C	Ann L	Lorna B
Prayers	Natasha S	Judy H	Martina J
TV		Teresa G	Mirko J
Music		Rebecca R	Karina S
Music		Keith W	John T
Music		Theresa N	Noelle T
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

PRAY FOR LEBANON

"The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Psalm 92

God of all creation,
We hold in our hearts all the pain of the world.

In these anxious days,
we pray especially for the people of Lebanon.

Our country has been deeply enriched
by Lebanese culture and faith.

We know that Jesus travelled in Lebanon.
He would have been distressed by the current
conflict between places he knew and loved.

We pray that in our time
all violence may cease,
that compassion will reign,
and that all people will recognise their shared
dignity as children of God.

Jesus said, 'blessed are those who mourn.'
He also said, 'blessed are the peacemakers.'

May our grief be a seed that grows into
a tree that shades everyone,
as does the cedar of Lebanon.

God of light, be with us all,
Amen.

Source: caritas.org.au

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
1800 024 413



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

MONASTERY: 02 9653 1159
121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia 2159