

4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

in the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

# St Benedict's

St Benedict's Catholic Church, Narrabundah

*The Epiphany of the Lord*



<https://www.google.com/u/1/sea=1&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thechurchnews.com%2Fliving-faith%2F2025%2F02%2F23%2Fcome-follow-me-february-24-march-2-what-have-church-leaders-said-about-the-teachings-and-covering-18%2F&sig=AOvVawOsKdvFnRahoeB5UJbC01R4&ust=174329973182100&source=images&cd=vfe&prev=/search%3Fq%3D979249&ved=0CBMQjRxoTCAU9SVrowDFOAAAAAdAIAAID0>

Coming up:

First Reconciliation Info  
19 Feb

2026 Alpha Course  
16 Apr

2026 Parish Assembly  
2 May



[cg.org.au/narrabundah](http://cg.org.au/narrabundah)

# Community and Vision



## St Benedict's: 2026

Liturgical Training  
March 2026

1st Alpha Course  
April-June 2026

First Holy Communion  
21 June

St Benedict's Parish Retreat  
15 August

First Reconciliation  
25 March

Parish Assembly  
2 May

St Benedict's Feast Day  
11 July

2nd Alpha Course  
September-December 2026

# Events and Announcements



## Adoration ON BREAK over the Summer

The Adoration roster for 2025 will end for 2025. 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.



## Parish Office Closed Over the New Year + Priest Movements

During the Holiday period, the Parish Office will be closed from the 25<sup>th</sup> of December and will reopen on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, 2026. Phones and emails will not be monitored regularly during this time. If it is urgent and you require a priest, please call the parish office and listen to the prompts to be directed to the emergency number. Wishing all our parishioners a blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Fr Chris will be away on break from the 4<sup>th</sup> of January until the 1<sup>st</sup> of February (Summer School 4-11<sup>th</sup> of Jan, then 3-week break in New Zealand).

Fr Samson will be away on break in Nigeria from 25<sup>th</sup> of December until the 10<sup>th</sup> of February.

**All Sunday and Weekday masses will be as normal during the Holiday Period.**

19  
FEB

## First Reconciliation 2026: SAVE THE DATE!

This is initial key information regarding First Reconciliation 2026. The Reconciliation Information Night will be happening on the **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of February in the Collins Wing from 6pm-7pm**. There will be a sacramental program (more details to come) and the date of the Sacrament itself will be **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of March at 5pm at St Benedict's Church**. Contact the Parish office for more details and registration.

APR  
2026

## 2026 Alpha Course: SAVE THE DATE!

Curious about life, faith, and meaning? St Benedict's is running the Alpha course next year starting in April 2026 (details to be confirmed). Alpha is an 12-week series that creates a space for honest conversations in a warm, welcoming environment—no pressure, no judgment. Everyone is welcome. Come for the conversation, stay for the community. Interested? Stay tuned for more details to come in the new year!

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!

## 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:** Josephine Jurse

## How to connect with our Parish?

### KINGDOM KIDS

Sun 9am Mass (except school holidays & long weekends)  
Sherice Kazzi (Contact Parish Office)

### FUSION YOUTH GROUP

Friday Nights (Fortnightly)  
7-9pm Collins Wing  
Axel Healey (Contact Parish Office)

### MOTHERS PRAYERS

Each Monday (school term)  
9.30am, Parish Centre  
Rachael Nano (Contact Parish Office)

### MEN'S SHARING GROUP

Tuesday Nights (Fortnightly)  
7:30pm, Parish Centre  
John Murray (Contact Parish Office)

### REST IN ME MEDITATIONS

Each Wednesday  
10am-12pm, Parish Centre  
Ayanthi Perera

### STREET MINISTRY

**Friday Nights**  
After 5:30pm Mass, Civic

## Sacrament Dates 2026

**First Reconciliation:** 25th of March

**First Communion:** 21st of June

**Confirmation:** Not happening next year.

**RCIA** begins TBD

Marriage and Baptisms by request.

Before each sacrament there is an information evening, a sacramental program, a retreat then the date of the sacrament itself.

If you would like your child to receive the sacraments, please contact the parish office for more information.

## Giving / Stewardship

### Give now using QKR!



**Priests:**



**Parish:**

### 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 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

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 earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. 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.)

## Second Reading Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

*The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed

through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.**

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel Mt 2:1-12

*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the  
leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

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## Reflection

by Fr Michael Tate

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star child in Bethlehem. They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control this infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child. Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth. As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth. We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

mtate@bigpond.com

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)



### EUCARISTIC 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**  
5pm - 5.30pm



### SPIRITUAL DIRECTION & PERSONAL VOCATION

Adrian Wellspring

### OUR PRIESTS

Fr Chris Eaton MGL (PP)  
Fr Samson Ezemukwe MGL (APP)  
Fr Joseph Nivasaran 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: IPSS@cg.org.au