

4th October 2026

in the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

St Benedict's

St Benedict's Catholic Church, Narrabundah

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



<https://goodnewsshared.wordpress.com/2021/03/05/this-is-the-heir-come-lets-kill-him-and-take-his-inheritance-3/>

Coming up:

Coffee at Gryphon's
8 Oct

MGL 40th Anniversary
11 Oct

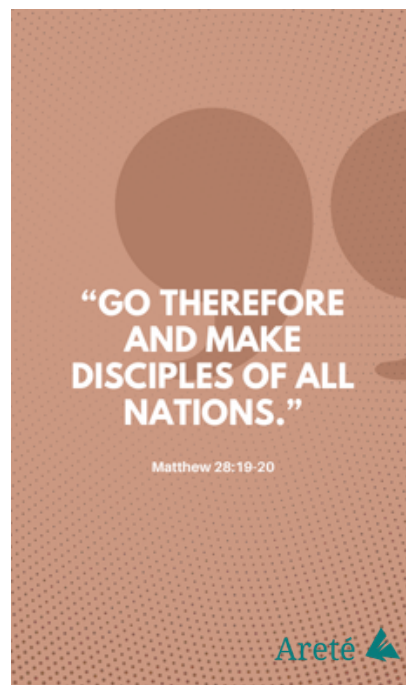
Kingdom Kids
18 Oct



cg.org.au/narrabundah

Arete Centre

FORMING MISSIONARY LEADERS FOR THE
CHANGE OF ERA



I wanted to take this opportunity to share about a course I have had the privilege of undertaking this year: **the Arete Centre's Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program**. Now, many of you may be wondering: *What is the Arete Centre?*

The Arete Centre is a work of the Missionaries of God's Love, founded and run by Fr Chris Ryan and based in Sydney. It is *"dedicated to forming and equipping laypeople for missionary leadership in the Catholic Church. [The] program provides comprehensive personal, practical, theological, and spiritual formation to individuals seeking to deepen their commitment to serving the Church and its mission."* – Arete Centre

I am part of the 2026 cohort, undertaking the course alongside 65 other students. The course has consisted of four weekend intensives in Sydney, as well as weekly online lectures on Wednesday evenings throughout the year. I first heard about the course through friends who had graduated from the Centre and highly recommended it. It wasn't until late last year that I decided this was the right next step for me. I am so thankful to the Parish for its partial sponsorship of the course, and I'm incredibly grateful that I took the leap. **This course and this experience have enriched not only my ministry and role, but, more importantly, my whole being!**

The nature of the course is one of holistic formation of the entire person. The weekly lectures are more theologically and intellectually stimulating, while the weekend intensives have a stronger retreat and encounter focus. But perhaps the biggest impact of the course has been journeying alongside 65 other students, ranging in age from 18 to 70+, and coming from all different walks of life. Hearing their testimonies and stories has been such a powerful experience of seeing the Holy Spirit moving through each of these individuals.

It has been incredible to see the way my peers and I have been transformed throughout the course: becoming more open to the Holy Spirit in our lives, developing a renewed hunger for our ministries and parishes, and growing in excitement for what lies ahead. There has been a real sense of empowerment. We have been given a wealth of tools, skills and resources that we can utilise both within and beyond the Church, as well as a deeper desire for evangelisation and a greater understanding of how to actually share our faith.

I know that, for me as a young person in the Church, the desire to make a difference and to be involved is there. But often, we lack the confidence to step into those spaces because of our inexperience. I believe Arete has strengthened this desire within me and has given me an incredible foundation to stand confidently and have a voice in these spaces, and to do so well. **It has solidified my hunger for parish renewal and shown me what it means to be a missionary disciple... and to actually live it.**

With 2027 applications now open and soon drawing to a close, and as an almost-graduate of the Arete Centre, I couldn't recommend this course highly enough!

Whether you are retired and looking for ways to become more involved in your faith and the Church... or you are already involved in a ministry and want to upskill... or you're someone who has always wanted to volunteer but never felt like you could... or perhaps you simply want to become a missionary disciple and live that out well... whatever it might be, **Arete is for YOU!**

To apply for the 2027 cohort (spots are limited!):

<https://www.aretecentre.org/programs/>

- ISABELLE SESELJA
PARISH SECRETARY AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Events and Announcements

5-14
OCT

MGL Convocation STARTING THIS WEEK!

Every 4 years, the MGL priests and brothers meet as a community for their MGL Convocation. This is an opportunity for them as an a community to gather and reflect on their life and mission and elect a moderator for the next four years. The first week is at St Edmunds College, the last three are here at St Benedict's. Please keep the MGL Priests and Brothers in your prayers during this important time.

7-8
OCT

COMMUNION SERVICES: WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY THIS WEEK!

Due to the MGL Convocation this coming week, on Wednesday 7th of October and Thursday 8th of October, those usual masses will be replaced with Communion Services instead. Apologies for the inconvenience.

11
OCT

MGL 40th Anniversary Lunch

Join us for a joyful celebration of the MGL 40th Anniversary on 11 October, immediately after the 11.00 am Mass at St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Everyone is warmly invited to bring a dish to share—whether it is a treasured cultural dish or a favourite family recipe. With approximately 150 guests expected, including 40 MGL priests and brothers, your contribution will help make this special occasion a memorable celebration of community, faith and fellowship. If you are able to bring food, please contact mglsecretarycbr@gmail.com. We look forward to celebrating this wonderful milestone with you!

12-14
OCT

12th-14th of October | Bookings Cancellations due to MGL Convocation

With the MGL Convocation occurring, 3 days will be taking place here at St Benedict's, **Mon 12th - Wed 14th of October**. During this time, all regular groups such as **Mothers Prayers, Men's Sharing Group**, and external bookings will be cancelled. Adoration hours will be limited to during this time, **starting from 9am** on the Monday and Tuesday. Additionally, there will be no rosary after the 5:30pm Tuesday Mass. Sincere apologies for the inconvenience this may cause.



Saturday Vigil Mass Time - To stay at 5pm!

The Saturday Vigil Mass will remain at 5pm throughout the year, (No change in time during daylight savings will occur), with the note it will be reviewed in 12-months time.

8
OCT

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 8th of October!



Adoration Roster - Call to fill **ALL** the hours!

ALL Adoration Hours need at least two people at all times! In particular, we are looking to fill:

- **Tuesday: 10am-12pm**
- **Wednesday: 2pm-4pm**
- **Friday: 2-3pm**

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



Kingdom Kids is on break over school holidays

Our Children's Ministry program runs during school term and breaks over school holidays and long weekends. **Kingdom Kids will return on Sunday 18 October**. We are seeking new volunteer leaders who can assist with our growing program for the upcoming semester. Leadership volunteers must be aged 18yrs + and hold a current WWVP card. Please contact Sherice via the Parish Office to learn more.

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)

LEGION OF MARY

Weekly Saturday Mornings
10am-12pm, Outreach Centre
(Contact Parish Office)

Complaint / Concern Form

We take safeguarding our community very seriously here at St Benedict's.

This is a QR-code to an Archdiocesan Form of any safeguarding complaints and concerns that goes straight to the IPSS Manager of the Archdiocese.



SCAN ME!

Praying for the sick

Jindalee & Mt View residents; Pamela Brown and family, Caroline Evans, Jackie Carpenter, Mark Ransom, Anna Pace, Rita Smith, Wendy Fisher-Hudson, Helen French, Deirdre O'Brien, Sagar Julie O'Brien, Oscar S, Luke S, Michael Reid, Peter Robinson, George Stosic, and all those sick in our parish.

Recently Deceased: Nellie Cook, Bill McMaster (Bronwyn's father), Maria Soudis, Edward Oriel, Rita Reid, Gert Fletcher

Anniversaries:

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 5:1-7

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 79:9. 12-16.19-20. R. Is 5:7
(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

- 1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. (R.)
- 2. Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. (R.)
- 3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
- 4. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:6-9

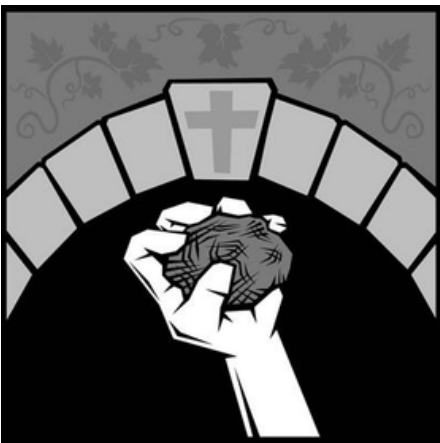
Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 15:15
Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 21:33-43
He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see? ‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

In the Hebrew scripture, Israel is spoken of as the Vineyard of God. We can say that now the Church is the vineyard of God. God is the Landlord, we are the tenants. It is our job to faithfully tend it and make sure it bears good fruit. If we are unfaithful, then God will find other people to carry on his plan, other tenants to tend his vineyard. Certainly, we see that within the Universal Church. With the decline of the Eurocentric church, who has God turned to as new tenants for his vineyard? Look at the surging numbers of Catholics in subSahara Africa, Nigeria, the Philippines, Korea. The persecuted Church in Vietnam and China is surviving and growing despite the severity of oppression. I think we may agree that the vineyard of the Church in Australia is not as fruitful as it could be. This is a challenge for us. It is wonderful to see the energetic work of the new immigrants and refugees in our parishes (including the Bishop of Parramatta!). We could pause for a moment to commit to taking up the privilege and duty to work in the vineyard of the Church.

he psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

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

5pm (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

Parish Secretary & Communications:

Isabelle Seselja

(02) 6295 7879

narabundah@cg.org.au

Wed: 1-4pm | Thurs & Fri: 9am-12pm

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Julie Long

Contact: Narabundah.Safeguarding@cg.org.au

MISSIONARIES OF GOD'S LOVE



40 YEARS

A celebration of faith, mission & community

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2026

ANNIVERSARY MASS • 11:00 AM

Celebrant: Fr Ken Barker, MGL Founder

During the 2026 MGL Convocation

ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH, NARRABUNDAH

A simple BYO lunch to share follows Mass

ALL ARE WELCOME