

Easy Steps to Holiness: A Lenten Journey

The Good Shepherd prayer group invites you to join us each Wednesday evening for talks, sharing groups and worship. Deepen your faith this Lent and draw closer to Jesus. Weds 21 Feb to Weds 27 March, 7pm-9pm, Parish Room, St Peter Chanel, Weston St, Yarralumla. Call/text Neda 0415 266 019, Susanna 0419 902 293, Gabriel 0422 285 491 for more info.

Journey of St Paul

Fr Rembert Fernando will be escorting a pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey to follow in the footsteps of St Paul and his companions. The tour will commence on 9th April and end on 20th April. For more information, see flyers in the church or visit: harvestjourneys.com/sp2401

Stations of the Cross

will be occurring on Fridays at 5pm throughout the Lenten season. All parishioners are invited to attend.

First Reconciliation Notice

A reminder to all interested parents and children that the retreat day for First Reconciliation candidates is on **Thursday 7th March**. For any queries regarding First Reconciliation, contact the parish.

Archbishop's Lenten Lighthouses

Join Archbishop Christopher Prowse on a Lenten Retreat through his Sunday homilies. You can find the lighthouse inputs on the Catholic Voice website.

Congratulations to Br Samson

St Benedict's parish is happy to announce that Brother Samson of the MGL brotherhood will be joining us as a deacon in the coming weeks. We wish him all the best on his spiritual journey.

Fr Rem and Fr Chris will be absent from the parish between the 8th & 9th of March to attend Br Samson's ordination in Melbourne. During this time, Fr Bernie will be covering the Friday & Saturday masses. **Please note there will be no confessions on Friday or Saturday next week.**

White Goods & Furniture For Sale

Brand new front load washing machine and dryer (Simpson), ergonomic computer chairs, chest of drawers, bookcases, bedside/dining tables, single beds, gardening tools, etc. Price negotiable. Please email: elitra21@gmail.com

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND		
2nd & 3rd March 2024		
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Louise Gaudry	Alma Burg
Readers	BA Daly, Louise Gaudry	Grace De Zilva, Barry Murphy
Offertory	BA Daly, Helen Bennett	Social group
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron	Barry Murphy
Flowers, Altar Clean	Anne Sutherland & Anne Hill	
Church Cleaners	Jeanne Eri	
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	John & Diane Fulop	
ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND		
9th & 10th March 2024		
<u>1ST READING</u>	<u>2ND READING</u>	<u>GOSPEL</u>
	Sat 6 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Alma Burg
Readers	Don Jeffery, Marlene Keir	Santhosh Jose, Maria Mendoza
Offertory	Volunteers	Young family
Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Barron	Josephus Bumaat
Flowers, Altar Clean	Claudine Smith & Louise Gaudry	
Church Cleaners	Santhosh Jose	
Visitation	Jonavie & Grace (Jindalee) Carmel Henry (Mt View)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	John & Monica Murray	

St Benedict's Catholic Church

In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Office Hours: Tues—Friday, 9am—12pm
Corner of Sturt Ave & Jerrabomberra Ave (PO Box 55)
Narrabundah ACT 2604
Tel: +61 (02) 6295 7879/ Parish Office
Emergency Number: (02) 6239 6772
Website: cg.org.au/Narrabundah

Parish Team:

Fr Rembert Fernando, MGL (Parish Priest)
Fr Chris Eaton, MGL (Mission Centre Director)
Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)
Isabel Roberts (Parish Secretary)



Third Sunday of Lent

2nd & 3rd March 2024

Reflection on Gospel

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

St Benedict's Lenten Groups:

Afternoon Group (Open to All):

Wednesday After 12.30pm Mass (1pm)

The Parish Centre

Program: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary Video Series

Coordinator: Carmel Henry

Young Men of God Group:

Tuesday 6.00pm, Dinner included

For those Men 18-35

The MGL Presbytery

Program: My Father's Father Video Series

Coordinator: Br Samson MGL

Women's Group:

Thursday 7pm

The Parish Centre

Program: Wollongong Lenten Books

Coordinator: Mattia Wellspring



2024 Easter Raffle

An Easter Raffle will be held again this year. Tickets will be sold at Masses for 3 weekends starting on March 2. A hamper and bottles of wine have been donated and there will be Easter eggs and goodies as prizes. The Raffle will be drawn in the week leading up to Easter Sunday. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If anyone is willing to take a book of 10 or 20 tickets to sell, or to help sell tickets at any of the weekend Masses, your assistance will be gratefully accepted - contact me on mtcn52@gmail.com

St Benedict's Catholic Parish acknowledge the **Ngunnawal People**, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

First reading

Exodus 20: 1-17

God spoke all these words. He said, ‘I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
‘You shall have no gods except me.
‘You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father’s fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.’
‘You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.
‘Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.
‘Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.’

Psalm 18 (19): 8-11 R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1: 22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation

John 3: 16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
God loved the world so much, he gave us is only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

John 2: 13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers’ coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, ‘Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father’s house into a market.’ Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, ‘What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?’ Jesus answered, ‘Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

NEEDS OF LAY CATHOLICS TODAY

What do adult lay Catholics need today to help them live a committed Catholic life amid the circumstances of modern society? To find out and to help improve their services to our Archdiocese, the Canberra Circle of The Catenians, an international association of lay Catholics, is conducting an Archdiocesan-wide online survey. Please help by completing this brief, anonymous, tick-box survey via this URL or QR code. Thank you. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGMW>
Contact: Phil Murray, President, Canberra Catenians 0419 695 927 or phil13murray@gmail.com



O God, pour out in your Church a spirit of reverence and courage, to raise up worthy ministers for your people and make them ardent, yet gentle heralds of your Gospel.

Parish Pastoral Council

At the first meeting for 2024 for the Parish Pastoral Council on Tuesday February 20, the following items were discussed:

- A Vision and Mission Statement for the parish
- Closer communication between the different entities in the Parish i.e. MissionCentre, Parish Finance Committee and Parish Pastoral Council combined meeting
- Divine Renovation—commencement of this program
- Community occasions to bring the Parish together

The PPC is in need of new members. If you are interested in finding out what membership entails, please speak with Fr Rem or with me.

- Moira Najdecki, Chair, Parish Pastoral Council

Donating to the parish

To deposit directly into the Parish account, please use the following details:
BSB: 062 786
Account number: 000014992
Please include your Planned Giving (envelope) number in the reference if you have one, otherwise your surname and ‘Donation’.

Please pray for the sick and deceased of the parish

Anniversaries: Barbara Parsons, Lorna Evans, Noanie Kelly, Leita Barrow, Rathesh Fernando, Ray Pasard, Catherine Cleary, Frank Fulop, Ronnie Van Belkom, Tom French, Agnes Calvert, Clare Connell, Pat Connors, Doris Flaherty, Maud Inch, Monica Knight, Mario Krajina, Leonard Legge-Wilkinson, Kenneth Lentell, Lorna Ludwig, Antonia Martin, Fred Martin, Ronald & Marilyn Molyneux, Marie Morgan, Joan Parker, Alice Smith, Stephanie Stoddard, Monica Thomas, Fr Richard Daly, Fr Bill Keating, Fr Francis Hartigan, Fr Thomas Hilly, Fr Joseph Keating.
Our Sick: Jindalee & Mt View residents, Tony Sealy, Tony Evans, Rose Mason, Clem Dick, Julia Brown, Mitchell White, Germaphi, Pat Atkins, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Lyn Walker, Louis Pini, Anthony, Helen French, Flora Arias, Mark Ransom, Ben Melbourne, Pamela Brown, Anne Rosewarne; Carol Rees, Monica Boyton, Mary Smith, Colin Paley, Janice Paley, Caroline Evans, Gert Fletcher, Anna Pace, Edwina Gundelach, Daniel Collins, Rita Smith, Andrea Bernabey, Gustavo Caceres.

Parish Office Hours

9am—12pm, Tuesday—Friday

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 9am; 6pm (*Charismatic Mass*);
Fourth Sunday of the Month: 6pm (*Youth Mass*)

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday: 5.30pm; Wednesday: 12.30pm; Thursday: 5.30pm; Friday: 5.30pm (*Healing Mass*); Saturday 8.00am

Reconciliation

Friday following Healing Mass from 6.15pm-7pm;
Saturday: 5pm-5:30pm or by appointment

Prayer of the Church

Saturday: 7.30am 3rd Friday Padre Pio: 5pm

Baptisms: During weekend Masses or by appointment. See parish website for booking information.

Weddings: by appointment

Anointing of the Sick

During the 5.30pm Mass on first Fridays
10.30am at Jindalee 1st Thursday of the month,
10.30am at Mt View 3rd Thursday of the month

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday & Tuesday: 6am-10pm
Wednesday & Thursday: 1pm-10pm
Friday 6am to Saturday 8am

Vacant hours that urgently need filling:

Monday: 12-1pm
Tuesday: 11am-12pm, 1-2pm, 6pm-10pm
Thursday: 7-10pm
Contact: Anne Sutherland (0413203901) or Parish office for more information.

Hearing Loop is located in the right center rows of the church. Please ensure your hearing aid is tuned to make the best use of this facility.