

**The Christian's Final Journey:** Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria and partner, the ACU Centre for Liturgy, are offering a one-day workshop on Catholic funerals on **13 February 2024**. It has been designed for all those interested in Catholic funerals including parishioners, clergy, Funeral Directors, Bereavement Teams, Pastoral Associates, Parish Secretaries and Family Faith Educators, and all school staff. Catholic practices around burial and cremation will be investigated as well as **preparation of a funeral (for future discussion with the funeral celebrant)** and how to support the grieving. It will be held at Club Ashfield, 1-11 Charlotte Street Ashfield NSW. Time: 9am-5pm (registration from 8.30am). Registration is essential by 7 February. Cost: \$60 (includes lunch and a workbook) (\$120 for Funeral Directors who will receive certification for 5 years.)

**Enquiries:** [CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au) or 02 9701 4751. For more information, and to register, go to [www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training](http://www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training)

### 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

6th & 7th January 2024

	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
<b>Welcomers</b>	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Alma Burg
<b>Readers</b>	Marlene Keir, Don Jeffery	Christopher Ruzario, Maria Mendoza
<b>Offertory</b>	Volunteers	Social group
<b>Eucharistic</b>	Brian Barron	Julie Douglas
<b>Flowers, Altar Clean</b>	Margie Avellino & Sue Neimanis	
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	Brad Hogno	
<b>Visitation</b>		
<b>Sun 6pm Mass Readers</b>		

### ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

13th & 14th January 2024

<u>1ST READING</u>	<u>2ND READING</u>	<u>GOSPEL</u>
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
<b>Welcomers</b>	Louise Gaudry	Robert Henry
<b>Readers</b>	Robert Booth, Helen Bennett	Asterie Niyonsenga, Josephus Bumaat
<b>Offertory</b>	BA Daly, Helen Bennett	Young family
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Nhung Booth	Janice Kelly
<b>Flowers, Altar Clean</b>	Grace De Zilva	
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	John Murray, Nhung Booth	
<b>Visitation</b>		
<b>Sun 6pm Mass Readers</b>		

St Benedict's Catholic Parish acknowledge the **Ngunawal 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: Tues—Friday, 9am—12pm

Fr Rembert Fernando, MGL (Parish Priest)

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

Fr Chris Eaton, MGL (Mission Centre Director)

Narrabundah ACT 2604

Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)

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

Isabel Roberts (Parish Secretary)

Emergency Number: (02) 6239 6772

Website: [cg.org.au/Narrabundah](http://cg.org.au/Narrabundah) Email: [Narrabundah@cg.org.au](mailto:Narrabundah@cg.org.au)

## The Epiphany of the Lord Sunday 6th & 7th January 2024

### Reflection on Gospel

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

### JAN - FEB 2024

### INTRODUCTORY CPE COURSE

Are you interested in growing your capacity to be fully present to others by learning how to offer effective pastoral and spiritual care?

An Introductory Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course is being offered online using Zoom in January/February 2024. This short 40-hour course will comprise of 6 sessions and run from 9am to 3.30pm, commencing Mon 29, then Tues 30, Wed 31 January, then Mon 5, Tues 6 and Mon 12 Feb.

Applications close on Thursday January 25, 2024. For more information please contact Barbara Hall at [barbarahall1909@gmail.com](mailto:barbarahall1909@gmail.com) or phone: **0418 413 731**

### Fr Rembert Fernando

It is with a heavy heart that the St Benedicts parish must advise parishioners that Fr Rem's brother, Rathesh, passed away on Tuesday 2 January. Fr Rem is in India at this time to support his family.

We ask that parishioners keep Fr Rem and his family in your prayers, and to pray for the repose of the soul of Rathesh Fernando.



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.



## First reading

### Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nation come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praises of the Lord.

**Psalm 71 (72): 1-2, 7-8, 10-13 R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

## Second reading

### Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generation; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Matthew 2: 2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

### Matthew 2: 1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
You are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
For out of you will come a leader  
Who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

## 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](mailto:phil13murray@gmail.com)



## 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.

## CatholicCare Retirement Villas

CatholicCare currently has several vacancies at our retirement villas based in Aranda and Campbell. For further information on the vacant villas and to view the villas please contact Dominica McNamara, Retirement Villas Manager, on [property.management@catholiccare.cg.org.au](mailto:property.management@catholiccare.cg.org.au) or on 6162 6100 to indicate your interest.

## 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:** Rathesh Fernando, 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 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

## 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.