

**MGL priests and brothers: Initial Vows and Promises,  
Sunday 11 December 2022**

The Missionaries of God's Love Priests and Brothers invite you to the Profession of Initial Vows and Promises, on Sunday 11th of December 2022, at 11:15am Mass at St Benedict's Church. Followed by refreshments (please bring a plate to share).



## Christmas Celebrations

### 9th to 12th Dec: North Canberra Ecumenical Nativity Festival

Exhibition of 200 Nativity scenes - an entrée to family discussion on the true meaning of Christmas. From 45 countries, they show diverse cultures that embrace the Christian story: from the Palestinian Territories to Vietnam, from India to the Inuits of the Canadian Arctic.  
Fri 9th: 12 noon to 5pm  
Sat 10th & Sun 11th: 10am-7pm  
Mon 10th: 9am-5pm  
St Margaret's Hall, Cnr Antill St & Phillip Ave, Hackett.  
Contact: Keith at linard.keith@gmail.com

### Saturday 10th December: Christmas Concert

Looking Glass Percussion: Join members of the Canberra Symphony Orchestra & others for a free Christmas Concert. Initiative of Holy Rosary Catholic, Holy Cross Anglican & St Margaret's Uniting Churches  
Saturday, 7pm Holy Cross Anglican Church, Antill St. HACKETT.

### Sunday 11th December: Ecumenical Sausage Sizzle & Carols by Candlelight

Sun 11th @ 6:30pm - Free Community BBQ / Sausage Sizzle (& Nativities Viewing) followed @ 7:30pm by Carols by Candlelight. Venue: St Margaret's & Holy Cross Church Grounds, Hackett.  
Initiative of Holy Rosary Catholic, Holy Cross Anglican & St Margaret's Uniting Churches

### Saturday 10th December: Canberra Carols by Candlelight

Carols by Candlelight will be held at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, on Saturday 10 December, from 7pm. It will be the first free, live-audience performance of the Carols since the pandemic began, and the Woden Valley Youth Choir is very much looking forward to leading the audience in a selection of carols old and new. Those attending are invited to bring a picnic.

## Appeals

### Sound system upgrade

The parish is looking to update the sound system in the church, with a projected cost of \$25,000. So far we have raised \$17,000, so we need a further \$8000. Contributions to the project will be gratefully received. You can deposit your donation directly into the parish bank account. Details below:

Account name: St Benedict's Parish  
BSB: 062 786  
Account number: 000014992

Please use the words 'Sound system' in the Reference. Thank you to the very generous donors who have given thus far.

### Horn of Africa Food and Supply Shortages Appeal

Salesian Missions Australia has launched an Emergency Relief Appeal for the Horn of Africa, where the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDBs) are providing access to food relief, education, basic necessities and agriculture programs. The severity of food shortages has recently increased and the number of Internally Displaced People (IDP) continues to swell as conflict uproots the lives of many. OUR URGENT NEED is to assist the Salesians of Don Bosco who offer food, shelter, clean water, medical, hygiene supplies and a safe place to stay.

Donations can be made by:

- Mail: Post to Salesian Missions Australia, P O Box 264, ASCOT VALE, Vic 3032
- Online: through our website [www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au](http://www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au)
- Phone: 03 9377 6060
- Email: [salmiss@salesians.org.au](mailto:salmiss@salesians.org.au).  
Donations are tax deductible.

## Other Notices

### Campion College Summer Program: 10-13 Jan 2023, 17-20 Jan 2023

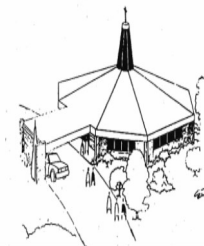
Registration for the Campion College Summer Program is now open! If you know a 16-20-year-old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for one of the immersive four-day programs in January 2023. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited! Find out more and register on the Campion College website: [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://www.campion.edu.au/summer-program)

### Catholic Theological College: Online Information Session

Join us and learn about your study options at Catholic Theological College  
Monday 5 December at 7.30pm (AEDT)  
Online options available

St Benedict's Catholic Parish acknowledges the **Ngunnawal People**, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

# St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Team:

Parish Office Hours: 9am-1pm, Tues, Thurs, Fri  
Corner of Sturt Ave & Jerrabomberra Ave (PO Box 55)  
Narrabundah ACT 2604  
Tel: +61 (02) 6295 7879/ Parish Office  
Emergency Number: (02) 6239 6772  
Website: [cg.org.au/narrabundah/home.aspx](http://cg.org.au/narrabundah/home.aspx)  
Email: [Narrabundah@cg.org.au](mailto:Narrabundah@cg.org.au)

Fr Rembert Fernando, MGL (Parish Priest)  
Fr Baiju Thomas, MGL (Mission Centre Director)  
Fr Chris Eaton, MGL (Mission Centre Co-Director,  
Belle Joseph (Secretary, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-1pm)  
Cathy Schneider (Finance Officer Wednesday 8am-12pm)  
Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)

## Second Sunday of Advent 3 & 4 December 2022

### Advent Reflection by Fr Tony Percy

It just takes a few moments.

The experts say that if you 'write it down,' you will remember it.

Advent has begun. The word means 'coming,' 'presence,' or maybe 'arrival.'

God comes to us in three ways (Augustine):

*In the flesh and in weakness – first coming*

*In power and in Spirit – now*

*In glory and in majesty – second coming.*

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI (2009):

*God enters my life and wishes to speak to me.*

*In our daily lives, we all experience having little time for the Lord and also little time for ourselves. We end by being absorbed in 'doing.'*

*Is it not true that activities often absorb us? Is it not true that we devote a lot of time to entertainment and to various kinds of amusement?*

What might make a difference?

*To keep, as it were, an 'interior journal' of God's love would be a beautiful and salutary task for our life!*

Why don't I try and take note of how God enters my life – on a daily basis?

Just a few moments to notice the way God comes to me.

This way 'the whole of our life' is like a visit from God.'

Amen. (*Catholic Voice*, 26 November 2022)

### Vinnies Giving Tree

Each year the St Benedict's Vinnies Conference delivers 60 food and toy hampers to needy families in Narrabundah. We rely on donations to fill the

hampers. We seek your support in donating non-perishable hamper food. Please take a tag from the tree to donate an age/sex appropriate toy. There is no need to wrap gifts and all donations can be left under the tree. Thanks in anticipation of your generosity.

### Get the Formed App for free

St Benedict's Parish has subscribed to the FORMED app, a Catholic app that provides thousands of enriching Catholic movies, programs, audio, and books instantly. Parishioners can sign up for free.

To sign up for free:

1. Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org)
2. Enter **St Benedict's Catholic Church**.
3. You will be prompted to create an account.

## Parish Events

### St Benedict's Social Events

St Benedict's Social Group invites all parishioners to join them for:

- morning tea in the Parish Centre this Sunday 4th December after the 9.00 am Mass, and
- coffee and a chat at Gryphon's in Griffith on Thursday 8th December at 10.30 am.

### Barbecue Lunch, Saturday 17 December

The parish will be holding a barbecue lunch on Saturday 17 December in the Parish Centre, 12-2pm. All parishioners are warmly welcome to attend. You are welcome to bring a plate, perhaps your cultural specialty! BYO.

### Young Men of God

Meet fortnightly on Thursdays in the Parish Centre. 6pm-9pm. Next on Thursday 15 December. Contact Fr Chris Eaton for more information.

**Isaiah 11: 1-10**

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion feed together, with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

**Responsorial Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,12-13,17**

*Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.*

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement.

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name.

**Second reading Romans 15:4-9**

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.

**Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:4,6**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Matthew 3:1-12**

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

*A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.*

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

**ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND**

3 & 4 December 2022

	<b>Sat 6 pm Vigil</b>	<b>Sun 9am</b>	<b>Sun 6pm Charismatic</b>
<b>Welcomers</b>	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Barry Murphy	
<b>Readers</b>	Don Jeffery, Marlene Keir	Maria Mendoza, Christopher Ruzario	Diane Fulop, John Fulop
<b>Offertory</b>	BA Daly	Social group	
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Caroline Evans	Janice Kelly	
<b>Flowers, Altar Clean</b>	Grace De Silva, Sue Neimanis		
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	Ian Smith, Amir		
<b>Mt View</b>		Jindalee	

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9am - 1pm

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**

Saturday: 6pm (*Vigil*)  
Sunday: 9am; 6pm (*Charismatic Mass*)  
Fourth Sunday of the Month: 6pm (*Youth Mass*)

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**

Tuesday: 5.30pm; Wednesday: 12.30pm; Thursday: 5.30pm;  
Friday: 5.30pm (*Healing Mass*); Saturday 8.00am

**RECONCILIATION:**

Friday following Healing Mass from. 6.15pm-7pm  
Saturday: 5pm-5.30pm or by appointment

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:**

Saturday: 7.30am  
3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Padre Pio:5pm

**BAPTISMS:** During weekend Masses or by appointment. See parish website for booking information.

**WEDDINGS:** by appointment

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

During the 5.30pm Mass on first Fridays  
10.30am at Jindalee 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month  
10.30am at Mt View 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

Monday & Tuesday: 6am-10pm  
Wednesday & Thursday: 1pm-10pm; Friday 6am to Saturday 8am

Urgent hours that need to be filled:  
Monday 3-4pm Tuesday 3-4pm

Friday 12-1pm

**Hearing Loop** is located in the right center rows of the church. Please ensure your hearing aid is tuned to make the best use of this facility.

**EMPOWER HOUR** runs 6.30 till 8.30 each Tuesday night. It's a Charismatic night of Lay preaching and healing in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is welcome. Please note the **29th Nov is cancelled**. 6 Dec is a normal preaching night not a training night. And 13th December is the last one for the year. **We will recommence in early February at a new start time of 7pm.**

**LEGION OF MARY** meetings are held every Monday 6:30pm at St Benedict's Parish Centre. New members are welcome. Please contact Theresa Rees: 0402 271 531, for more details.

**ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

10 & 11 December 2022

<b>1ST READING</b> Isaiah 35:1-6,10	<b>2ND READING</b> James 5:7-10	<b>GOSPEL</b> Matthew 11:2-11	
	<b>Sat 6 pm</b>	<b>Sun 9am</b>	<b>Sun 6pm</b>
<b>Welcomers</b>	Louise Gaudry	Alma Burg	
<b>Readers</b>	Helen Bennett, Robert Booth	Linda Henry, Shiru Kinyanjui	Mark Ransom, Maria Ransom
<b>Offertory</b>	Bennett family	Young family	
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Brian Barron	Julie Douglas	
<b>Flowers, Altar Clean</b>	Maria & John Michas		
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	John Murray, Nimmy Philip, Santhosh Jose		
<b>Mt View</b>		Jindalee	

Register via our website: [ctc.edu.au/open-days](http://ctc.edu.au/open-days)

For more information contact:

[jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au](mailto:jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au)

**Vikta ride-on lawnmower for sale**

The parish has a Vikta ride-on lawnmower for sale. It is not being used but has just been serviced. If you are interested in making an offer, please contact the parish office.



**New Artwork in Church by Mattia Wellspring**

First Sunday of Advent - The Light has come into the world. Yet do we perceive it?  
Second Sunday of Advent - The glory of the Lord is in our midst, let us allow our hearts to fill with hope.



**Recently deceased:** Joan Porta, Pat Connors, Ron Molyneux.

**Anniversaries:** Leo Byrne, Leila Connelly, Joseph Grmek, Agatha Moxon, Kenneth Mullins, Mary-Ann Brown, Mary-Ann Grantham, Fr Edmund Sheehan, Fr Laurence Keating.

**Our Sick:** Jindalee & Mt View residents, Julia Brown, Mitchell White, Germaphi, Leita Barron, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Frank Smith, Lyn Walker, Louis Pini, Anthony, Helen French, Clem Dick, Flora Arias, Pat Atkins, Carol Rees, Mark Ransom, Pamela Brown, Anne Rosewarne; Monica Boyton, Mary Smith, Ben Melbourne, Colin Paley, Janice Paley, Gert Fletcher, Caroline Evans, Anna Pace, Daniel Collins, Barbara Parsons.