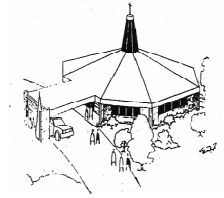


St Benedict's Catholic Church



Corner of Sturt Ave & Jerrabomberra Ave (PO Box 55)

Parish Team:

Narrabundah ACT 2604

Fr Stephen Fletcher, MGL (Parish Priest)

Tel: +61 (02) 6295 7879/ Parish Office

Fr Matheus Wuwu, MGL (Assistant Priest /0424869539)

Emergency:0424869539/ 0490400557/0435484608

Fr Baiju Thomas, MGL (Assistant Priest)

Email: Narrabundah@cg.org.au

Fr David Lemewu, MGL (Mission Centre)

Website: www.cg.org.au/narrabundah

Luz Carlile (Parish Secretary)

St Benedict's Catholic Parish aims to be a caring and prayerful community, committed to outreach & service, where each person is valued, and their gifts encouraged.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 23 & 24 December 2017

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tues—Thurs from 9am to 3pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9am

Sunday 7pm (Charismatic Mass)

Sunday 7pm Youth Mass

(every last Sun of the Month)

Saturday 8.00am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 5.30pm

Wednesday 12.30pm

Thursday 5.30pm

Friday 5.30pm (Healing Mass)

RECONCILIATION:

Friday following 6.15 –7.00pm after

(Healing Mass)

Saturday 5pm – 5.30pm or by

appointment

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Every 3rd Friday Padre Pio 5pm

Every Saturday 7.30am

ROSARY:

Saturdays after 8.00am Mass

Thursdays – 7.30pm (during May & October)

BAPTISMS: 11am, 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

WEDDINGS: By appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

During the 5.30pm Mass on first Fridays,

10.30am at Jindalee 1st Thursday of the month

10.30am at Mt View 3rd Thursday of the month

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Half hour before every weekday Mass as well as the following:

Monday 8am – 9pm

Tuesday 8am – 10pm

Wednesday 9am – 10pm

Thursday 9am – 10pm

Friday 6am – midnight

Saturday 12am – 8am

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



Readings for this weekend:

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

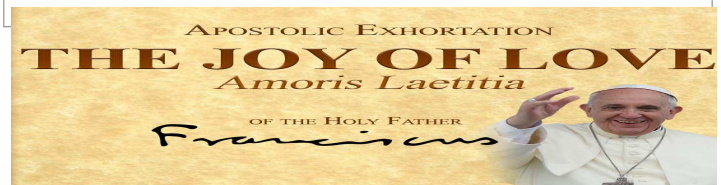
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Responsorial Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. Alleluia!



The tenderness of an embrace

Against this backdrop of love so central to the Christian experience of marriage and the family, another virtue stands out, one often over-looked in our world of frenetic and superficial relationships. It is tenderness. Let us consider the moving words of Psalm 131. As in other biblical texts (e.g., *Ex* 4:22; *Is* 49:15; *Ps* 27:10), the union between the Lord and his faithful ones is expressed in terms of parental love. Here we see a delicate and tender intimacy between mother and child: the image is that of a babe sleeping in his mother's arms after being nursed. As the Hebrew word *gamûl* suggests, the infant is now fed and clings to his mother, who takes him to her bosom. There is a closeness that is conscious and not simply biological. Drawing on this image, the Psalmist sings: "I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child quieted at its mother's breast" (*Ps* 131:2). We can also think of the touching words that the prophet Hosea puts on God's lips: "When Israel was a child, I loved him... I took them up in my arms... I led them with cords of compassion, with the bands of love, and I became to them as one who eases the yoke on their jaws, and I bent down to them and fed them" (*Hos* 11:1, 3-4).

PARISH NEWS

Dear St Benedict's

As we approach the great feast of Christmas our hearts and mind are filled with many thoughts of the coming celebrations with family and friends, shopping and organising the holidays. In the rush of these thoughts and often frantic activity it is too easy to forget all that has been done for us throughout the year as a community. So let's stop and give thanks for all those who make St Benedict's the place it is: those who maintain the grounds, gardens and buildings; those who clean and make the church and our Sunday Masses beautiful with flowers, artwork; those who provide music, sound, data projections. those who teach the children through kingdom kids and the school; those who do readings, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, choir, set up for the mass and clean up after; altar servers; those who serve the poor, lonely, sick, elderly and bereaved, the imprisoned and encourage the young and children; ensure the safety and care of children; reach out to the refugee and foreigners; those who show hospitality and welcome; those who serve us on the parish pastoral council and finance council, the RCIA team; those who co ordinate fundraising and social activities; those who follow up the person who has not been around for awhile; those who do administration and volunteer their time, skills and energy and the many hidden services. I encourage you to bring the names and faces of people to mind and bless them with a heartfelt prayer of thanksgiving. Turn that prayer into action - go to someone and thank them for being here. May the Lord bless you all abundantly. Fr Steve

Christmas Mass Times 2017

Sunday 24 December:

6pm, 8pm (Charismatic Mass) & Midnight Mass

Monday 25 December:

9 am Mass

Merry
Christmas!
and a
Blessed New Year



joy
love
peace
believe
christmas

During the holiday period please note the following:

- ◆ **No Adoration** from Saturday, 16 Dec 2017 and we will recommence on Monday, 29 Jan 2018.
- ◆ **Jindalee and Mountain View:** No services (Thursdays & Sundays) from Wed, 21 Dec 2017. We'll start again in Feb 2018.
- ◆ The **Parish Office is closed** from 25 Dec 2017 – 8 Jan 2018

♣ **The Christmas Liturgical Roster** is available in the foyer. Please put your name down if you can help.

♣ **Christmas Offering Envelopes** are available in the foyer.

PARISH LITURGICAL & NON LITURGICAL ROSTERS 2018:

Draft copy of the rosters were emailed during the week. Hard copies will be available early next year.

St Benedict's Catholic Parish acknowledge 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 Vincent de Paul - Christmas Giving Tree

Each year the local conference of Vinnies delivers food and toy hampers to needy families in the Parish. Vinnies supplies a basic food hamper, however we request donations of extra items such as drinks, nuts, cakes and biscuits, confectionery to give the hampers the Christmas feel. These items can be placed under the Giving Tree which will be in the church during Advent. On The Giving Tree there will also be tags with Children's names on them, we are seeking appropriate age toys to be donated for families hampers .It is not necessary to have the presents wrapped. Thank you for your generosity.

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal 2017: Funds will be split with the ecumenical Christmas bowl appeal and its work in Australia, the Wilcannia Forbes Diocese and the Wilcannia Hub project supporting young indigenous families, the Diocese of Otuokpo, Nigeria and the Philippines for a Diocesan Seminary. Also support towards providing a school bus to transport young children to school from poor villages in La Salette Matha Province, India, and student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

Can You Share Your Marriage Journey with Young Couples? Ministry to the Newly Married is a mentoring program for Couples in the first five years of their marriage. The mentors are Catholic couples, married at least ten years, who share their marriage journey through a series of four talks each year. A very supportive environment is provided to help prepare for each talk. If you would like to assist young couples starting on their marriage journey, please contact Debbie & Brian Kensey on 0414 878 167 or mnm@grapevine.com.au .

Seeking the Mind of Christ - Friday Feb 9 2018: Parishioners are invited to a living encounter and a life transforming experience with the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit from the 9th to the 11th February 2018. Conducted by Brother Lalith Perera, Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Father Ken Barker with support from Fr Bernie Patterson and Loi Viovicente. Lunch will be available at a nominal price or BYO. A crèche will also be available for children. Contact: Shan 0412 310364; Karen 0402 160401; Sean 0448 510237.

9 Feb- St Monica's Church: Evatt from 7pm to 9pm.
10 Feb-St Brigid's Church: Dickson from 10am to 5pm.
11 Feb - St Brigid's Church: Dickson from 10.30am to 5.30pm.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Mass is held every last Sunday of the month at 7pm Charismatic Mass Sunday. Come and experience the liturgy run by the youth, for the youth.

Fusion Youth Group is held every 2nd Friday during the school term, from 7pm-9pm at the Collins Wing. This is for high school students to connect in fellowship and grow more in their faith. Like 'Fusion Youth Group' on Facebook to stay updated on our next gatherings. Like 'St Benedict's Youth' on Facebook. Keep updated on the latest events that involve the youth in this parish, the Archdiocese, and schools.

CHILDREN NEWS

Kingdom Kids Ministry:

Next Mass 14 Jan 2018 (**second Sunday of each month**) Families are warmly invited to the 9am Mass and children are welcomed and encouraged to join in the activities of Kingdom Kids. For info email Anita on kingdomkidsministry01@gmail.com. Remember the prayer wall for those intentions you want the children to pray for.

PRAYER WALL: The children from the 9am Mass continue to pray for the intentions of our parish community.

THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

invites you and your friends to
THE 11th ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER VIGIL
Where: St Michael's Church
Address: 2 Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen ACT
Date: Sunday 31st December 2017
Time: 8.30pm
First Cenacle is prayed at 8.45pm (Joyful Mysteries)
Second Cenacle at 9.45pm (Luminous Mysteries)
Third Cenacle at 10.45pm (Glorious Mysteries)
Exposition from 8.30pm until 11.45pm followed by Midnight Mass.
For further inquiries:- Phone Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202

New to St Benedict's Community? **Welcome**

Please see all the ways you can be part of this community by checking out the contact list in the foyer and see the back page of the bulletin. Please fill out a new parishioner form in the foyer or download it from the website.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Graham Pollard	Julie Douglas	Fr Mat Wuwu
Helen Bennet	Mattia Wellspring	Fr Steve Fletcher
Meaghan Younger	Claudia Krebs	
Pat Doyle	Anita Zinkle	
Next PPC meeting:	TBA	

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 30 & 31 Dec 2017

	Sat 6pm	9am Sunday
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry	M Stratford
Readers	Marlene Keir	Louise O'Rance & Julie Douglas
Presentation of the Gifts	Brian & Leita Barron	M & R Molyneux
Eucharistic Ministers	S Neimanis & B Marris	M & B Boland & J Shaw
Flowers & Altar Cleaning	Sue Neimanis & Mattia Wellspring	
Sacristan	Sue Neimanis	
Church Cleaners	Christine Jeffery & Frances Crowe	
Mt View	holiday	
Jindalee	holiday	

FEASTS & IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK

25	Dec	Nativity of the Lord
26	Dec	St Stephen
27	Dec	St St John Apostle & Evangelist
28	Dec	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
29	Dec	St Thomas Becket

Readings for next weekend:

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-6. 21:1-3
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:8. 11-12. 17-19
 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Collections from the last weekend:

First Collection: \$
 Planned Giving Collection: \$
 Loose Collection: \$

The Catholic Weekly and *The Catholic Leader* are available at the Church foyer for \$2.
 Please place money in the Poor Box.

PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACT LIST

Parish Pastoral Council	Fr Stephen Fletcher 6295 7879
RCIA Coordinator	Frs Mat & Baiju 62957879
Sacramental Coordinator	Melanie Stratford
	Melanie.Stratford@cg.catholic.edu.au
School of Iconography	Wendy Fisher-Hudson 6295 8791
Parish Grounds/Maintenance	Bob O'Heir/GrahamTooth 0423 278 350
Liturgical Rosters	Parish Office 6295 7879

Pastoral Groups

Young Men of God	Fr Ken Barker 6281 0132
MenAlive	Torrien Lau 0432 679 630
Evenings for the Engaged	Mark & Kathy Haseler 6166 7634
Ministry to the Newly Married	Debbie & Brian Kensey 6231 3389
Healing/Prayer	Mark and Maria Ransom 6286 5679

Listening to Jesus/

Called & Gifted	Adrian Wellspring 62958532/0421451412
Visitation Group	Parish Office 6295 78789
Social Group	Sue Neimanis 6295 0687
Family Planning	Veronica & Pablo Jimenez 0406277365
Adoration	Frs Mat/ David 0424869539 /0435484608
Adoration Roster	Sally FitzGerald 0422066080

Neighborhood Care

Gowrie Court Meals	Parish Office 6295 7879
MGL Sisters	Judy/Therese/Katherine 6166 6941

Bible Study & Prayer Groups

Marian Devotions	Pat Hannan 6156 3882
Padre Pio Prayer Group	Maria Ransom 6286 5679
Bible Study	Parish Office
Mothers Prayers	Anne Hartwell 6282 0874
Cell Prayer Group	Maria Michas 0427092149
Living Water Prayer Group	Gary & Zenka Taffe 0423-707-838

Youth & Children Ministries

Fusion DOJ Chaplain	Fr Chris Eaton 62953415
Youth Minister	Chiara Catanzariti 0429699322
	chiaraccatanzariti@gmail.com
	Anita Zinkel
	kingdomkidsministry01@gmail.com

St Benedict's Primary School 6295 8027

School First Friday Mass is at 10am in the Church

As A Parish Let Us Pray For...

Our Sick: Stan Marris, Sr Zita Barron, Pat Evans, Jan Baker, Betty O'Brien, Flora Arias, Phillip Cooney, Barrie Marshall, Brad Chalmers, Helen French, Jessica Rodriguez, Miguel Rodriguez, Wendy Gaudiosi-Logan, Rick Oxford, Ellen Brennan, Pauline Wilkie, Pat Atkins, Carol Rees, John Newlyn, George Durr, Jindalee & Mt View residents.

Recently Deceased & Anniversaries: Margaret Burnell, Coby Fulop, Brian Kelly, Shirley Parsons, Lorna Evans, Gerard Agnew, Marie Bauer, Antonio Nardi, Joan Evans, Kevin Brogan, Ian Smith, Jane Evans, Bro Paul Nixon, Victor Martin, John Martin Jr, Heather Daly, Correy Browning, Barbara Jeffery, Edna Keir, Louise Agnew, Marea Brennan, Louis Camilleri.