

26th July 2026

in the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

St Benedict's

St Benedict's Catholic Church, Narrabundah

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thechurchnews.com%2Fliving-faith%2F2016%2F02%2F2016-02-24-march-2-what-have-church-leaders-said-about-doctrine-and-covenants-18%2F&hl=en&as_sqr=ACwYau9dSkvYnBhncq55V...1KOKx&ust=7a9259178344000&source=images&nd=fe&q=89978449&vad=0CBMCjRwFwaTCjITv9SVrowDEQAAAAAABBO

Coming up:

Legion of Mary
1 Aug

Archdiocesan Assembly
22 Aug

Alpha Course | Round 2
3 Sept



cg.org.au/narrabundah

Community and Vision

ISABELLE SESELJA - PARISH SECRETARY & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

UPDATES FROM..

OUR PARISH ✨ SECRETARY & ✨ COMMUNICATIONS



“...FELT SO EMBRACED AS PART OF THIS COMMUNITY!”

“It is an absolute joy to serve our parish community as your Parish Secretary and Communications Officer. I have now been here for a year and a half, and the time has flown by! It has been a privilege to meet and work alongside so many of you, and I have felt so welcomed and embraced as part of this wonderful community.

As my role suggests, I wear quite a few different hats, and over the past year there have been a number of exciting projects happening behind the scenes. One of these has been working with our Vision Team to redesign the St Benedict's Parish Logo, particularly in light of the vision we have been discerning together. I've loved being part of the creative process and seeing how we can better express who we are as a parish through our visual identity. It is still very much in the design phase, so stay tuned for a new logo in the coming months!

Another exciting project has been designing and building a brand-new parish website. This has been another rewarding creative endeavour, and I'm thrilled to say it's nearly ready to launch. We can't wait to share it with you in the coming months.” -Isabelle

“I've also been thinking about our parish bulletin and how it can become an even greater expression of our community. My hope is that you'll soon begin seeing cover artwork created by members of our parish, reflections written by gifted local writers in our midst, and regular updates like this from our staff and ministry teams. So much happens behind the scenes that often goes unseen, and we'd love to share more of the life, mission, and exciting work God is doing here at St Benedict's.

It is a privilege to play a small part in this mission, and I am so grateful to be serving alongside all of you as God continues His work here in Narrabundah.”

-Isabelle



“..A PRIVILEGE TO PLAY A SMALL PART...”

*Please continue to keep these projects, the team and I in your prayers.
Excited to share more with you in the coming months!!*

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH UPDATES

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.

Events and Announcements

1
AUG

Legion of Mary | Re-Opening at Our Parish!

Legion of Mary is re-opening at our parish. Legionaries are simply Mary's means of action in the world today! The weekly meeting will begin Saturday 1st of August from 10am-11:30am in the Outreach Centre. For more information, contact Rhea via the Parish Office.

22
AUG

THE ARCHDIOCESAN 2026 ASSEMBLY

"How might God be calling your community to become a sanctuary for the thirsty?" On Saturday, 22nd August, from 9am-4pm, Catholics from across the Archdiocese will gather in prayer, reflection and discernment as we seek to listen to the Holy Spirit and consider how Christ is calling us forward in mission. Held across seven regional hubs throughout the Archdiocese, it will be an opportunity for us, as an Archdiocesan community, to prayerfully discern how we continue bringing Jesus Christ to the people of our time. Register and find out more:

<https://www.cgevangalisation.org.au/assembly/>

Late
2026

RCIA Course | Expression of Interest

Interested in becoming Catholic or want to know more about the Catholic faith? St Benedict's is running an RCIA Program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) end 2026-beginning 2027. We are seeking Expression of Interest for those who are interested in participating in the program. It is a 4-6 month commitment. More information to come. If interested, please contact the Parish office directly!

16
AUG

Southside Hymn Festival | (Our Choir is Performing!)

Choirs and musicians from 6 parishes in the Southern Deanery (Curtin, Gowrie, Kambah, Yarralumla, Pearce and Narrabundah) have accepted the invitation to play and sing at the Southside Hymn Festival from 2.00-4.30pm at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Curtin ACT on Sunday, 16 August 2026. Parishioners and families from all parishes are invited to attend. FREE admission and afternoon tea. Organised by the Knights of the Southern Cross and now supported by the Canberra Southern Cross Club. For information e-mail Bob Perkins at perkins.family@aapt.net.au

3
SEP

ALPHA COURSE | Round 2 starting back in September!

With this 1st round of Alpha coming to an end this coming Thursday, there will be a break for the rest of winter until our 2nd round of Alpha begins in September. This is the perfect opportunity to come if you were not able to be part of the first round, or if you wanted to invite a friend along to! Please register via this link: <https://forms.gle/nWAn56SRjXQx7jbq5>

30
SEP

Explosion Youth Conference: Early Bird ends August 8th!

Registrations are now open for Explosion 2026, a Catholic youth conference for students in years 7 to 12. Hosted by the Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community, Explosion will be held at St Clare's College, Canberra, from **September 30 to October 3**, offering inspiring speakers, powerful prayer and worship, and the opportunity to build lasting friendships while growing in faith. Early bird pricing available until August 8. For more information and to register, visit explosionyouth.com.



Adoration Roster -Current hours to fill

- Tuesday 11am-12pm
- Wednesday 2-3pm, 3-4pm
- Friday 7-8pm

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, 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, George Stosic, Maria S, Fr. Raphael R. and all those sick in our parish.

Recently Deceased: May Agnew, Ron Duncan, Pedro Jose Salazar, Tony Evans, Fr Troy Bobbin, Jonathan Hawkins

Anniversaries: Pollie Crowley

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.

Priests:



Parish:



First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, ‘Ask what you would like me to give you.’ Solomon replied, ‘Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?’ It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. ‘Since you have asked for this’ the Lord said ‘and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97 (R.) Lord, I love your commands.

- 1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
- 2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)
- 3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)
- 4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. ‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.’



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A burning rubbish tip in Jerusalem (Gehenna) provided Jesus with one image of Hell. Here is St John Henry Newman’s image of Hell. Have you travelled to a foreign country and can’t speak the language? There would be lots of weeping and gnashing of teeth. What if you were born with a good ear for languages, but had deliberately never learnt the language of that other place? You would only have yourself to blame. It would be a living hell. That is what happens at death. The soul is suddenly transported to a different dimension of existence, and it can be either heavenly or hellish depending on the choices and actions of a lifetime. So, our lifetime project is to ‘learn the language of heaven’. We can mainly do this by following the story of Jesus, the Word of God, the perfect conversation between humanity and God. We could pause for a moment to move from incommunicado to communion by learning and practising the language of Heaven.

mtate@bigpond.com

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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
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
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Tue/Thurs/Fri: 9am-12pm

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

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