# St Benedict's Parish Arcadia





# TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 5 & 6 OCTOBER 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**

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will.

For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

# **SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER**

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires
of those who entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
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: MARRIAGE COMMITMENT**

This Sunday's Gospel, Mark 10:2-14, Jesus addresses the topic of divorce and the sanctity of marriage. This passage invites self-reflection on the nature of relationships and commitments we make. The importance of nurturing love and respect within our partnerships.

- 1. How do I demonstrate commitment in my relationship?
- 2. When faced with challenges in relationships, do I seek reconciliation or just find it easier to walk away?
- 3. What actions can I take to foster a more loving and supporting environment?



Dear Lord,

Thank you for the gift of relationships and the sacredness of marriage. Help me to honour my commitments with love and respect. Grant me the wisdom to nurture unity and heal any wounds within my heart. May I reflect Your love in all my interactions. Amen.

# TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24 (JB) A reading from the book of Genesis

They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman.

for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Responsorial Psalm:**

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11 (JB)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He who sanctifies, and those who are sanctified have one origin.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

What God has joined together, no one must divide. Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them. 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against

her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.' People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them. 'Let the little children come to me: do not stop them: for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

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





# GOSPEL REFLECTION Sunday, October 6

Genesis 2:18-24 / Psalm 128:1-6 / Hebrews 2:9-11 / Mark 10:2-16

It is not good for the man to be alone. (Genesis 2:18)

This almost sounds like it could be the punch line of a joke about men needing the gentle guidance of women. But this reading is not just about men. And while it's often used in the context of marriage, it's not just about marriage. It applies to all of us, married or single, male or female. We *need* each other. We have been made in the image and likeness of our triune God, who is a communion of persons. That means we need upbuilding relationships with other people. It is simply "not good" for us to be alone (Genesis 2:18).

Notice that even after Adam named all the animals, none was found to be "the suitable partner for man" (Genesis 2:20). That's because we can only truly have "partnership" with other human beings created in God's image and likeness. And that communion, like the life of the Trinity, usually involves the giving of ourselves. The Sacrament of Marriage is a powerful sign of that love. But it's also on display in the relationship between good friends, in volunteers who work together to serve the poor, or in priests or religious sisters and brothers who support one another in the faith.

It's not automatic, though. No one experiences perfect communion with other people in this life; we have to work on our relationships. We have to keep inviting Jesus into them. So today, take the next step toward the communion that God made you for. Pray for good friendships to come into your life. Pray, too, that God would help you deepen the relationships you do have. Make it a priority to spend time with them. Get to know the people you're serving with in your parish. Maybe you could reach out to someone who seems alone.

Even when you feel lonely, know that you're never alone. The One who made you for something more is always with you. Trust that he will build the communion he desires for you.

"Lord, thank you that you have made me for community, just like you."

Source: Word Among Us India

## LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

**OCTOBER** 

Monday 7 Readings: Gal 1:6-12. Lk 10:25-37.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

Our Lady of the Rosary.

Tuesday 8 Readings: Gal 1:13-24. Lk 10:38-42.

R: Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.

Wednesday 9 Readings: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14.

R: Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News. **St Denis, bishop, martyr, and companions, martyrs.** 

St John Leonardi, priest.

Thursday 10 Readings: Gal 3:1-5. Lk 11:5-13.

R: Blessed is the Lord God of Israel; for he has come to his people.

Friday 11 Readings: Gal 3:7-14. Lk 11:15-26.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

St John XXIII, pope.

Saturday 12 Readings: Gal 3:22-29. Lk 11:27-28.

R: The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.







#### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2024

# For a Shared Mission

Pope Francis asks for prayers so that the Church "continues to support a synodal way of life, under the sign of co-responsibility, promoting participation, communion, and shared mission among priests, religious, and laypeople."



The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared six times to three shepherd children near Fatima, Portugal in 1917. She promised that Heaven would grant peace to the troubled world if Her requests for prayer, reparation and consecration were heard and obeyed.

# Our Lady of Fatima FEAST DAY

Here at St Benedict's, Sunday 13th October 2024 at 12:30pm

Commences with a children's play and recital of the Rosary in 5 languages followed by a Procession, Holy Mass, and then afternoon tea and raffle.

Special petitions to Our Lady, can be placed in the "PETITION BOX" at the foot of the statue. The petitions will be taken to the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal. A nine-day "NOVENA" will be held at 6.25pm in St Benedict's Church, starting Friday 4th October 2023, followed by Mass at 7.00pm.

For further information: 0438 521 421

# **COMMUNITY DISCERNMENT FORUM**

The bishop invites the parish community to a discernment forum to explore important questions affecting all parishes in the North Shore Deanery.

Father Shansana has already reached out to the parishioners involved in our discussion groups. Group leaders, please connect with your teams to schedule a date for the forum as soon as possible.

# PRAYER FOR LEBANON AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Loving God,

We come to You with heavy hearts for the innocent people of Lebanon and the Middle East. Surround them with Your protection and peace in the midst of conflict and suffering. May those caught in violence find safety and hope.

We pray for healing for the wounded, comfort for the grieving, and strength for those enduring hardships. Inspire compassion and understanding among all nations, and guide leaders to seek paths of peace and reconciliation.

Help us to stand in solidarity with those in need and to be voices for justice and love.
In Your name, we pray. Amen.

# **ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

As part of the Year of Prayer 2024, Bishop David Walker will present a 4 part series on the Acts of the Apostles.

St Agatha's Catholic Church 20 Boundary Road, Pennant Hills Tuesdays, 10:30am – 12 noon 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October

Mass will be celebrated at 9:30am each day, followed by morning tea. Sessions will begin at 10:30am.

Not to be missed! Everyone is welcome.

Attend one or all sessions.

Each session will conclude with a guided *lectio divina* of a passage from Acts.

Registrations essential. Please contact St Agatha's Parish Office on (02) 9484 1427

or email stagathas@bbcatholic.org.au

# OCTOBER MONTH OF THE ROSARY

For the month of October the Rosary will be recited after the 9.30am daily masses.

## **ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY**

## **FATHER SHANSANA - 11TH OCTOBER - 23 YEARS**

Congratulations, Father Shansana, on your 23rd anniversary of ordination! Your dedication and service have touched many lives, and we are grateful for your spiritual leadership.

May you continue to increase and guide up in faith. Pleasings on this appaid milestonal.

May you continue to inspire and guide us in faith. Blessings on this special milestone!

# 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 Brother Terry Kavanagh, Colleen Bennett, Caterina Madaffari and Michael Engcong (Lorna's young nephew) May they rest in Peace.



# **VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!**

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:



# NANCY LUGUDI & ROBIN BARBARA

Thank you Robin and Nancy for organising and helping out for Brother Terry's wake meal. We really appreciate your hard work and kindness when needed! God bless you always!

Who would you like to nominate for next week's volunteer? Email the parish if you know someone who deserves to be mentioned.

# ST BENEDICT'S MEN'S MEET & GREET

The next MEN'S MEET AND GREET: TUESDAY 29 October 2024 7.30pm to 8.30pm



Our Parish Men's Group is a welcoming community for men of all ages who seek to grow in faith, foster friendships, and support one another in their spiritual journeys. We meet regularly every month to engage in meaningful discussions, share our experiences, and explore ways to live out our faith in everyday life.

Best regards, Bens-Men

# ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP

St. Benedict's Youth Group for 8-12 year olds meets every Friday during the school term from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM.

If you're a **volunteer aged 14-16** and would like to help, please email the parish office. All our youth leaders have Working With Children Checks.

Thank you, Gabe & Jules!



# **CATECHISTS' NEWS**

Wishing all Catechists and families an enjoyable holiday break! Term 4 starts on Monday 14 October. Free training –

For all Catechists, family or friends "A Reflective Study of the Psalms"
 continues on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 10am 12.15pm via Zoom on 'Spirituality of Leadership".

RSVP registrations@bbcatholic.org.au or 8379 1643

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



# **PIETY SHOP 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 FOR PIETY SHOP ROSTER**

If you're interested in helping out before or after Masses, please let Father know. We really appreciate any assistance and will add you to the roster. Thank you for your support!

# ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE



Lots of fun was had painting Amazing Angels and Super Saint peg dolls at our Mini Maker's Table on Wednesday! Thank you to everyone for joining us!

Please save the date for our next workshop on Wednesday, November 6th (7.30-9.30pm) when we will be making candles!

themakerstablesydney@gmail.com

or Martine 0458-533-250 / Nerida 0425-834-017

# **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.

# **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!

# **ITALIAN ROSARY GROUP**



For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.

# SAINT OF THE WEEK

# Saint John XXIII, Pope

Feast Day: October 11 1881 - 1963

Patron Saint of papal delegates

Canonized by Pope Francis on April 27, 2014



#### Quote:

Since the Lord chose me, unworthy as I am, for this great service, I feel I have no longer any special ties in this life, no family, no earthly country or nation, nor any particular preferences with regard to studies or projects, even good ones. Now, more than ever, I see myself only as the humble and unworthy "servant of God and servant of the servants of God." The whole world is my family. This sense of belonging to everyone must give character and vigour to my mind, my heart and my actions. "Saint John XXIII, journal entry

Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born in Sotto il Monte, a small village in the province of Bergamo, Italy. His large family of tenant farmers worked in vineyards and cornfields and tended cattle. After eight years at a high school seminary in Bergamo, Angelo took his brother's place and performed one year of military service. Next in Rome, he earned a doctorate in theology at the Apollinaris Seminary. Ordained on August 10, 1904, he completed studies in canon law the next year.

Father Roncalli's work as a priest included serving as the Bishop of Bergamo's secretary and teaching in the Bergamo seminary. He took over the pastoral care of the Catholic Action movement that involved the laity in the Church's and community's social needs. During World War I, he served in the Italian army as a medic and then a chaplain. In 1921, Pope Benedict XV called him to Rome where he led the Italian portion of the Propagation of the Faith. In 1925, Pope Pius XI named him a bishop and assigned him as the Apostolic Visitor to Bulgaria. He chose as his episcopal motto, *Oboedientia et Pax* (Obedience and Peace), summarizing his ministry for the rest of his life.

As bishop, he initiated dialogue with other faiths. In 2011, the State of Israel posthumously honored him as "Righteous Among the Nations" for helping several thousand Jews escape the Holocaust by providing them with forged papers in order to get them to Palestine. In 1944, Pope Pius XII appointed Bishop Roncalli as Apostolic Nuncio to France, where he assisted with the freed prisoners of war and helped France rebuild after a four-year occupation. His priestly ministry shone as he helped the French renew their faith after horrible national suffering. He was named a cardinal in 1953 and subsequently made Patriarch of Venice, where he planned to spend the rest of his life.

When Pope Pius XII died in 1958, seventy-seven-year-old Cardinal Roncalli was elected pope and took his father's name, Giovanni, making him Pope Giovanni (John) XXIII. He was called the "good pope" because of his humble, kind, and active papacy. He visited the sick and imprisoned, saw the world as his family, and made profound changes within the Church and world.

During his four-and-a-half years as pope, John XXIII issued eight encyclicals. *Mater et magistra* (Mother and Teacher) addressed the Church's role in social progress in a time of rapid technological change and increasing social and economic inequality. *Pacem in terris* (Peace on Earth) dealt with human dignity, rights, and responsibilities of all peoples and nations to seek peace and harmony. He convened the Diocese of Rome's first Synod and began to revise the Code of Canon Law.

The greatest surprise during his papacy came on January 25, 1959, while making a pastoral visit to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, where he announced the twenty-third Ecumenical Council, later known as Vatican II. Though Pope John XXIII died before its conclusion, he is credited for the inspiration and instigation of the process that changed the Church in ways never seen before. Pope Francis canonized Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II in 2014. Their shared canonization illustrates that Saint John XXIII began the Council and Saint John Paul II implemented it.

Saint John XXIII, you were raised in humble conditions and formed well in the faith. God used you in powerful ways that have had a profound effect upon the Church and world. Please pray that I will always remain faithful to God's will so that He can use me in the ways He chooses. Saint John XXIII, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: mycatholic.life

# Feast of St. Gerard Majella

Inviting all parishioners, particularly those who are planning to start a family, expanding their family, having difficulty conceiving, or who have been blessed with children through the intercession of St Gerard

Join us on this great day to celebrate the feast and the installation of the relic.

Novena will be held after 9:30AM mass on weekday and Sunday beginning Tuesday, October 8th.

#### **Feast Day Program**

- Novena
- Holy Mass
- · Installation of the Relic
- · Light Supper

Main Celebrant of the Holy Mass: Rev Dr. David Ranson, VG

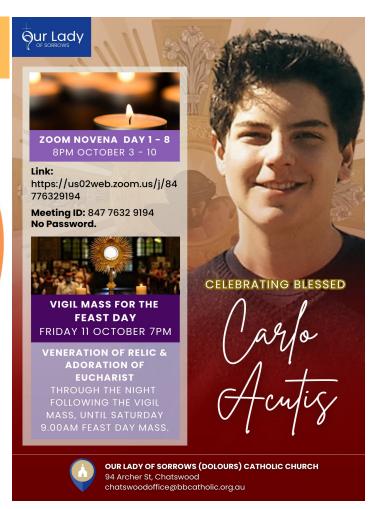
Starts at 7:00 PM

16 October 2024



St. Gerard's Carlingford

Bring a plate to share if you can.



# **SEASONS FOR GROWTH SEMINARS**

Seasons for Growth supports adults (anyone 18+) who have experienced change and loss. This might include family separation; loss or death of someone they care about; loss of a pet; retirement or relocation; physical or mental illness; or natural disasters.

We will implement the program in St Agatha's Parish by **offering a 3 hour Seminar.** Each participant will receive a Workbook for taking notes during the Seminar that they can keep and take home with them for future reference and support.

Change and loss are a significant and inevitable part of life and each person will react to loss in vastly different ways.

In the Seasons for Growth Seminar, you will have the opportunity to:

- Examine the meaning of grief
- Review the range of changes and losses experienced in life
- Reflect on the relationship between change, loss, grief and behaviour
- Understand grief reactions and factors that influence them
- Identify different styles of grieving
- Explore strategies of empowerment, including the role of choice in the grief journey and the importance of networks of support.

The Seasons for Growth Seminar will be offered at the following time:

- Date: Saturday, 19th October, 2024
- Time: 9:30am to 12:30pm
- Registrations close: Monday, 14 October

Venue: St Agatha's Parish Centre, 20 Boundary Road, Pennant Hills

Enquiries welcome. Registrations essential. Limited places available.

Contact: Anne Bailey (02) 9484 1427 anne.bailey@bbcatholic.org.au



# Parish Roster

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

## **NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER**

# 12/10/2024 TO 13/10/2024 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

	SATUR- DAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Lorraine D	George A
Reader1	Miriam B	Gabrielle W	Sam J
Reader2	Maria G	Matt W	Tanya J
Prayers	Sr Carol T	Ann L	Tim J
TV		Sebastian W	Michael E
Music		Melanie H	Melanie H
Music		Marisa Q	Keith W
Music		Pauline H	Don R
Music			
Morning Tea		Teresa G	
FLOWERS	Tania T		



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.

#### **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 Readings6.30am Morning prayer - Lauds12.45pm Midday prayer

**6.00pm** Evening prayer - Vespers **8.00pm** Night prayer - Compline

ALL are welcome to attend any time.

# INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' DAY OCTOBER 5

Consider the words of Proverbs 22:6: "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."

Let us recognise and support the tireless efforts of our teachers. Engage with them, appreciate their hard work, and encourage your children to respect and value their educators. A simple "thank you" or a kind gesture can go a long way in uplifting their spirits.

To our teachers, know that you are seen and appreciated. Your patience and dedication to your students do not go unnoticed. You are the beacons of light in our children's lives, guiding them through the storms of uncertainty and leading them to the shores of knowledge and wisdom.

May God bless our teachers and grant them the strength and wisdom to continue their invaluable work. Together, as families and communities, let us support and cherish these remarkable individuals who dedicate their lives to educating and inspiring our future generations.

Source: majellan.media



# PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312

Email: arcadia.parish@bigpond.com

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

Like us on Facebook

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 OH&S and Safeguarding Children