

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: www.cg.org.au/narrabundah

Parish Team:

Fr Dan Benedetti MGL (Parish Priest)
Fr Ken Barker MGL (Mission Centre)
Fr Rembert Fernando MGL (Asst Priest)
Monica Nulley-Valdes (Parish Secretary)
Karina Widjaja (Finance Officer)
Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)



Second Sunday of Advent

7 December & 8 December 2019

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues – Fri 9am - 12pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am
Sunday 6pm (Charismatic Mass)
Sunday 6pm Youth Mass
(every last Sun of the Month)
Saturday 8am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Tuesday 5.30pm
Wednesday 12.30pm
Thursday 5.30pm
Friday 5.30pm (Healing Mass)

RECONCILIATION:

Friday following Healing Mass from. 6:15-7pm
Saturday 5pm – 5.30pm or by appointment

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

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

ROSARY:

Saturdays after 8.00am Mass
Thursdays – 7.00pm (during May & October)

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Monday 9am – 8pm
Tuesday 10am – 9pm
Wednesday 11am – 10pm
Thursday 11am – 10pm
Friday 9am – midnight
Saturday 12am – 8am

**hours may vary should the use of the Church be required

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.

Are you on the Advent journey?

Being a Catholic Christian takes a daily decision. Advent provides another opportunity to reflect, decide and act as Jesus calls us to. A time to be thankful, repentant, compassionate, caring generous. Last Thursday the students at St Benedict's led us in a liturgy that journeyed from the Christmas tree back to the joyful and challenging moments leading up to the birth of the Christ. I was asked to finish in prayer and I felt inspired to ask the students playing Mary and Jesus if I could hold the baby Jesus as I prayed (thankfully they said "yes"). I mentioned that I hope everyone gets a chance to hold the baby Jesus this Christmas. That experience may just be the Star that God wants to shine in you to meet your inmost needs. Thank you St Benedict's students for opening the door that leads to the true meaning of "Christ" mas.

God bless, Fr Dan Benedetti MGL PP

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

Dear Parishioners, each year St Vincent de Paul distributes approximately 60 hampers to the needy in the parish. The hampers consist of both toys and food. A giving tree will be in the church during the season of Advent. Donations of toys do not need to be wrapped and also food in the way of tinned food, chips, cakes, biscuits, drinks and confectionary etc would be most appreciated. Your assistance is most appreciated.

Farewell to Fr Dave Callaghan

After 12 years in Canberra Fr Dave has been appointed to Darwin! Come to say thanks and best wishes for his new mission on **Thursday 12 December at 6:00pm** for a bring your own BBQ, at the MGL brothers house 6 Boake Place, Garran.

Second Sunday of Advent

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FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion feed together, with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,12-13,17

In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name.

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Christ is the saviour of all men

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: *For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

The one who follows me will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: '*A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.*' This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

PARISH NEWS

National Drought Prayer Campaign—The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have asked us to devote November as a month to pray for those affected by the drought and to pray for the gift of rain. Resources can be found at: www.catholic.org.au/drought

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons WWVP Card Reminders— If your card is due to expire in November or December 2019 and you have renewed, are waiting to, or have received a new card please bring the card to the Parish Office.

Ministry to the Newly Married is a mentoring program for couples married in the Catholic Church, in the first five years of marriage. A newly-married couple is matched with a different adoptive-couple each year. Couples meet together four times a year, and cover 20 topics over the five-year program. Couples in their first year of marriage are invited to register now for the program in 2020. For more information please contact Ralph or Angela on 0490 686 857.

St Benedict's Social Group invites all parishioners to their final **coffee and catch up** for 2019, on **Thursday 12 December** at 10:30am, at 'Gryphons At Griffith'.

RCIA St Benedict's: Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 12 December at 7:30pm**, at the Collins Wing at St Benedict's. All are welcome to come along and support our candidates.

Carols by Candlelight: Woden Valley Youth Choir and Canberra City Band will present Canberra's 75th Carols by Candlelight at Stage 88 in Commonwealth Park on **Saturday 14 December at 7pm**. Donations and funds raised will go towards Anglicare Youth and Family service programs which assist Indigenous young people with a range of educational supports including access to scholarships. You are invited to join 10,000 Canberrans to sing in the Christmas Season with a mix of traditional and contemporary carols. Food Vendors will be onsite, Carol Sheets and battery candles available for sale and Auslan interpreters will be signing for the deaf community. Enquiries info.wvyc@gmail.com

Christmas is coming - Volunteers needed: The Parish Pastoral Council are looking for a team of volunteers to organise, set up and lead the St Benedict's 6pm Family Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve (in the school hall). This vibrant family celebration has become a wonderful tradition in our parish. If you are able to assist please add your name and contact details to the sign up sheet located in the Church foyer.

Christmas liturgy roster: Volunteers are needed to assist with the liturgy at the midnight Mass and Christmas Day services. You are invited to add your name and contact details to the sign up sheet. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

As A Parish Let Us Pray For...

Our Sick: Frank Smith, Lyn Walker, Louis & Pam Pini, Anthony, Susan Spruce, Clem Dick, Dorothy Lamb, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Noeleen Carrick, Flora Arias, Pat Atkins, Helen French, Carol Rees, Rhys Evans, Jindalee & Mt View residents.

Recently Deceased & Anniversaries: Ruth Uwimana, Fred Martin, Andrew Italiano, George Douglas, Patsy Wyer, Stanley Marris, Merle Taylor, Richard (Dick) Brennan, Betty O'Brien, Zeta Evans, Frank Pantano, Brian Power, John Agius, Joyce Cremer, Sr Anne Derwin RSJ, John Newlyn, Ray Coppin, Ellen Brennan, Sr Zita Barron, Pat Evans, Joan Evans, William Smith, Athol Knight, Beth Moran, Clare Drinkwater, Ian Smith & family, Heather Daly, John De Freitas, Gerry Agnew, Jim Kirkman, Barbara Jeffery, Edna Keir, Lawrence Power, Barrie Marshall, Stella Ienco, Louis Camilleri, Sam & Nina Agius

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND

7 & 8 December 2019

	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Brian & Leita Barron	Alma Burg
Readers	Marlene Keir Michael Slee	Barry Murphy Nathan Kensey
Presentation of the Gifts	Brian & Leita Barron	Social group
Eucharistic Ministers	Rita Parker B Barron	M Stratford Janice Kelly
Flowers, Altar Cleaning	Mattia Wellspring & Maria Michas	
Church Cleaners	Shruti Ruzario	
Mt View	MGL Garran	
Jindalee	MGL Garran	

READINGS & ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

14 & 15 December 2019

1ST READING Is 35:1-6,10	2ND READING James 5:7-10	GOSPEL Mt 11:2-11
Sat 6 pm		Sun 9am
Welcomers	Anna Pace Sally Cotsell	Priscilla Kinyanjui
Readers	BA Daly Louise Gaudry	P & C Moncuquet
Presentation of the Gifts	Sally Cotsell BA Daly	Maralyn & Ron Molyneux
Eucharistic Ministers	S Neimanis Noreen Dick	B Murphy
Flowers, Altar Cleaning	Margie Avellino, Anne Hobday & Noreen Dick	
Church Cleaners	Zbiggy Zmurko & Muneko Ono	
Mt View	Maralyn	
Jindalee	Rita Parker	

*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*