

Adoration Notice:

Dear St Benedict's Community, due to winter illness and family commitments, many adorers are away. If you are able to help short term (2-3weeks) with the following vacancies much appreciated.

Monday 8-11am & 2-3pm
 Tuesday 9-1pm
 Friday 9-10am & 2-3pm

When we spend time in Adoration, God's grace poured out upon our individual lives, family, communities & world is astonishing. Even if you are unable to commit with your physical presence, Please pray for more Adorers - the harvest is rich but the labourers are few so let's ask the Lord of the harvest to provide for our needs...

ADORATION RETREAT:

Are you carrying rocks in your daily backpack? Unload some burdens and refill with hope. Join Sr Kate Atkins MGL, an experienced spiritual guide, as we journey together towards Jubilee 2025.

Saturday 7 September
St Benedict's Church & Parish Centre
 9.30am-4pm
 Theme: Praying as Pilgrims of Hope
 Speaker: Sr Kate Atkins
 \$20

26 September | Encountering God in Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina is Sacred Reading. It is a way of prayer whereby we allow the Word of God to touch our hearts and change our lives. It is a dialogue of love between the person and God as heart speaks to heart through the Word. This weekend retreat focusses on the process of lectio divina by engaging participants in the ancient art of reading and praying with the Word of God in scripture.

For more details ring 0242360011 Ext. 114
 Cost: \$150

Invitation to the Ordinations of Brothers Samson & Vijay

The parish would like to invite any interested parishioners to the ordinations of Brother Samson & Brother Vijay MGL. The ordination will be held on **13th September at 7:30pm** in St Christopher's Cathedral, with refreshments afterwards at the cathedral hall. Please bring a plate to share.

Masses of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Brother Vijay on **14 September at 11am**, and by Brother Samson on **15 September at 11am**, both at St Benedict's.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND

24th & 25th August 2024

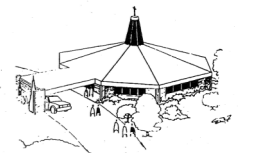
	Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry	Robert Henry
Readers	Marlene Keir, Moira Najdecki	Students, Santhosh Jose
Offertory	BA Daly, Volunteer	Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers	Sue Neimanis	Barry Murphy
Flowers, Altar Clean	Louise Gaudry & Claudine Smith	
Church Cleaners	Jeanne Eri	
Visitation	Carmel Henry (Mt View) Prakash & Santhosh (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Youth	

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

31st August & 1st September 2024

	1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
		Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Marlene Keir	Alma Burg	
Readers	Moira Najdecki, Robert Booth	Grace De Silva, McKinley Molina	
Offertory	Volunteers	Linda & Robert Henry	
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Gaudry	Brendan Bergin	
Flowers, Altar Clean	Loretta Thomas & Anne Hobday		
Church Cleaners	John Murray		
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Mt View)		
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	MGL Sisters		

St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Team:

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
 Email: Narrabundah@cg.org.au

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

Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time 24th & 25th August 2024

Reflection on Gospel

For our Gospel today we hear the conclusion of the "Bread of Life discourse" in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. In the preceding verses, which we have heard proclaimed in our liturgy over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus explain that he is the Bread of Life, given so that those who believe may have eternal life. This discourse follows the miracle in which Jesus fed more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish. As Jesus has been teaching these things, John's Gospel describes a murmuring crowd unable to accept Jesus' words. In today's Gospel, the crowd has dwindled in number, and John no longer references them, or the Jews. Instead John describes the questioning of those considered to be Jesus' own disciples.

Today's Gospel first records the response of those in the crowd who are described as Jesus' disciples. Just as the larger crowd had struggled with Jesus' teaching, these disciples also cannot accept Jesus' words. Jesus is said to know about their murmuring. He responds by acknowledging their unbelief and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. John's Gospel reports that many of those who had been Jesus' disciples ceased to follow him at this point. The number of people following Jesus dwindled from a crowd of more than 5,000 to only 12 people. And it is to these Twelve that Jesus now turns his attention.

Simon Peter's response to Jesus' question as to whether those closest to him will also leave, reminds us of the reports of Peter's confession of faith in the Synoptic Gospels. Peter announces, on behalf of all the Twelve, that they have come to believe all that Jesus has taught about himself: Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.

Fr Chris Absence

Fr Chris would like to notify parishioners that he will be absent between **2nd September to 12 September** for a retreat. He will also be on a three week break from **29 September to 17 October**. We thank all parishioners for their understanding.



PREPARED Workshop:

The founder of the CatholicPsych Institute Dr Greg Bottaro is coming to Australia in September. He will be speaking at around 15 events in Tasmania, Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney. One of the only public events will be held in Canberra on 21 September and will feature a day workshop drawing on content from the newly developed CatholicPsych PREPARED Workshop (Mental Health Crisis Response Training). Tailored for educators, campus ministers, parish and diocesan staff, parents, and priests, addressing the urgent need to respond to the growing mental health crisis within our communities. Participants will learn to identify and address mental distress through a deeply Catholic lens. This is unique opportunity to connect with Dr Greg Bottaro in person. Given the late notice for this event, I am wanting to get the word out. Please feel free to share with anyone you think might be interested. To register for this training see here for the booking page: <https://www.trybooking.com/CULHL>. For more info on the PREPARED Workshop content see here: <https://catholicpsych.com/prepared>. Thank you, Shawn van der Linden

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

Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? What is more, the Lord drove all those peoples out before us, as well as the Amorites who used to live in this country. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Psalm 33 (34): 2-3, 16-23 R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second reading

Ephesians 5: 21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. *For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body.* This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation

John 6: 63

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
You have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6: 60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,
The flesh has nothing to offer.
The words I have spoken to you are spirit
And they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

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

New Quest Machines

The parish would like to inform all parishioners who donate via the Tap-and-Go machines that they will be replaced some time in the coming months by new Quest machines. There will be two in the church operating as a collection for both parish and priest, as well as a third machine to be used as a plate for parishioners without cash. More information will be provided once the machines arrive.

Thank you to all who generously give to the parish.

St Benedict's Mens Sharing Group:

The St Benedict's Men's Sharing group meets every **second Tuesday in the Parish Centre**, from 7:30pm. Next meeting is on the **3rd September**.

For more details, please phone John Murray on 0480 257 761.

Fr Ken Barker's 50th Anniversary of Ordination:

Date changed to Friday 30th August, during the 5:30pm Mass.

Please join us as we celebrate 50 years of fruitful ministry in the gift of Fr Ken. Reception to follow in the St Benedict's School Hall

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

Our Deceased: Cain Rogers, Elaine French, Joan Evans, Antoinette Martin, Louis Pini, 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, Brian Barron, Jackie Carpenter, Sagar Julie O'Brien, Tony Sealy, Tony Evans, Rose Mason, Clem Dick, Julia Brown, Mitchell White, Germaphi, Pat Atkins, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Lyn Walker, 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.

Parish Office Hours

9am–12pm, Tuesday–Friday

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 5pm (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: 4pm-4:30pm 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: 8-9am
Tuesday: 11am-10pm
Friday: 2-3pm
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.