

St Benedict's Parish Arcadia



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

28 & 29 SEPTEMBER 2024

Whoever is not
against us is for us

Mark 9:40

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

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

SUNDAY HOLY MASS PRAYER

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven.
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: INCLUSIVITY IN OUR FAITH

This Sunday's Gospel, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48, Jesus teaches us about the importance of inclusivity and humility in our faith.

1. How do I respond to those who express their faith differently than I do?
2. Am I open to recognising the work of God in unexpected places?
3. In what ways am I currently serving others in my community?
4. How can I better support those around me in their spiritual journeys? How can I uplift others?

Dear Lord,

Help me to embrace inclusivity and recognise Your work in others, regardless of their paths. Grant me the humility to serve those around me with love and kindness. Shine Your light on the areas of my life that need change, and give me the courage to seek Your forgiveness. Help me make choices that reflect Your love. Amen.

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29 (JB)

A reading from the book of Numbers

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Second Reading: James 5:1-6 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St James

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them - listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

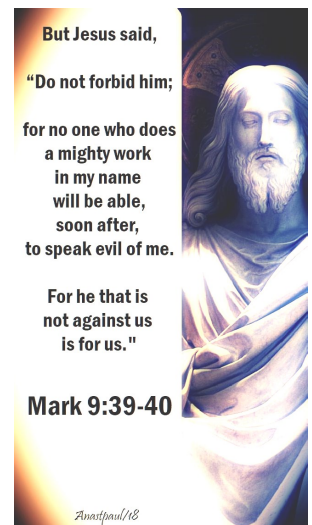
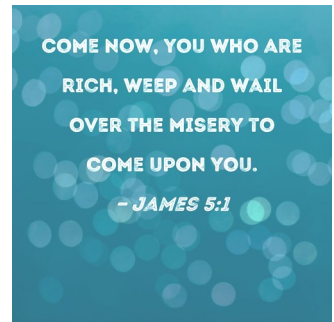
Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

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



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sunday, September 29

Numbers 11:25-29 / Psalm 19:8, 10-14 / James 5:1-6 / Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

They prophesied in the camp. (Numbers 11:27)

Did you ever think that you might have missed God's blessing? Maybe you were supposed to go on a pilgrimage, but your finances fell through. Or you had hoped to attend a retreat, but someone in your family got sick. Or perhaps you had planned to go to daily Mass at noon, but you got stuck in a work meeting and couldn't get to church. How frustrating!

In today's first reading, Medad and Eldad might have felt the same way. Moses had chosen them to be among the seventy elders, and God had promised to place his Spirit upon them. They would be able to hear God's voice and help Moses care for the Israelites. But they had not gone out to the tent of meeting; they were left back in the camp among the hungry, complaining people. So it seemed that these two latecomers had missed their chance.

But God had other plans. He blessed them anyway—even in the chaos of the camp, even in their confusion. Medad and Eldad proclaimed God's word right in the midst of the people.

What does this teach us? First, it shows that God is able to bless us wherever we are. He's not limited by whether we're in the "right place at the right time." Second, he's not limited to working only through certain people. Medad and Eldad had willing hearts open to God's grace, and that helped them receive his Spirit. Joshua was scandalized and wanted to silence them, but Moses understood: The Lord's power and his desire to bless his people were far beyond what they had expected. He rejoiced—"Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets!" (Numbers 11:29).

You have not missed your chance to receive God's blessing! You're never beyond his reach, and it's never too late! Today you can seek the Lord. He wants to shower his gifts and heavenly blessings upon you—no matter where you are!

"Lord, I trust in your goodness."

Source: Word Among Us India

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND EVENTS OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER

Monday 30 Readings: Job 1:6-22. Lk 9:46-50.
R: Lord, bend your ear and hear my prayer.
St Jerome, priest, doctor

OCTOBER

Tuesday 1 Readings: Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23. Lk 9:51-56.
R: Let my prayer come before you, Lord.
St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor

Wednesday 2 Readings: Ex 23:20-23. Mt 18:1-5, 10.
R: He has put his angels in charge of you,
to guard you in all your ways.
The Holy Guardian Angels

Thursday 3 Readings: Job 19:21-27. Lk 10:1-12.
R: I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord.

Friday 4 Readings: Job 38: 1, 12-21, 40:30-5. Lk 10:13-16.
R: Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.
St Francis of Assisi

Saturday 5 Readings: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17. Lk 10:17-24.
R: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
St Faustina Kowalska, virgin

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

Source: Ordo 2024



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

PARISH NOTICE TEMPORARY MASS CHANGES

Please note due to Brother Terry's funeral on
Wednesday October 2nd,
the following Masses are CANCELLED:

Monastery: Wednesday 7am
Parish: Wednesday 9.30am



COMMUNITY DISCERNMENT FORUM

The bishop invites the parish to a community discernment forum to discuss important questions relevant to all the parishes in the North Shore Deanery. If you would like to participate in this discussion in our parish, please contact the parish office.

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

FUNERAL NOTICE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of

BROTHER TERENCE KAVANAGH

Went into eternal rest on Wednesday 18/9/2024



FUNERAL DETAILS:

Vigil Service Tuesday 7pm at the Monastery
Funeral Wednesday 11am at the Monastery

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

In Loving Memory of Brother Terry
Brother Terry was a great monk and a humble soul.
His dedication and spirit touched the lives of many.
Our prayers and thoughts are with
the monks of St. Benedict's,
the Kavanagh family,
and all who knew and loved him.
May he rest in peace.

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.

May they rest in Peace.



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK!

This week volunteer of the week nomination goes to:



VALERIE EATON



A big thank you for donating the Stoles for the children to wear on their Confirmation day. We really appreciate your generosity and kindness when needed! God bless you always!

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Be what you are

"Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly."

St Francis De Sales (1567 - 1622)

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 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!



YOUTH

GROUP

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



Every **Monday 2.00pm.** Everyone welcome.

For more details call

Angela Egiziano on 9652 1358.

CATECHISTS' NEWS

Term 3 finished this week and Term 4 will re-start on Monday 14th October.

Free training –

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

- The CCD is also offering ongoing training for Catechists in Classroom Management during the Sept/Oct school holidays. While the Zoom sessions are now fully booked, there will be a face-to-face session at Pennant Hills on Wednesday 2nd October 10am-12:30pm.

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



ST BENEDICT'S MAKER'S TABLE

Amazing Angels and Super Saints Peg Dolls workshop



Wednesday, 2nd October
2-4pm in the meeting room

Ladies young and old are invited to join us for a special school holiday mother and daughter Maker's Table!

\$10 per participant (\$5 for girls 8-17yrs)

RSVP by 29/9 to themakerstablesydney@gmail.com or Martine 0458-533-250 / Nerida 0425-834-017



CHILDREN'S MASS

NEXT SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER 2024 10.30AM

Followed by morning tea, sweets, coffee & tea!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Holy Guardian Angels

Feast Day: October 2



“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father” (Matthew 18:10). Jesus says these words just before He teaches the Parable of the Lost Sheep that shows His deep love for every person, for each of the “little ones.” He seeks out the lost sheep and gives them their own guardian angels, whom we honour today, who always look upon God’s face and whose sole task is to get us to Heaven.

Our belief in guardian angels is rooted in Scripture, the writings of the saints, and Church teaching. In the Psalms we read, “For he commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go. With their hands they shall support you, lest you strike your foot against a stone” (Psalms 91:11–12). Saint Jerome, writing Matthew 18:10, says, “The worth of souls is so great that from birth each one has an angel assigned to him for his protection.” Saint Thomas Aquinas says, “Each man has an angel guardian appointed to him. This rests upon the fact that the guardianship of angels belongs to the execution of Divine providence concerning men” (*Summa Theologiae* 1.113.2). In a General Audience in August 1986, Pope Saint John Paul II taught, “God has entrusted to the angels a ministry in favor of people. Therefore the Church *confesses her faith in the guardian angels*, venerating them in the liturgy with an appropriate feast and recommending recourse to their protection by frequent prayer, as in the invocation “Angel of God.” The Catechism quotes Saint Basil, “Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life” (CCC #336).

Guardian angels are not just a comfort for fearful children; they are for all of us, and we ought not forget about our own. Angels are intercessors *and* mediators. God entrusts them with His divine power. They act in His name and on His behalf, to deliver His grace, reveal His Truth, direct us down the right path, and protect us from evil. Instead of distributing His grace Himself, God bestows his gifts on us through mediators who are instruments, cooperating with His divine plan.

Today’s memorial became a universal feast in the latter part of the seventeenth century, when Pope Clement X placed it on the Roman Calendar. Pope Leo XIII elevated the feast, emphasizing its importance in the late nineteenth century. Near the same time, he composed the “Saint Michael the Archangel” prayer, mandating that it be prayed at the end of every Mass. The feast of the Archangels, on September 29, and the Memorial of the Guardian Angels emphasize that God uses archangels for specific purposes and guardian angels to care for each of our specific needs. The archangels and guardian angels are closest to humanity, acting as mediators between God and man. While Saint Thomas defined the guardian angels as the lowest of the choirs of angels, this only means that their direct concern is the care of humanity. They continually behold the Beatific Vision.

Saint Thomas Aquinas gives the most detail regarding the guardian angels’ function (See *Summa Theologiae* 1.113). He teaches that every person receives an angel at birth, rather than at baptism. These angels are not recycled, but are assigned to one person alone. The guardian angels can put ideas before our minds to direct us toward God’s will, but they cannot control our wills. By working upon our senses, they can cause us to feel what is right or wrong and urge us to make the right choices. They act contrary to the fallen angels, or demons, who tempt us through false reasoning and base sensate delights. Finally, in Heaven, the guardian angel’s role of leading us to salvation will be complete. Saint Thomas believed that even then they will communicate with us and will continue to enlighten us with God’s never-ending and deepening Truth.

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love commits me here; ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen. Angels of God, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in You.

WORLD REFUGEE & MIGRATION DAY

Sunday 29 September 2024

World Refugee & Migration Day is a time to reflect on the challenges faced by refugees and migrants worldwide, highlighting their resilience, contributions, and the need for compassion and support from communities.

Heavenly Father,

On this World Refugee & Migration Day, we come before You with heavy hearts for those who have been forced to flee their homes in search of safety and hope. We pray for refugees and migrants around the world, that they may find peace, protection, and a welcoming community.

Lord, grant them strength in their journeys and comfort in their struggles. May they feel Your presence guiding them through uncertainty and fear.

We ask for Your blessings upon those who serve and support refugees and migrants. Inspire us to open our hearts and hands to those in need, fostering a spirit of hospitality and love within our communities.

Help us to stand in solidarity with those who suffer and advocate for their rights. May we be voices for the voiceless and champions of justice.

*Lord, teach us compassion and understanding, that we may learn from the rich stories and diverse cultures of those who come among us.
In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.*

INSPIRATION IN TIMES OF CHANGE



“Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray

~ Proverbs 22:6, NRSV ~

In this time of rapid change, the strength of families has never been more critical. Our world spins with an unprecedented pace, bringing new challenges and opportunities. Amidst this whirlwind, the family stands as a beacon of hope and stability. It is within the family where bonds are nurtured, values are formed, and love is kindled. Family bonding is the art of weaving threads of trust, respect, and mutual understanding into an unbreakable fabric of love. It is this love that imbues us with courage, resilience, and wisdom. It is this love that guides us when the path ahead is uncertain. Our families can be a refuge of peace amidst the storm of change. We can cultivate this peace by spending quality time together, engaging in open conversations, and nurturing shared values. As it is written in Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NRSV), “And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.” As we navigate this rapidly changing world, let us remember to draw strength from our families, and in turn, contribute to their strength. Let us remember that sustaining strong family bonds is not merely a duty, but a joy and a blessing.

Let us pray:

O Divine Creator, bless our families with love and unity. In this time of rapid change, may we find strength in our bonds, courage in our shared values, and hope in our collective resilience. Guide us to foster peace and understanding within our homes.

Amen.

Source: majellan.media

DONATING MEN'S CLOTHING FOR SEAFARERS

Thank You to the kind and generous parishioners for their donations of men's clothing and items to the Stella Maris Apostleship of the Sea. The seafarers who will receive these donations and Sr Mary who can pass them on are blessed to have such a community as yourselves supporting them. Many thanks,
Cathy Holling 0403062255



ST LEO'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE,
WAHROONGA

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED

Can you help?

The St Leo's Community Tutoring Program assists our Year 7-8 students who need that 'bit of extra help' to achieve their full potential through literacy or numeracy support.

We are looking for adults of any age or background with as little as one or two hours per week on Thursdays to help as volunteer tutors in literacy or numeracy for Term 4.

No experience is necessary - training is provided and a teacher is always available to assist during tutoring sessions.

Interested? Please contact us for a chat!



FIND OUT MORE...

Scan the QR code or contact Roger Topp on roger.topp@dbb.catholic.edu.au or 0438 918 898

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

Parish Roster

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA
AFTER THE 9AM MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTER

5/10/2024 TO 6/10/2024
27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

	SATURDAY 7.00pm	SUNDAY 9.00am	SUNDAY 10.30am
Acolyte		Nigel M	Paul E
Reader1	Edyn V	Lorraine D	CHILDREN'S
Reader2	Daniel V	Ann L	CHILDREN'S
Prayers	Natasha S	Judy H	CHILDREN'S
TV		Jules O	Joshua A
Music		Melanie H	Karina S
Music		Keith W	Noelle T
Music		Marisa Q	John T
Music			
Morning Tea		Mary A	Robin B
 FLOWERS	Gabrielle W		

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.

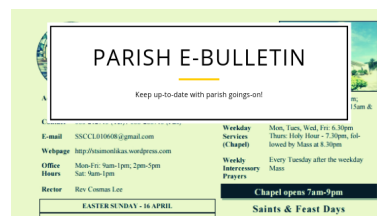
PARISH E-BULLETIN

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.pariah@bigpond.com

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



Thank you to all our volunteers, we really appreciate it!
If anyone would like to join our parish roster please contact the parish office.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

SAFEGUARDING MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St Benedict's Parish are committed to fostering a community of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help. These people in our parish can help:

Fr Shansana 0437 884 233 - Lorraine Dailey 0416 081 882 - Office for Safeguarding 8379 1605.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays & Fridays: 9.30am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 02 9653 2312
Email: arcadia.pariah@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

MONASTERY: 9653 1159



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

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