

### 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

31st August & 1st September 2024

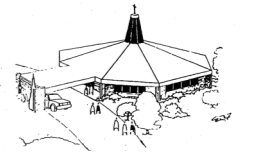
	Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Marlene Keir	Alma Burg
Readers	Moira Najdecki, Robert Booth	Grace De Zilva, McKinley Molina
Offertory	Volunteers	Linda & Robert Henry
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Gaudry	Brendan Bergin
Flowers, Altar Clean	Loretta Thomas & Anne Hobday	
Church Cleaners		
Visitation	Julie Douglas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

### ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

7th & 8th September 2024

1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
ISAIAH 35: 4-7	JAMES 2: 1-5	MARK 7: 31-37
	Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Robert Henry
Readers	BA Daly, Louise Gaudry	Loreena D'Silva, Brendan Bergin
Offertory	BA Daly, Volunteer	Young family
Eucharistic Ministers	Nhung Booth	Josephus Bumaat
Flowers, Altar Clean	Margie Arvellino & Sue Neimanis	
Church Cleaners	Santhosh Jose	
Visitation	MGL Garran (Mt View & Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	MGL Brothers	

## St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Team:

Parish Office Hours: Tues-Thursday, 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 Second Sunday of Ordinary Time 31st August & 1st September 2024

### Reflection on Gospel

In today's Gospel, Mark provides a significant amount of information about the Jewish observance of ritual-purity laws. Most scholars believe that Mark includes this information because his audience includes Gentile Christians who have no knowledge or experience of these laws. We can infer, therefore, that many in Mark's community were not Jewish Christians.

In this Gospel, Mark addresses the question of which Jewish practices would also be observed in the newly emerging Christian community. This was a significant question for the early Christian Church, especially in communities that included both Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. We also hear this question addressed in the letters of Paul with regard to table fellowship. In Gospel passages such as the one today, we see the Gospel evangelists finding justification for a Christian practice distinct from Judaism in the remembrances of Jesus' teaching and the practice of his first disciples.

Jesus first criticizes the Pharisees for putting human tradition above God's Law. Here, Jesus is referring to the tradition of the elders, the teachings of the Pharisees, which extended the ritual-purity laws of Temple worship to everyday Jewish life. Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for making this tradition equal to and as binding as the Law of Moses.

Next, Jesus comments on the meaning behind the Pharisees' language of holiness—clean and unclean. Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his or her body, but rather by sin that emerges from his or her words and actions. In this teaching, Jesus unmasks a deeper question behind the one posed to him by the Pharisees. The real issue is holiness, which is not found in external acts alone. Holiness comes from within and is evidenced in the actions and attitudes that emerge from a person's life.

If we read today's Gospel carefully, we will see a pattern in Jesus' teaching method that will be repeated in the weeks ahead. Jesus' first teaching is directed to the Pharisees who questioned him. Jesus' words are then directed to the crowd, teaching that a person is defiled by his or her words and actions, not by the food that he or she eats. In verses omitted in today's reading, we learn that Jesus returned home with his disciples, who in turn questioned him about what he had taught. The words we read at the conclusion of today's Gospel are addressed to Jesus' disciples. Mark's narrative shows several audiences for Jesus' teaching: his antagonists, the crowds, and Jesus' disciples. As we see in this reading, the words to the Pharisees are often words of challenge. The teaching to the crowds is often a general, sometimes cryptic, message. With the disciples, who often misunderstand Jesus' words, further explanation is offered about his message and its meaning.

Jesus' words challenge us as well. In our desire to show that we are holy, we might also give too much credence to externals, following rules without thinking about the intention behind them. Jesus reminds us that we do not make ourselves holy by our actions. Rather, we become holy when we allow God's Spirit to transform us. Our actions should be an expression of the conversion of our heart to God and to God's ways.

### Notifications for Parishioners:

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**.

Parishioners are advised to note the change in parish office hours, as we will no longer be open on Fridays. We thank you for understanding.

### Working With Vulnerable People Audit:

Dear volunteers,

Thank you for your commitment to ministry in our parish. We would be unable to continue to provide pastoral and administrative support to our parishioners and community members without your dedication and support.

It is a requirement in the ACT for anyone over 16 years of age involved in activities with children and/or vulnerable persons to hold a current Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. At a parish level, this applies to parish priests/staff/volunteers active in particular ministries.

Twice a year, a report of all active WWVP holders is required to be sent to the Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding office (IPSS) in the Archdiocesan Chancery, Manuka. Audits are due at the end of **March and September** and all parishes in the Archdiocese are required to comply. The Archdiocese can be audited by ACT Govt agencies at any time so the audit reports are an important part of maintaining accurate records for when an audit occurs.

Our parish is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons and complying with Archdiocesan and Govt requirements for WWVP. Please help us to maintain accurate records for the audits by ensuring your WWVP is current.

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

### Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

### Psalm 14 (15): 2-5 R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

## Second reading

### James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

## Gospel Acclamation

### James 1: 18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation. Alleluia!

## Gospel

### Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
While their hearts are far from me.  
The worship they offer me is worthless,  
The doctrine they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

## 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>



[www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGMW](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.

## Visio Divina Group, next meeting is September 19th.

Visio Divina (Latin for "divine seeing") is similar to Lectio Divina ("divine reading"). Where Lectio Divina uses Scripture, Visio Divina uses visual imagery such as artwork to lead us into prayerful reflection and listening to the Holy Spirit.

New members welcome, no prior experience of this type of prayer necessary.

Where: St Benedict's Parish Centre  
When: Every 3rd Thursday of the month. Arrive 6.45pm for a 7pm start, finishing about 8.30pm.  
Register or for more info: Mattia Wellspring on 0434558734

## 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:** Fr Peter Gannon, 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 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: 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.