

Adoration Information

Dear Adorers,

The Adoration will finish for the year on Saturday 16 December. Thank you to all Adorers who give their time to this ministry.

Have a great week and God bless.

For more information email canberraadorers@gmail.com or phone Anne Sutherland on 0413 203 901.

Third Sunday of Advent Reflection

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, is a Latin word meaning “rejoice,” and is found in the entrance antiphon for Sunday’s Mass. The theme of rejoicing is also present in the second reading of this Sunday’s mass. The third Sunday serves as a reminder that Advent is a joyous season, as our salvation is close at hand.

REVITALISING OUR PARISH

We are excited to announce that St. Benedict's Parish and Mission Centre is about to set out on a journey of renewal through Divine Renovation.

Divine Renovation is a Catholic ministry dedicated to parish renewal. It helps parishes come alive by providing tools and coaching needed to lead parishes from **maintenance to mission**.

In the Divine Renovation context ‘maintenance to mission’ means recognising that we don’t have to live with decline being normal, and stepping off the treadmill and looking at ways we can improve things at St Benedict’s, so that we can begin to see different results.

For more information about Divine Renovation see:

<https://divinerenovation.org>

Fr Rem and Fr Chris

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND

16th & 17th December 2023

	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Robert Henry
Readers	Don Jeffery, Marlene Keir	Asterie Niyonsenga, Joshua D’Silva
Offertory	BA Daly,	Jose family
Eucharistic Ministers	Nhung Booth	Janice Kelly
Flowers, Altar Clean	Sue Neimanis & Margie Avellino	
Church Cleaners	John Murray	
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Mt View) Jonavie & Grace (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers		

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

23rd & 24th December 2023

	<u>1ST READING</u>	<u>2ND READING</u>	<u>GOSPEL</u>
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am	
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry	Alma Burg	
Readers	Moira Najdecki, Helen	Shiru Kinyanjui, Josephus Bumaat	
Offertory	Volunteers	Emma Milin & Americo Caetano	
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron	Josephus Bumaat	
Flowers, Altar Clean	Claudine Smith & Louise Gaudry		
Church Cleaners	Santosh Jose		
Visitation	Carmel Henry (Mt View) Prakash & Santhosh (Jindalee)		
Sun 6pm Mass Readers			

St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Team:

Parish Office Hours: Tues—Friday, 9am—12pm

Fr Rembert Fernando, MGL (Parish Priest)

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

Fr Baiju Thomas, MGL (Mission Centre Director)

Narrabundah ACT 2604

Fr Chris Eaton, MGL (Mission Centre Co-Director)

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

Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)

Emergency Number: (02) 6239 6772

Isabel Roberts (Parish Secretary)

Website: cg.org.au/Narrabundah

Email: Narrabundah@cg.org.au

3rd Sunday of Advent 16th & 17th December 2023

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Family Mass Vigil : 6 PM (24th of Dec)

Charismatic Mass: 8 PM

Carols & Midnight Mass : 11.30 PM

Christmas Mass: 9 AM (25th of Dec)

4th Sunday of Advent: 6PM, 9AM (24th of Dec)

25th Anniversary of the Mission Centre

Parishioners are invited to join in celebrating 25 years of the Establishment of the Mission Centre on Sunday 17th December. The events are as follows:

3pm: Praise Rally

4pm: BBQ

6pm: Mass with the Archbishop

Fr David Tremble will celebrate all parish masses this weekend as he was the earliest MGL Pastor here in Narrabundah. There will be more celebrations continuing into the next year, with the jubilee ending 1 August 2024.

The parish would like to once again thank the missionaries for their continued service to the community, and congratulate them on this momentous occasion.

Message from Fr Baiju Thomas

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I want to inform you that on Christmas Day 2023, I am finishing my term as the Director of St Benedict's Mission Centre after four years of serving at St Benedict's.

I am moving to our MGL House at Garran next year to take up my new role as one of the Formators for Pre-Novitiate and Novitiate

St. Benedict's community was vital to my growth as a priest in the early years of my priesthood. I always felt at home at St Benedict's because of your love and support, and I want to thank you all for that

Fr Baiju Thomas MGL



The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal is now available within your Parish Qkr! App. Please help us make a difference, both locally and globally, by donating to the appeal.



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.

First reading

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.’

‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.’

Luke 1: 46-50, 53-54 **R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

Second reading

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Be happy at all time; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything—hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Gospel Acclamation Isaiah 61: 1 (Lk 4: 18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 1: 6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, ‘I am not the Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked ‘are you Elijah?’ ‘I am not’ he said. ‘Are you the Prophet?’ He answered ‘No’. So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am as Isaiah prophesied:

A voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.’

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, ‘Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there stands among you—unknown to you—the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’ This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

NEEDS OF LAY CATHOLICS TODAY

What do adult lay Catholics need today to help them live a committed Catholic life amid the circumstances of modern society? To find out and to help improve their services to our Archdiocese, the Canberra Circle of The Catenians, an international association of lay Catholics, is conducting an Archdiocesan-wide online survey. Please help by completing this brief, anonymous, tick-box survey via this URL or QR code. Thank you.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGMW> Contact: Phil Murray, President, Canberra Catenians 0419 695 927 or phil13murray@gmail.com

Parish Office Closure

Please be advised that the St Benedicts Parish Office will be closed on the 22nd of December and reopen on the 2nd of January.

Christmas Mass Collection for 2023 Archbishops Christmas Appeal Support is Needed!

Help life saving assistance to refugees fleeing violence; including evacuation, food, shelter as well as student assistance in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Communities in India, Africa and the Solomon Islands are also assisted.

Donations can also be sent to: Archbishop's Christmas Appeal, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601.

Donating to the parish

To deposit directly into the Parish account, please use the following details:

BSB: 062 786

Account number: 000014992

Please include your Planned Giving (envelope) number in the reference if you have one, otherwise your surname and ‘Donation’.

Please pray for the sick and deceased of the parish

Anniversaries: Catherine Cleary, Frank Fulop, Ronnie Van Belkom, Tom French, Agnes Calvert, Clare Connell, Pat Connors, Doris Flaherty, Maud Inch, Monica Knight, Mario Krajina, Leonard Legge-Wilkinson, Kenneth Lentell, Lorna Ludwig, Antonia Martin, Fred Martin, Ronald Molyneux, Marie Morgan, Joan Parker, Alice Smith, Stephanie Stoddard, Monica Thomas, Fr Richard Daly, Fr Bill Keating, Fr Francis Hartigan, Fr Thomas Hilly, Fr Joseph Keating.

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

Parish Office Hours

9am—12pm, Tuesday—Friday

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 3rd 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 1st Thursday of the month,

10.30am at Mt View 3rd Thursday of the month

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday & Tuesday: 6am-10pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 1pm-10pm

Friday 6am to Saturday 8am

Vacant hours that urgently need filling:

Monday 12noon-1pm, 5pm-6pm;

Tuesday 3pm-4pm; Friday 11am-12noon

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.