



# Community and Vision



## 2025 SNAPSHOT



*Our St Benedict's Feast Day Celebration in August!*



*Our Vision Team hard at work discerning the Vision of St Benedict's!*



*Our Alpha course we ran from May-July this year!*



*The St Lorenzo Feast Day Celebrations in September!*



*Fr Joseph being ordained a Priest!*



*Alive Praise and Worship Nights!*



*We have a New Pope!*



*Our Volunteers getting featured in the Catholic Voice!*

## St Benedict's

# Events and Announcements

8  
DEC

## Additional Mass For the Immaculate Conception

Fr Joseph will celebrate an additional 5.30pm Mass this coming Monday 8th December for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

11  
DEC

## Coffee at Gryphons

All parishioners are invited to meet at Gryphon's, Griffith shops at 10.30 am on the second Thursday of each month, the next catch up will be Thursday 11th of December. This will be the last one for the year!



## Adoration ON BREAK over the Summer

The Adoration roster for 2025 will end on **December 13 (Saturday)**. Adoration will recommence on **February 2 (Monday)**.

Thanks to all Adorers who have kept our dear Lord company in 2025. May your Christmas break be blessed. Hope to see you back again in 2026.



## WANTED: Christmas Mass Volunteers

Christmas is a beautiful and busy time in our parish — and with many people travelling or attending different Mass times, it can be tricky to know who's available to help! To ensure all our Christmas liturgies run smoothly, we've created a special sign-up roster for each Mass. We're seeking readers, collectors, offertory helpers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and welcomers. If you'll be here for Christmas and are able and would like to assist, please add your name to the roster in the foyer.



## VINNIES GIVING TREE

Each year our parish works with Vinnies to deliver around 60 Christmas hampers to individuals and families in need here in Narrabundah. To make this possible, we rely on your generous donations of non-perishable food items and gifts.

A Giving Tree has been placed in the church.

- You are invited to take a tag from the tree—each tag lists a name, age, and sex—and purchase a suitable gift or toy.
- Gifts do not need to be wrapped.
- For older children (who can be a little tricky to buy for!), gift vouchers are especially appreciated.

Thank you for helping us share Christ's love and bring joy to local families this Christmas. Your generosity truly makes a difference. 🙏

2  
MAY

## 2026 Parish Assembly: SAVE THE DATE!

All parishioners are invited to our Parish Assembly happening next year on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. This will be a whole day event where we will be sharing the vision of the Parish, you won't want to miss it!



## Christmas Mass Times

St Benedict's Christmas Masses are as follows:

### Christmas Eve

- 12:30pm Wednesday Usual Weekday Mass.
- 5:30pm- Carols | **6pm- Family Mass.**
- 7:30pm Carols | **8pm- Charismatic Mass.**
- 11:30pm Carols | **Midnight Mass.**

### Christmas Day

- 9am Mass (no carols before the Mass)

# Notices Outside the Parish

## THE 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE

### PRAYER VIGIL

31 December | 8:00pm

Hosted by: The Marian Movement of Priests

Where: Mary Help of Christians Parish

Address: 115 Hodgson Crescent PEARCE, South Woden

Date: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Time: 8.00pm | First Cenacle is prayed at

8.00pm (Joyful Mysteries) | Second Cenacle

is prayed at 9.00pm (Luminous Mysteries) |

Third Cenacle is prayed at 10.00pm

(Sorrowful Mysteries) | Fourth Cenacle is

prayed at 11.00pm (Glorious Mysteries)

Exposition from 8.00pm until Benediction

just before midnight. For more information – visit the website: mmp-oceania.net

## CHRISTMAS PARK

5-14 December | 6:00pm

Join your church community at Christmas

Park, 262 Beasley St. Farrer from 5 –15

December after 6 PM!

Support St. Anthony's Bread, help families in need, decorate trees, or perform on stage.

Together, with your performance and support, we'll bring merriment and joy throughout the night.

See Canberra's 17m Christmas tree and over 400 festive trees!

# Regular Parish Groups

## REST IN ME MEDITATIONS

Each Wednesday

10am-12pm, Parish Centre

Ayanthi Perera

## MOTHERS PRAYERS

Each Monday (school term)

9.30am, Parish Centre

Rachael Nano (Contact Parish Office)

## KINGDOM KIDS

Sun 9am Mass (except school holidays & long weekends)

Contact Sherice (Contact Parish Office)

## STREET MINISTRY

### Friday Nights

After 5:30pm Mass, Civic

## FUSION YOUTH GROUP

Friday Nights (Fortnightly)

7-9pm (Contact Axel Healey)

## Praying for the sick

Jindalee & Mt View residents; Pamela Brown and family, Tony Evans, Caroline Evans, Jackie Carpenter, Mark Ransom, Gert Fletcher, Anna Pace, Rita Smith, Wendy Fisher-Hudson, Barry Murphy, Helen French, Sagar Julie O'Brien, Peter Robinson and all those sick in our parish.

**Recently Deceased:** Xanthe Jones

**Anniversaries:** Demetrio La Face, Fortunata Cacciotti

## Priests:



## Parish:



## Giving / Stewardship

### Give now using QKR!

1st Collection: supports our parish priests

2nd Collection: helps with the running costs to our parish (wages, utilities).

### Donation via Deposit

If you would like to join our planned giving program or make a donation; contact the parish office for account details.

## First Reading Is 11:1-10

*He judges the poor with justice.*

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 cub 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

**Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13.17. R. cf. v.7**

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. 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. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. 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. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

*Christ, the hope of all people.*

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 your name.

## Gospel Acclamation Lk 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 Mt 3:1-12

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.*

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 Judaea 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.'



## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom. In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone'! But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire. At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the coming towards us ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire. We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

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## Our Commitment to Safeguarding:

At St Benedict's Parish, we are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment for all, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults. We follow Archdiocesan safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure that everyone in our community is protected and respected.

### MASS TIMES

#### Weekdays

5:30pm (Tues, Thurs)  
12:30pm (Wed)  
5.30pm Friday Healing Mass

#### Saturday

8am  
6pm (Vigil)

#### Sunday

9am  
6pm (Charismatic)



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

#### Mon - Tue:

7am - 9pm

#### Wed - Thurs:

1pm - 9pm

#### Friday

7am - Sat 8am



### ROSARY

After each weekday mass except Fridays.  
After Sat 8am Mass.

### RECONCILIATION

#### Friday

6:15pm - 7pm

#### Saturday

4pm - 4.30pm



### SPIRITUAL DIRECTION & PERSONAL VOCATION

Adrian Wellspring

### OUR PRIESTS

Fr Chris Eaton MGL (PP)  
Fr Samson Ezemuokwe MGL (APP)  
Fr Joseph Nivaskaran MGL (APP)  
Fr Tony Schick MGL

### PARISH OFFICE

(02) 6295 7879  
narrabundah@cg.org.au  
**Tue/Thurs/Fri: 9am-12pm**

### MUSIC COORDINATOR

Ariana Strmota (Contact Parish Office)

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Julie Long  
Contact: IPPS@cg.org.au