

Easy Steps to Holiness: A Lenten Journey

The Good Shepherd prayer group invites you to join us each Wednesday evening for talks, sharing groups and worship. Deepen your faith this Lent and draw closer to Jesus. Weds 21 Feb to Weds 27 March, 7pm-9pm, Parish Room, St Peter Chanel, Weston St, Yarralumla. Call/text Neda 0415 266 019, Susanna 0419 902 293, Gabriel 0422 285 491 for more info.

20—22 May | A Current of Grace

An invitation is extended to Australian and International Catholic education and other Church leaders to a conference focused on renewing Catholic schools as centres of evangelisation, emphasising two high-impact strategies; Staff and Leader formation and student formation for peer to peer ministry.

Stations of the Cross

will be occurring on Fridays at 5pm throughout the Lenten season. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Journey of St Paul

Fr Rembert Fernando will be escorting a pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey to follow in the footsteps of St Paul and his companions. The tour will commence on 9th April and end on 20th April. For more information, see flyers in the church or visit: harvestjourneys.com/sp2401

A Warm Welcome to Fr Tony

St Benedict's parish would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest priest, Fr Tony, who has joined us after Fr Baiju's departure. We wish him a happy time in this parish.

Congratulations to Br Samuel & Sisters Stephanie & Theresa

St Benedict's parish is happy to announce that Brother Samson of the MGL brotherhood will be joining us as a deacon in the coming weeks. We wish him all the best on his spiritual journey.

Our congratulations also to Sisters Stephanie & Theresa, who took their vows this past week. St Benedict's parish wishes them a joyful journey of faith.

16 March | The Annual Loreto Reunion

The annual Loreto Reunion will commence with Mass at SFX at Hall at 11am on Saturday 16 March. This will be followed by lunch at 1882 restaurant in Hall. Any further information and rsvp: loreto.canberra@gmail.com

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND 24th & 25th February 2024		
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Marlene Keir	Robert Henry
Readers	Robert Booth, Don Jeffery	Shiru Kinyanjui, Loreena D’Silva
Offertory	BA Daly, Volunteer	Linda & Robert Henry
Eucharistic Ministers	Nhung Booth	Julie Douglas
Flowers, Altar Clean	Margie Arvellino & Sue Neimanis	
Church Cleaners	Brad Hogno, Nhung Booth	
Visitation	MGL Garran (Mt View) Santhosh & MGL Garran (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Youth	
ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 2nd & 3rd March 2024		
<u>1ST READING</u>	<u>2ND READING</u>	<u>GOSPEL</u>
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry	Alma Burg
Readers	BA Daly, Louise Gaudry	Grace De Zilva, Barry Murphy
Offertory	BA Daly, Helen Bennett	Social group
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron	Barry Murphy
Flowers, Altar Clean	Anne Sutherland & Anne Hill	
Church Cleaners	Jeanne Eri	
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Youth	

St Benedict's Catholic Church

In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

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

Parish Team:

Fr Rembert Fernando, MGL (Parish Priest)
Fr Chris Eaton, MGL (Mission Centre Director)
Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)
Isabel Roberts (Parish Secretary)



Second Sunday of Lent 24th & 25th February 2024

Reflection on Gospel

Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospel, there is reference to a conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel includes the detail that this conversation is about what Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem.

Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus' disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.

St Benedict's Lenten Groups:

Afternoon Group (Open to All):

Wednesday After 12.30pm Mass (1pm)
The Parish Centre
Program: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary Video Series
Coordinator: Carmel Henry

Evening Group (Open to All):

Wednesday 6.00pm
The Collins Wing
Program: My Father's Father Video Series
Coordinator: Julie Long (0434583946)

Young Men of God Group:

Tuesday 6.00pm, Dinner included
For those Men 18-35
The MGL Presbytery
Program: My Father's Father Video Series
Coordinator: Br Samson MGL

Women's Group:

Thursday 7pm
The Parish Centre
Program: Wollongong Lenten Books
Coordinator: Mattia Wellspring

First Reconciliation Notice

A reminder to all interested parents and children that the retreat day for First Reconciliation candidates is on **Thursday 7th March**. For any queries regarding First Reconciliation, contact the parish.

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

Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he called. ‘Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’ When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

Psalm 115 (116): 10, 15-19 R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second reading

Romans 8: 31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 17: 5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: this is my beloved son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Mark 9: 2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

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



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 or on 6162 6100 to indicate your interest.

O God, pour out in your Church a spirit of reverence and courage, to raise up worthy ministers for your people and make them ardent, yet gentle heralds of your Gospel.

Young Catholic In Need of Accommodation
A young catholic professional woman is moving to Canberra for work and is looking for a flatshare/granny flat to reside. A room in Barton, Kingston, Griffith, Forrest or Campbell is preferable with a flexible budget of approximately \$280-\$340 (open to consideration). Contact Jacinta on 0468 496 033.

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: Lorna Evans, Noanie Kelly, Leita Barrow, Rathesh Fernando, Ray Pasard, 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 & Marilyn 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 Sealy, 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: 12-1pm
Tuesday: 11am-12pm, 1-2pm, 6pm-10pm
Thursday: 7-10pm
Contact: Anne Sutherland (0413203901) or Parish office for more information.
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.