





## THE Restoration

This Fifth Sunday of Lent, the readings speak of a God who doesn't give up on what feels lost. In the Gospel, Jesus stands before the tomb of Lazarus—a place of grief, finality, and no way back. Four days gone. Hope buried. And yet Jesus calls him out: "Lazarus, come out." What seemed finished is restored. What was dead is brought back to life.

That same pattern runs through all the readings. God is not distant from our brokenness—*He steps right into it*. He doesn't avoid the places that feel sealed off or beyond repair. He goes there, stands there with us, and calls life out of it.

We all have "tomb" places in our lives—things we've given up on, wounds that feel too deep, habits that seem stuck, relationships that feel beyond healing. Like Martha, we might quietly think, "Lord, it's too far gone." But Jesus' response is simple: "*Do you believe this?*" *Not, can you fix it?—but, will you trust Me here?*

*And this is where the Eucharist meets us.*

Every time we come to Mass, we come carrying those places—whether we name them or not. And in the Eucharist, Jesus doesn't just comfort us from a distance. He gives us His very life. The same voice that called Lazarus out of the tomb speaks into us. The same power that raised him meets us in the ordinary, restoring us slowly, deeply, from the inside out.

### **Lenten challenge:**

This week, name one "tomb" in your life—something that feels stuck, lifeless, or beyond change. Bring it with you to Mass. As you receive the Eucharist, quietly ask Jesus: "Call this back to life."

You may not see everything change at once. But restoration often begins with a voice—and the courage to step out, one small step at a time.

..... **St Benedict's**

# Events and Announcements



## Holy Week Mass Times

- Wednesday - Reconciliation (1 April) - 4:00pm-8:00pm
- Holy Thursday (2 April) - 7:00pm
- Good Friday - Stations of the Cross (3 April) - 10:30am
- Good Friday - Passion of Our Lord (3 April) - 3:00pm
- Easter Vigil (4 April) - 7:30pm
- Easter Sunday (5 April) - 9:00am, 6:00pm



28  
MAR

## Gardening and Maintenance Crew: New Volunteers Wanted!

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March at 9am (meeting in the church carpark), our crew will be doing some maintenance and gardening around the church. They are looking for some new volunteers to join their team. If you would like to be involved, contact the Parish office for more details.

30  
MAR

## Chrism Mass - Holy Week

The Chrism Mass will be held at 5pm on 30th of March at St Christopher's Cathedral.

5  
APR

## Mass Times Easter Weekend - NO Sat 6pm Mass

Due to the Easter Vigil occurring at 7:30pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, there will be **no regular 6pm Saturday Mass**. Sunday 9am and 6pm will remain the same.

11  
APR

## Regular Saturday Night Mass Time Change (Due to Daylight Savings)

With daylight savings ending, our Saturday Night Mass will be changing from 6pm to **5pm beginning on the 11th of April** until daylight resumes again.

12  
APR

## Divine Mercy Sunday!

The Sunday following Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday! This is a beautiful day instituted by Pope John Paul II inspired by St Faustina's encounter with Christ. On this Sunday, there will be 1:30pm Adoration and Confession, 2:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and at 3pm Divine Mercy Mass.

16  
APR

## Alpha Course: STARTING IN A MONTH!

Curious about life, faith, and meaning? St Benedict's is running the Alpha course this year starting **Thursday 16 April 2026, in the Parish Centre**. 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.

2  
MAY

## 2026 Parish Assembly

All parishioners are invited to our Parish Assembly 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! You will have an opportunity to engage with the vision of the Parish and be part of shaping it!



## Adoration Roster - Current hours to fill

- Tuesday 9-10am
- Wednesday 3-4pm
- Friday 8-9am

If you can fill one of these, please sign up via the QR-Code!



## 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, Oscar.S, Michael and Rita, Peter Robinson and all those sick in our parish.

**Recently Deceased:** Lorraine Davis

## Priests:



## Parish:



## 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)

### MOTHER'S 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

Wednesdays (Fortnightly)

10am-12pm, Parish Centre

Ayanthi Perera (Contact Parish Office)

### STREET MINISTRY

Friday Nights

After 5:30pm Mass, Civic

(Contact Parish Office)

## 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!

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 Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 129. R. v.7

*(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you,  
O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
(Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity. (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

## Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25. 26

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

*I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.*

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

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**Reflection** by Fr Michael Tate

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy. But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God. You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death. We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be the Resurrection and the Life.

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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**  
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

Parish Secretary & Communications:  
Isabelle Seselja  
(02) 6295 7879  
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**Tue/Thurs/Fri: 9am-12pm**

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Julie Long  
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