

Christmas Collections

There will only be one collection at each Christmas Mass. 70% of each collection will go to St Benedict's community and the remaining 30% to the Presbytery account (which goes to MGL priests and priests of the Diocese). There is also a tap and go machine at the back of the Church. There will also be a retiring collection for the Archbishop's Appeal (see below).

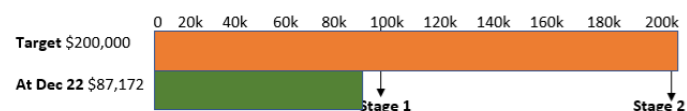
Archbishop's Christmas Appeal 2021

As we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus, parishes will be conducting the annual Archbishop's Christmas Appeal at their Christmas Masses, **in our parish it will be a retiring collection.** Funds raised will again be used to support the National Council of Churches' Christmas Bowl Appeal. Generosity in the face of COVID challenges will again be needed to enable us to reach out and assist our neighbours in need this year. **You can use the Qkr! App to make a donation** or please send to:

Archbishop's Christmas Appeal
Attn: Deacon Joe Blackwell
GPO BOX 3089, Canberra ACT 2601
Enquiries: Deacon Joe Blackwell Tel. 0407 909 295

Parish Pastoral Council

Thank you to everyone who has been thinking about our Priests' accommodation and making donations to ensure that the Presbytery is habitable in 2022. The photos we showed at Masses earlier this month demonstrated the sorry condition of the moisture damaged and mould-ridden bedroom and bathroom. Your donations have made it possible for these two rooms to be fully renovated by early next year. However, there is still much to be done to make the Presbytery liveable.



A further **\$1900.00** has been donated in the past weeks bringing the total to **\$ 87,072.00: \$56,000** from the initial donor via the MGLs and **\$31,072** from parishioners

We have a **further \$ 18,928 to go to reach our Parish target** of a contribution of \$50,000 towards the total renovation of Stages 1 and 2.

If you are able to contribute, please take a donation envelope from the back of the Church or contribute online to:

Account Name	BSB	Acc No
St Benedicts Parish	062.786	000014992

When making a donation please advise under the reference bar that the donation is for **Presbytery.**

The Parish Pastoral Council wishes everyone a blessed Christmas

Moira Najdecki

Chair, Parish Pastoral Council

First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia

The fruits of this the have been gathered together in a new report that contains dozens of proposals to shape the ongoing Plenary Council journey.

Access the document at:
<https://bit.ly/FirstAssembly>

St Benedict's Parish Census forms

Dear parishioners, we are trying to complete our parish database that we want to use for all communications. However, we do not have full details for all parishioners and sometimes we just have a name. If you haven't yet completed and returned a Census form, Father would be very grateful for your help in sending the form to the office as soon as possible. Census forms are in the foyer.

A more complete database helps the parish to function effectively because we can contact you at the right place, provide assistance more efficiently (eg home visits), protect your parish work (eg keeping Working With Vulnerable People cards current) and keeping you in better touch with what's happening in the parish.

World Meeting of Families 22-26 June 2022

Every three years since 1994, the Church has celebrated the World Meeting of Families in a different city of the world. In 2022 the event will be hosted by the Diocese of Rome with Pope Francis leading special celebrations. However the Holy Father has also asked that the World Meeting of Families be celebrated concurrently in every diocese of the world in 2022. The idea is for families to gather locally around their bishop to explore and celebrate the theme of "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness" In our Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn it is envisaged that celebrations will happen in three locations: one in Canberra, one in the Eastern Deanery and one in the Western Deanery. For more local information contact lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869. General information at : www.romefamily2022.com

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.

St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

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

Website: <http://cg.org.au/narrabundah/Home.aspx>

Parish Team:

Fr Rembert Fernando MGL (Administrator)

Fr Baiju Thomas MGL (Mission Centre Director)

Ellen Thomas (Parish Secretary)

Cathy Schneider (Finance Officer, Wednesday 8.00am—12midday)

Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)

Jeremiah Wilkes (Youth Minister)

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 25 & 26 December 2021

Archbishop's Christmas message

Sometimes we are offered the following Christmas greeting:

"Have an amazing Christmas!" No doubt this greeting can mean all sorts of things. For Christians, the most amazing aspect of Christmas is God becoming human in the little babe of Bethlehem. For us, all other amazements in life flower from this fundamental Bethlehem amazement.

The Christmas scene of Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, three Magi, animals, stars and angels are all stilled in silent amazement as they gaze on the Almighty God becoming a vulnerable baby in the humble stable at Bethlehem. Mary's prayer becomes our prayer as she says for all of us in amazement that our "soul magnifies the Lord."

During this Christmas and New Year Season, let us all magnify Jesus in our gratitude and humble response to all the amazing things that have happened to us during this extraordinary Covid year of 2021 - both good and not so good!

Let us show an amazing closeness to our families, neighbourhoods and cities where this time may be a real practical struggle. Now that we are able, let us visit each other- especially those who have had a very isolated and lonely 2021. Then our Bethlehem amazement will also have a real practical expression.

Rest up during this time! We are all tired!

God bless you all during this Christmas and New Year Season

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn
Apostolic Administrator of the Military Ordinariate of Australia



Out of lockdown

Dear brothers and sisters, great news! Masses have recommenced at the usual times. **170 people** are able to attend each Mass in person. Please follow social distancing and sanitise before entry. Face mask are mandatory indoors for those 12 years and above. Parishioners are not required to produce evidence of vaccination. **Upon entry please sign in using the CBR app, if you are unable to do so please use the sign in sheets that are available.** If you are unwell due to immunity issues it is better to stay home.

CBR check in card

A Check In CBR card is now available, designed for those people who do not own a smartphone or who are unable to download or use the Check In CBR app. To apply for this card you can either call access Canberra on **13 22 81** or apply online using the following link: <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/check-in-cbr-app/check-in-cbr-app-form>

Parish Office hours over the Christmas break

The Parish Office will be closed from 23 December and open Tuesday 4 January.

Adoration roster

Adoration for this year will finish on Saturday 18 December and recommence on Monday 31 January. Thankyou all for your prayerful support and look forward to seeing you again next year.

The St Vincent de Paul Conference



Thank you to everyone in the parish and school who donated towards the Christmas hampers. The food and toy hampers are distributed to families in need in Narrabundah for Christmas each year.

Sunday 26 December 2021

Holy Family year C.

First reading 1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

Responsorial Psalm 83:2-3,5-6,9-10

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God.

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer,
give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed.

R/-

R/-

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
They are happy, whose strength is in you,
in whose hearts are the roads to Zion.

R/-

Second reading 1 John 3:1-2,21-24

We are called God's children, and that is what we are the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation Ac16:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Luke 2:41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues – Fri 9am - 12pm
(Parish Office closed 23 Dec – 4 Jan)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve, Friday 24th 6pm (Family), 8pm (Charismatic),
11.30pm carols, 12am Mass.
Christmas, Saturday 25th 9am Mass
New Years Eve, Friday 31st 11pm Mass

WEEKEND MASS TIMES: Saturday (25th cancelled) 6pm (Vigil)
Sunday 9am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Tuesday 5.30pm
Wednesday 12.30pm
Thursday 5.30pm
Friday 5.30pm (Healing Mass)
Saturday 8.00am

Sunday 6pm (Charismatic Mass)
Sunday 6pm Youth Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Friday following Healing Mass from. 6:15-7pm
Saturday 5pm — 5.30pm or by appointment (25th cancelled)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Every 3rd Friday Padre Pio 5pm
Every Saturday 7.30am

BAPTISMS: during Weekend Masses or by appointment

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 daily hours:

(Closed 18 Dec – 31 Jan)
Monday 6am-10pm Tuesday 6am-10pm
Wednesday 1pm-10pm Thursday 1pm-10pm
Friday 6am to Saturday 8am

Hearing Loop is located in the right Centre rows of the church. Please ensure your hearing aid is tuned to make the best use of this facility.

ST BENEDICT'S WORSHIP GROUP gathers after Thursday evening 5.30pm Mass for an hour of adoration, worship and intercession. All welcome.

Request for volunteers to clean the Church

Recently a few of our wonderful volunteers who clean the Church have had to step back. If any parishioners have the time to volunteer to clean the Church for two hours on a Saturday morning (approximately once every 4 weeks), please contact the Parish office to be placed on the cleaning roster.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND

25 & 26 December 2021 (Holy Family)

	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	volunteer	Mel Stratford
Readers	volunteer	Barry Murphy & Asterie ToNiyonsenge
Presentation of the Gifts	Nick & Maria Marzano	
Eucharistic Ministers	Robert Booth	Peter...
Flowers, Altar Cleaning	Sue Neimanis & Anne Sutherland	
Church Cleaners	Don & Jennifer Nguyen	
Mt View		
Jindalee		

READINGS & ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

1 & 2 January 2022 (Epiphany)

1ST READING Is 60:1-6	2ND READING Eph 3:2-3, 5-6	GOSPEL Mt 2:1-12
Sat 6 pm		Sun 9am
Welcomers	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Barry Murphy
Readers	Moira Najdecki H Bramanathan	Christopher Ruzario —
Presentation of the Gifts	Jane Camilleri Noreen Dick	
Eucharistic Ministers	Sue Neimanis	Barry Murphy
Flowers, Altar Cleaning	Louise Gaudry & Claudine Smith Sue Neimanis	
Church Cleaners	Shruti Ruzario, Nhung Booth, Ian Smith	
Mt View		
Jindalee		



Let us pray for those in our parish

Recently Deceased: Sr M Andre Guthrie, RSJ (Goulburn); Heinrich Frank; Marvel Nobleza; Dorothy Lamb, Ignacio Serrano.

Anniversaries: Phyllis Dennis, Giuseppe Filardo, Gertrude Levi, Shirley Lilley, Margaret McGuinness, Cyril Patrick Power, Elizabeth Sinkovitz; George Sykes.

Other Celebrations:
Our Sick: Jindalee & Mt View residents, Germaphi, Leita Barron, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Frank Smith, Lyn Walker, Louis Pini, Anthony, Helen French, Clem Dick, Flora Arias, Pat Atkins, Carol Rees, Fr Laurie Blake, Mark Ransom, Pamela Brown, Caroline Evans.