



St Benedict's
PARISH OF NEWTON-AUCKLAND

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM

SUNDAY 9.30AM
(WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY)

SUNDAY 5.30PM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE (SEE BELOW)



St Benedict's
PARISH OF NEWTON-AUCKLAND

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - 10 MARCH 2019

Lent a time for returning to God

The Season of Lent, in the Catholic church is a period of penitential preparation for Easter, it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides for a 40-day fast (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry.

This period of preparation has been observed since apostolic times, though the practice was not formalized until the First Council of Nicaea. It was a time also of preparation of candidates for baptism and a time of penance for sinners.

In this period of Lent Catholics often choose to give up specific pleasures, such as sweets, alcohol, or social media, this is a way to foster simplicity and self-control; many use their cravings or desires for these items as a reminder to pray and to refocus on spiritual matters.

The Gospel reading of the first Sunday of lent speaks to us of Jesus driven by the Spirit into the desert in order to be tempted by the devil. The three temptations--to sensual pleasure, to power, and to pride represent three fundamental ways that all of us can be distracted from the path that God wants us to walk. It is therefore a salutary Lenten exercise to attend carefully to the texture of Jesus' responses to these temptations. It is interesting that the Gospel places these temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, the desert, a place where he encountered both the wild beasts and the angels. We too are called into this desert experience in this season of Lent. In the desert what is impressive is its sheer aridness. There is no vegetation, no bird life and almost no animals. The silence is almost total.

In this season of lent we need to create a time and a space to nurture our spiritual lives; we must allow the Holy Spirit to confront the devils that haunt our lives, the wild beasts of our own selfish hearts and the evils of the world around us.

According to William Barclay, "Temptation is not meant to make us sin; it is meant to enable us to conquer sin. It is not meant to make us bad, it is meant to make us good. It is not meant to weaken us, it is meant to make us emerge stronger and finer and purer from the ordeal.

Temptation is not the penalty of being human, temptation is the glory of being human, Temptation is the test which comes to everyone whom God wishes to use.

So, then, we must think of this whole incident of the temptations of Christ, not so much as the TEMPTING, but as the TESTING of Jesus."

The Season of Lent is also a time for Repentance, the word "repent" implies regret for our sins and resolving to do better. Regret without resolve changes nothing.

Repentance is like a child approaching the teacher in the examination hall and telling her I have ruined this page; please may I have another.

It's like the prodigal son who returns to the father, full of regret and resolve and tells him, **"I AM SORRY, NO MORE WILL I GO AWAY FROM YOU"** the son is ready to be even a servant if only he gets a chance to be close to his father once more.

We too are asking God, "Could we start again, please?" That is the point of Lent—a new beginning. In this season of lent, let us repent of the flaws in us that that keep us far from our loving God. Lent is a time to recognise the subtle ways that the devil eats away into our hearts and keeps us from following Christ and being a true child of God. The gospel of today suggests that there will always be wild beasts, and they will continue to challenge us all our lives, but there will also be angels who will look after us. We need to trust and recognise that God does not leave us to struggle on our own.

(Cond Pg 3...)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday: Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 12.10pm
Tuesday - Friday: Mass 12.10pm

ETHNIC MASS TIMES

Spanish 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month
12:00 Noon
Tongan 3rd Sunday of the Month
12:00 Noon
Indonesian 4th Sunday of the Month
1:30 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5 pm - 5.45 pm
Weekdays 11.30 am - 12.10pm (at Cathedral)

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Contact the Parish Office
Phone 09 379 0624
Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
Contact Details: Phone 09 379 0624
Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz
Website: www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH PRIEST

Monsignor Paul Farmer
paul@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz
PARISH SECRETARY
Catherine van Veen
catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

ALSO AT ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

First Friday of the month

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction 6.30pm
then Mass in devotion to
the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 7.30 pm

Third Friday of the month

Rosary 6.45pm followed by
Novena & Mass
in devotion to the Holy Child Jesus,
Senor Santo Nino at 7.30pm

Every Wednesday

Novena & Mass
to Our Mother of Perpetual Help 6.45pm

Saturdays

Rosary 10am - 20 Decade Rosary
held downstairs in meeting room,
access through parish carpark at back of
church.

Catholic Student Chaplain

Fr Chris Denham phone 303 3852
www.actc.net.nz
St Vincent de Paul & Foodbank
Ph 815 6122

PARKING FOR ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH

Free parking is available from Saturday midday
to Sunday evening in the
Wilson carpark on corner of
St Benedict's & Alex Evans Street.

**Please NOTE: A few parks in top park are
marked reserved for tenant parking.**



Liturgy of the Word

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 : Through the ceremony of offering the first fruits, the Israelites recognised all that God had done for them in the past, especially in the Exodus. Our worship of God is also recognition of his favours to us.
Romans 10:8b-13 : The core of the Christian credo is that Jesus is our risen Saviour. Anyone who can say that and live by it, will be saved.
Luke 4:1-13 ; Jesus was tempted like we are, but did not sin. Through his grace we too can resist temptation and overcome sin.
Next Week's readings: Gen 15:5-12,17-18 ; Phil 3:17,4:1 ; Lk 9:28-36

PUSHPAY GIVING AND ST BENEDICT'S APP

The number of downloads of our St Benedicts App continues to grow. Thank you so much for your donations made via the Pushpay facility.

Notifications via St Benedicts App

The parish is further developing the facilities available with the

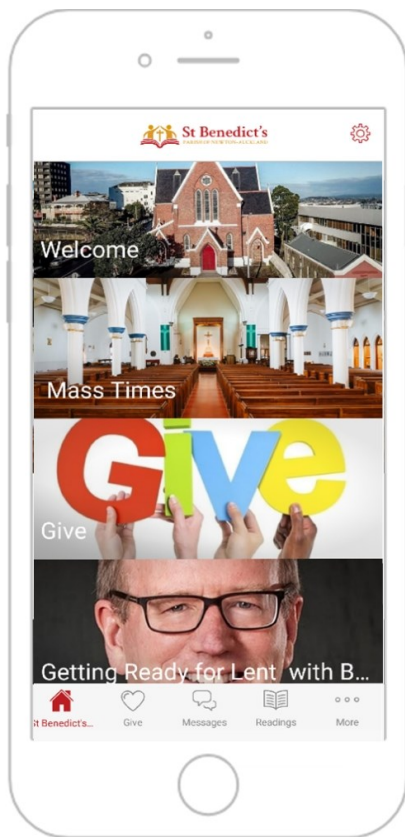
St Benedicts App.

We will soon be able to send messages to our different parish groups such as readers, Communion ministers, musicians, children's liturgy ministers etc. Also different parish communities example Filipinos, Spanish, Tongan, Indonesian etc. These messages will be received on the main screen of your phone.

It is important for successful communication within the parish that as many people as possible have downloaded the App.

Steps to Download

1. Go to Play Store (For Android Mobiles) or App Store (For Apple Mobiles)
2. Type " St Benedicts Auckland " (Font not case sensitive)
3. You can see our App with the St Benedict's logo.
4. Press Install.
Now you have our St Benedict's App.



Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:

Zeena Edgar, Mary Kitson, John Selby-Wootton, Bernice Edwards, Simon Khan, Vic Stoddard, Donald Jenkins, Peter Hindle, Hugh McAllum, Joshua Suisala, Ian McLeish, Annette Jenkins, Margaret Macky, Bridie Abley.

We remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time :

Maria Mercedes Santiano— Laxamana, Deborah Taurao, Phyllis Mitchell, Milisi Lava, Zella Rankin, Andrea Cook, Fr Mathew Brandy, Maree Bonnar

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

Pastor's Note Cond from page 1The Lord's ministering, empowering and comforting presence is always at hand. The Lord will stand by us. God is constantly at work among us and within us. Like Saint Paul we can say, 'I can do all things in him who strengthens me'. Lent is a time for making God supreme in our lives, making him not just a resident but the President of our lives.

Fr George Carlos

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the sick will be available at the 12.10pm Mass on each of the Friday's of Lent.(6th March 2019 —21st April 2019).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday in Lent at 6.30pm at St Benedict's Church

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2019

Children's Sacramental Programme begins on Sunday 17 March at 10.30am (after the 9.30am Mass). Children must be enrolled before the programme begins. Enrolment forms are available from the back of the church or the parish office.

Preparation classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at 10.30am on Sundays 17 March, 24 March, 31 March and 07 April with the children receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 11 April at 7.30pm

The second part of the programme will be the preparation for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. These classes will be held at 10.30am on Sundays 28 April, 05 May, 12 May, 19 May, 26 May and

02 June 2019. The date for the children to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be on Pentecost Sunday 09 June at the 9.30am Mass.

If you have any further queries, please contact the parish office on 09 379 0624 or office@stbenedictsuckland.org.nz

MUSICIANS REQUIRED

We are in need of more musicians particularly for the 5.30pm Mass and the 9.30am Mass. If you are able to play the organ, piano, guitar or appropriate accompaniment and would like to commit to a regular Sunday, please contact the parish office. It is hoped we will have enough musicians so that you would only be rostered once or twice a month at the most. Cantors also welcome.

MINISTER'S REQUIRED FOR 5.30PM MASS

We are very grateful to those people who have put their names forward for our rosters. But we are still in need of a few more readers and communion ministers. If you can help, please contact the parish office on 379 0624 or

office@stbenedictsuckland.org.nz

Greater Fasting Works of Love

40 Days

JESUS spends forty days and forty nights alone in the desert (Luke 4:1-13)

Jesus, lead by the Holy Spirit, tested
... Had own desert experience, hungry
... Feeling lonely, isolated
... Needing strength, faith

Have I been led to a place ending up feeling alone, isolated, in need of strength?
Was I surprised? Angry? At peace? Did I seek and become closer to Jesus?

HUMANITY OF UNBORN Child

Upcoming legislation intends to allow ABORTION UP TO BIRTH—If you're willing to come against this please email ; tonybrenner@hotmail.com for full information.