

in the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

# St Benedict's

## St Benedict's Catholic Church, Narrabundah

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



Coming up:

## First Reconciliation Info

**2026 Alpha Course**  
16 Apr

**2026 Parish Assembly**  
2 May



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





## THE CHARISM OF EVANGELISM

**"The Charism of evangelism empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love by sharing the faith with others in a way that draws them to become disciples of Jesus and responsible members of his Church.**

*In the United States, the word "evangelism" is popularly associated with TV preachers, door-to-door evangelism and other methods commonly used by evangelical Protestants. Most lay Catholics can't even imagine themselves doing anything so aggressive and public--and so they fail to recognise the ways in which God's love has been communicated through their lives. Numerous family and friends may have discovered the Christian faith and entered the Church through their witness, and yet Catholics will still be reluctant to think of what they were doing as "evangelism."*

*The fact is that the simple personal sharing (sometimes called "lifestyle" evangelism) common among Catholics is the most effective type of Christian evangelism. Those with a gift of evangelisation are often drawn to non-Christians and befriend them. All evangelisers long to help others more a bit further along the path toward a deep and loving relationship with God, but may do so in quite different ways. Some evangelisers are apologists who remove roadblocks to belief by explaining the truth about Catholic teaching. Others eagerly share their own personal experiences of having their lives transformed by the love of God. Still others witness mostly to Christ primarily through deeds, rather than words.*

*The true test of an evangeliser is not how one shares, but what happens when one does. Are others intrigued? Do they desire to know more? Do they begin to find the person and love of Jesus compelling? Is the beauty, truth and goodness of the Church and the Catholic Faith becoming clearer to them? Are they drawn to become disciples of Christ and part of his Body, the Church? If those with whom you are seeking to share the faith often respond in this way, there is a good chance that you have the charism of evangelism.*

*Exercising the charism of evangelism as a lay Catholic can be a change at present. There is a great need for support and developmental opportunities for evangelisers in our local parishes. Those with a charism of evangelism can sometimes feel guilty because they spend so much time with people "outside the church". In fact, it is the Church's teaching that all lay Catholics are "missionaries by Baptism" (Redemptoris Missio, 71). All Catholics are called to use their various charisms to help fulfil the greatest mission of the Church: proclaiming the love of Jesus to the world."*

*-Sherry Weddel "The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory"*

# 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!

## 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:** 25<sup>th</sup> of March

**First Communion:** 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

## 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

### 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 49:3, 5-6

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.  
The Lord said to me, ‘You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified’;  
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.  
And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
to gather Israel to him:

‘It is not enough for you to be my servant,  
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.  
(R.) Here I am, Lord;  
I come to do your will.

- 1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. (R.)
- 2. You do not ask for sacrifice and of ferings, but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. (R.)
- 3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. (R.)
- 4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:1-3

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 1:14. 12

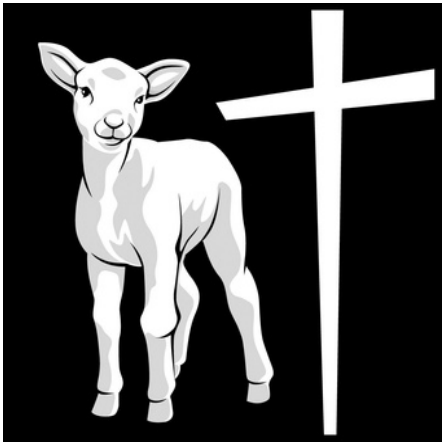
Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.  
He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.  
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 1:29-34

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, ‘Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.’ John also declared, ‘I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, “The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.” Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.’

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

What does it mean to be ‘holy’? It does not mean 100% morally correct, or separate from the great mass of people: ‘Holier than thou’! It means being so close to God that God’s holiness rubs off. We are adopted members of the Holy Family, and something rubs off. Each one of us has heard at our baptism ‘You are my beloved son/daughter’. We have been adopted into God’s family and that brings us into close proximity to God. So, if St Paul were writing to us today, as he did to the Corinthians, this is how it would run: ‘... to the church of God that is in [your town], made up of those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called holy.’ But, we are not alone. In a multitude of places there are people who have also been baptised and therefore share a certain family resemblance. How is the ‘togetherness’ held together? By being in communion with the Bishop of Rome, the official role of the Pope. We might pause for a moment to thank God that we are amongst the baptised who can receive St Paul’s greeting: ‘Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.’

mtate@bigpond.com

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  
5pm - 5.30pm



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: IPSS@cg.org.au