

First Holy Communion Registration

Parents are advised that registration for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion is now open. Students wishing to participate in the sacrament must be at least grade three or older. Registration for this sacrament can be done through either the Qkr! app or by contacting the parish office directly.

Adoration Notice:

Dear St Benedict’s Community, due to winter illness and family commitments, many adorers are away. If you are able to help short term (2-3weeks) with the following vacancies much appreciated.

Monday 8-11am & 2-3pm
Tuesday 9-1pm
Friday 9-10am & 2-3pm

When we spend time in Adoration, God’s grace poured out upon our individual lives, family, communities & world is astonishing. Even if you are unable to commit with your physical presence, Please pray for more Adorers - the harvest is rich but the labourers are few so let’s ask the Lord of the harvest to provide for our needs...

26 September | Encountering God in Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina is Sacred Reading. It is a way of prayer whereby we allow the Word of God to touch our hearts and change our lives. It is a dialogue of love between the person and God as heart speaks to heart through the Word. This weekend retreat focusses on the process of lectio divina by engaging participants in the ancient art of reading and praying with the Word of God in scripture.

For more details ring 0242360011 Ext. 114
Cost: \$150

Invitation to the Ordinations of Brothers Samson & Vijay

The parish would like to invite any interested parishioners to the ordinations of Brother Samson & Brother Vijay MGL. The ordination will be held on **13th September at 7:30pm** in St Christopher’s Cathedral, with refreshments afterwards at the cathedral hall. Please bring a plate to share.

Masses of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Brother Vijay on **14 September at 11am**, and by Brother Samson on **15 September at 11am**, both at St Benedict’s.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND
3rd & 4th August 2024

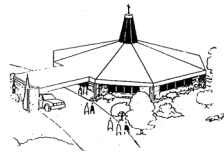
	Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Marlene Keir	Alma Burg
Readers	Moira Najdecki, Robert Booth	Grace De Zilva, Loreena D’Silva
Offertory	Volunteers	Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers	Sue Neimanis	Brendan Bergin
Flowers, Altar Clean	Margie Arvellino & Sue Neimanis	
Church Cleaners	John Murray	
Visitation	Julie Douglas (Mt View)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Jeanne Eri, Jonathon Crowley	

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND
10th & 11th August 2024

1ST READING 1 KINGS 19: 4-8	2ND READING EPHESIANS 4: 30-5: 2	GOSPEL JOHN 6: 41-51
	Sat 5 pm	Sun 9am
Welcomers	Carmel & Peter Pistor	Robert Henry
Readers	BA Daly, Louise Gaudry	Maria Mendoza. Josephus Bumaat
Offertory	Volunteers	Young family
Eucharistic Ministers	Nhung Booth	Julie Douglas
Flowers, Altar Clean	Grace De Zilva	
Church Cleaners	Santhosh Jose	
Visitation	MGL Garran (Mt View & Jindalee)	
Sun 6pm Mass Readers	Sarah Liston & Natasha	

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.

St Benedict’s Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God’s Love

Parish Team:

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
Email: Narrabundah@cg.org.au

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

Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time
3rd & 4th August 2024

Reflection on Gospel

In today’s Gospel, there are four exchanges between Jesus and the crowd. In the first, the crowd, having followed Jesus to Capernaum, asks a very matter of fact question: “Rabbi, when did you get here?” Jesus replies by naming their motivation in pursuing him. They have been fed. Jesus acknowledges this, yet challenges them to see beyond the fulfillment of their material needs. The crowds have followed Jesus because they have been fed. They ought to be seeking out Jesus because he can give them eternal life.

As the second dialogue begins, it seems that the crowd might be on their way to accepting Jesus and his mission. They ask: “What can we do to accomplish the works of God?” Jesus replies that they must have faith in the one sent from God. But in the third dialogue, the crowd reveals their inability to see Jesus’ true identity. They ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. How strange this sounds since Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people. What more is expected?

But the crowd cannot see beyond the surface of the sign. They show this in their interpretation of the sign that came from Moses. In their description, they identify Jesus with Moses, as if to say, as Moses gave the people manna in the desert, give us a sign so that we will know that you are from God. They are looking to identify a prophet without realizing that God is standing before them. Jesus corrects their misinterpretation, saying that the manna received by their ancestors came from God. As God fulfilled their ancestors’ needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life. In the bread that they have received from Jesus, they have received physical nourishment and also spiritual nourishment. Jesus wants the crowd to see beyond the surface to the One who provides true nourishment.

The conclusion of the dialogue reveals the crowd’s blindness. They ask for what Jesus has just told them they have found: “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus answers plainly that he himself is the Bread of Life they seek. Jesus himself is the Bread of Life who will satisfy every hunger and thirst. This is the first of several such statements found in John’s Gospel. We understand these better when we remember that God revealed his name to the people of Israel as “I am,” as Yahweh. Jesus is now claiming this name for himself. In the weeks ahead, we will see the offense that this gives to the people.

Request for Help Regarding Parish Flowers

Each week volunteers prepare St Benedict’s church for the weekend Masses and ceremonies. A roster of two people is set up for the arrangement of flowers and a little cleaning, not vacuuming the church. Could you please consider helping the Parish in this way, it would involve giving an hour every 4 -5 weeks, usually on a Saturday morning around 9.00. If you think you could help and would like to know what is involved please feel free to call the Parish office or contact Sue on sueneimanis@gmail.com.

Planned Giving Envelopes

Could the parishioner with Envelope Number 10 please contact the parish office as a matter of urgency.

To help the parish save money and reduce waste, some paper envelope givers have had their giving numbers changed, therefore it is EXTREMELY important that envelope givers only use the CURRENT/NEW envelopes from July onwards. If you have any envelopes left over from last year, please do not donate with them as there is a risk that your generous contribution may be allocated to someone else.

St Benedict’s parish would like to thank all parishioners who donate for their generous contributions. Your support in the parish is invaluable.

Coffee Morning

Please join fellow parishioners for a coffee catch up next **Thursday 8th August at 10:30** at Gryphon’s in Griffith.

First reading

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, ‘Why did we not die at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our heart’s content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!’ Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day’s portion; I propose to test them in this way to see whether they will follow my law or not. ‘I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, “Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your heart’s content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.”’ And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, ‘What is that?’ not knowing what it was. ‘That,’ said Moses to them, ‘is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.’

Psalm 77 (78): 3-4, 23-25, 54 R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Second reading

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God’s way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
But on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered: ‘I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’ So they said, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*’ Jesus answered: ‘I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ ‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered: ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.’

Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15

Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24

Matthew 4: 4

John 6: 24-35

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



New Quest Machines

The parish would like to inform all parishioners who donate via the Tap-and-Go machines that they will be replaced some time in the coming months by new Quest machines. There will be two in the church operating as a collection for both parish and priest, as well as a third machine to be used as a plate for parishioners without cash. More information will be provided once the machines arrive. Thank you to all who generously give to the parish.

31 August | Cultural Competency | 10:00AM
The Catholic Women’s Taskforce, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn has a workshop on 31 August. Kylie Shea, a Ngunnawal woman will facilitate the sessions where we will learn about Ngunnawal culture.
Venue: Parish Centre Aranda
Register via www.cgwomen.org.au

Men’s Sharing Group

The St Benedict’s Men’s Sharing group meets every **second Tuesday in the Parish Centre**, from 7:30pm. Next meeting is on the **6th August**.

For more details, please phone John Murray on 0480 257 761.

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

Our Deceased: Elaine French, Joan Evans, Antoinette Martin, Louis Pini, Thomas Fernando, Barbara Parsons, Lorna & Stanley Evans, Noanie Kelly, Leita Barron, 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, Brian Barron, Jackie Carpenter, Sagar Julie O’Brien, Tony Sealy, Tony Evans, Rose Mason, Clem Dick, Julia Brown, Mitchell White, Germaphi, Pat Atkins, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Lyn Walker, 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.

Parish Office Hours
9am—12pm, Tuesday—Friday

Weekend Mass Times
Saturday: 5pm (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: 4pm-4:30pm 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: 8-9am
Tuesday: 11am-10pm
Friday: 2-3pm
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.