



**St Benedict's**  
PARISH OF NEWTON-AUCKLAND

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**SATURDAY 6 PM**

**SUNDAY 9.30AM**

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Wednesday - Friday: Mass 12.10pm

### ETHNIC MASS TIMES

**Filipino:** Every Sunday at 11.30am

**Tongan:** 3rd Sunday of the month  
1.30pm

**Indonesian:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month  
1:30pm

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm**

Weekdays at the Cathedral  
11.30am– 12.10pm

### ALSO AT ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

#### **First Friday of the month**

Sacred Heart of Jesus

Rosary at 6.40pm, Novena at 7pm

Mass at 7.30pm-8.30pm

#### **Third Friday of the month**

Holy Child Jesus, Senor Santo Niño

Rosary at 6.40pm, Novena at 7pm

Mass at 7.30pm-8.30pm

#### **Every Wednesday**

Mother of Perpetual Help

Rosary at 6.40pm, Novena at 7pm

Mass at 7.30pm-8.30pm

#### **Saturdays**

Rosary 10am - 20 Decade Rosary

Temporarily moved online

<https://www.facebook.com/20decaderosary>

### BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Contact the Parish Office

Phone: (09) 379 0624

Email: [office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

### ST BENEDICT'S PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 10am—4pm

Contact Details: Phone (09) 379 0624

Email: [office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

Website: [www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](http://www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

### **St Benedict's Administrator**

Father Gilbert Ramos

[frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

### **Parish Office Staff**

Catherine van Veen

[catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

Miranda Wagg

[miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

### CATHOLIC STUDENT CHAPLAIN

Fr Andrew Matthew

[www.actc.net.nz](http://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 are marked reserved for tenant parking and are 24 hour tow away.** These parks are allocated to nearby residents not the Church



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## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ 21 MAY 2023

I still remember the first time I travelled overseas to pursue my vocation. My heart was heavy and yet excited for what I knew was ahead of me. I asked my sister to look after our parents and to make sure they don't feel lonely and neglected. I told mom and dad that I love them so much and that I would regularly check on them. I reminded them to be disciplined in taking their medication. I assured my family that I would be okay and though far away, I would exert more effort to still be present to them. I told them I would be just a phone call away.

The readings for this Sunday point to the bodily Ascension of Jesus. The time came for Jesus to leave His earthly family and friends. I imagine how heavy His heart was leaving them. He must have felt their fears, anxieties and even doubts. But He must be excited, too, to go back to His Father. His mission is accomplished but theirs had just started. He inspired them. He commissioned and empowered them to evangelize. He assured them of His abiding love and presence.

The Ascension of Jesus should awaken our zeal for the mission. We are Jesus' hands and feet reaching out, touching and feeding those who are hungry and thirsty for faith, hope and love. There is an enormous task to realize. The needs just keep on growing. But we have Jesus. He promised to be with us. He is just a prayer away.

This Sunday is also World Communications Day. Pope Francis encourages us "to go and see" and "to listen" as we "speak with the heart." There is so much chaos and misunderstanding in our families and in our world today due to lack of good communication. We have to communicate more clearly the Word of God, His truth and love so that peace and harmony can prosper. Prayer is our greatest tool. A heart that truly prays understands better. In prayer, we train our hearts to listen more to God. In doing so, we see more clearly God's plan for us. This gives us the confidence to go and do what Jesus commands us to do, love.

Fr Gilbert Ramos

## LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

*First Reading* (Acts 1:1-11) This describes the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and his promise to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples.

*Second Reading* (Ephesians 1:17-23) Here Paul describes the meaning of the Ascension: God raised Jesus above all earthly powers, and made him Head of the Church and Lord of Creation.

*Gospel* (Matthew 28:16-20) Jesus commissions the apostles to preach the Gospel to all nations, and promises to remain with them always.

Next Weeks Readings: Acts 1:12-14; 1 Pet 4:13-16; John 17:1-11.

**Free Books:** As a result of the cull of the library the Diocese has a number of books available for collection from Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New Street, Auckland. The books will be available for collection between 9.30am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday until Friday 26 May. More details at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/books/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/books/)

Seminar at Mary MacKillop Centre Chapel Mission Bay **Liturgy for a New Church: the Challenge of Real Participation** Facilitators: Jo Ayers and Fr Neil Darragh, Saturday 17 June; 10am – 2pm, \$30 waged/ \$20 unwaged.  
Registrations: Sr Julian Ph 09 528 1801

Come and join our Christian Life Programme (CLP) and be renewed spiritually. This is run by CFC Singles For Christ at 7pm on Thursday 7 June at St Michael's Parish, Remuera. It is open to all young adults 18-39 years old. Delicious dinner will be provided. To RSVP please contact Shyne 0226321475 or Joven 0275270986

### Monthly Intention and Prayer for May

#### *For Mothers*

All-loving God, we give you thanks for mothers young and old.

We pray for all mothers of every kind.

Those who have loved us and helped shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers and godmothers who are no longer with us, but whose love is in our memory forever.

In all this we ask through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

Resources for families from the Auckland Diocese  
Video clips and activities are updated weekly to follow the liturgical year and enrich the learning experience and enhance understanding for young and old. Open this newsletter in the St Benedict's website or app and follow the links...

Kids Korner: [Seventh Sunday of Easter](#)

Parent Ponderings: [The Brick, Boy and a Wheelchair](#)



## Welcome to St Benedict's

Keep up to date with parish news and download the "St Benedict's Auckland" App from the App store on your mobile device.

**Eucharistic Adoration** every first Friday at St Benedicts from 11am-12pm (followed by mass at 12.10pm).

We are seeking Altar Servers for 9.30am mass.

Full training will be provided by Fr Gilbert.

Please email the office for further information.

We are pleased to announce that the crypt refurbishment is nearing completion. The meeting rooms will be closed for refurbishment from Monday 22 May for at least 3 weeks.

If you have ever thought about becoming a reader at St Benedicts, now is the time! Please email the office to find out how you can join this Ministry.

- Please check the notice boards in the foyer for upcoming events

### Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 2nd June 7:00pm

at St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass,

followed by general blessing of St Faustina's relic.

All Welcome.

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

Alice Swann, Teresa Rajaratnam, Phil Bawden, David Master,  
Jason Oxenham, Rus Quinn, Gladys Borgueta.

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

Ann Maguire, Eileen Plunket, John Belcher, Rohit de Souza, Noreen Cotterall, Fr John Downey OSB (1st Parish Priest of St Benedicts), Teresa Camia, Margaret Maguire, Leon Ngatikao, Fr Burke, John Meehan, Fr Peter Penny, Leo O'Donohue, Henry Redmond, Fr Lyous, Kathleen Tipping, Lucy Hyde, Diana Benjamin, Robin Wheeler, Daniel Lyne, Anne Smith, Eileen McGuinness, Kathleen Judson, Blessie Gotingo, Isabel O'Connor, Kevin O'Donnell, John Meehan, Paul Temm, Francis Smith, Stella Jarka, Mary Shanaghan, James Maher, Mary Lane, Caroline Corian, Helen Nicoll, Bernard Morahan, Ruperto Bembo, Florence Phillips, Catherine Loney, Desmond Maher, Fr Hennessey, Ellen Bates, Sonya Vessey.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**