

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.

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

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

9 APRIL | Marriage Preparation Course
Upcoming Marriage Preparation courses for engaged couples: *FOCCUS* - Tues 9th April 5-9pm plus a private follow up session at CatholicCare. *SmartLoving* – online, 9 lessons, learn at your own pace when suits you. For more information or to register go to www.marriagefamily.org.au Enquiries: Text Helena Zobec on **0405 440 463**

Archbishop's Lenten Lighthouses
Join Archbishop Christopher Prowse on a Lenten Retreat through his Sunday homilies. You can find the lighthouse inputs on the Catholic Voice website.

2024 Easter Raffle
An Easter Raffle will be held again this year. Tickets will be sold at Masses for 3 weekends starting on March 2. A hamper and bottles of wine have been donated and there will be Easter eggs and goodies as prizes. The Raffle will be drawn in the week leading up to Easter Sunday. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If anyone is willing to take a book of 10 or 20 tickets to sell, or to help sell tickets at any of the weekend Masses, your assistance will be gratefully accepted.
Contact me on mtcn52@gmail.com

White Goods & Furniture For Sale
Brand new front load washing machine and dryer (Simpson), ergonomic computer chairs, chest of drawers, bookcases, bedside/dining tables, single beds, gardening tools, etc. Price negotiable. Please email: elitra21@gmail.com

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND		
16th & 17th March 2024		
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Marlene Keir	Alma Burg
Readers	Moira Najdecki, Don Jeffery	Shiru Kinyanjui, Loreena D'Silva
Offertory	BA Daly, Volunteer	Jose family
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron	Julie Douglas
Flowers, Altar Clean	Loretta Thomas & Anne Hobday	
Church Cleaners	Brad Hognio	
Visitation	Santhosh (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Maria & Mark Ransom	

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND			
23rd & 24th March 2024			
	1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
	Sat 6 pm		Sun 9am
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry		Robert Henry
Readers	BA Daly, Louise Gaudry		Shiru Kinyanjui, Barry Murphy
Offertory	BA Daly, Helen Bennett		Linda & Robert Henry
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron		Barry Murphy
Flowers, Altar Clean	Margie Arvellino & Grace De Zilva		
Church Cleaners	Santhosh Jose		
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Mt View) Prakash & Sruthy (Jindalee)		
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Youth		

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 Email: Narrabundah@cg.org.au

Fifth Sunday of Lent 16th & 17th March 2024

Reflection on Gospel

Today's Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John's Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John's Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John's Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus' conflict with the Jewish authorities. John's Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus.

Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John's account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as an example of how they must serve one another.

The final section of today's Gospel might be read as John's parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus' anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today's reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus' prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus' baptism and at Jesus' Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John's Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him.

In today's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

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

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

PALMS AUSTRALIA

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

Explore 35 positions by visiting our website. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor -Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au

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

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Psalm 50 (51): 3-4, 12-15 R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second reading

Hebrews 5: 7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

John 12: 26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 12: 20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: ‘Now the hour has come For the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, It remains only a single grain; But if it dies, It yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; Anyone who hates his life in this world Will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, Wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’ A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.’ ‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’

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



St Benedict's Catholic Church	
Feb 2024 Income and Expenditure	
INCOME	
Direct Giving	\$ 5,824.00
Donations/Bequests	\$ 1,002.00
Functions/Ceremonies	\$ 1,275.00
Recoupment from Sacramental Program	\$ 180.00
Total Income	\$ 8,281.00
EXPENSE	
Administration Costs	\$ 1,285.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ 600.00
Salaries and Wages	\$ 2,470.00
Presbytery Expenses	\$ 227.00
Total Expenses	\$ 4,582.00
Net Income	\$ 3,699.00
Average Income per parishioner*	\$ 13.80
Average Expense per parishioner	\$ 7.64
Net Income per parishioner	\$ 6.17

**About 150 parishioners attending the 4 weekend masses*

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: Thomas Fernando, Barbara Parsons, Lorna & Stanley Evans, Noanie Kelly, Leita Barron, 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, 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:

Tuesday: 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.