



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: 4th 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

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 10am—4pm

Contact Details: Phone (09) 379 0624

Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

Website: www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

St Benedict's Administrator

Father Gilbert Ramos

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Parish Office Staff

Catherine van Veen

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Miranda Wagg

miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

CATHOLIC STUDENT CHAPLAIN

Fr Andrew Matthew

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



St Benedict's
PARISH OF NEWTON-AUCKLAND

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 14 MAY 2023

A REASON FOR HOPE – MOTHER'S DAY

"Gimme Hope Jo'anna" was an optimistic song that turned the tide for freedom and hope in South Africa. With 'HOPE' for a better tomorrow, pain and persecution were borne with inner strength. HOPE gave birth to freedom. Apartheid was finally uprooted.

The readings of today are on 'Christian Hope'. Amid persecution and prolonged agony, HOPE is often the first casualty! The early Christian community was rocked by brutal persecution. They were prime candidates for martyrdom. The second reading from 1Peter 3:15-18 invited the Christians to shame the persecutors by giving them the 'reason for their hope'.

HOPE is one of the theological virtues together with Faith and Charity. HOPE is often symbolized by an 'anchor'. HOPE places our trust in Christ's promises rather than on our own strengths. HOPE cannot be equated to mere 'wishful thinking'. While 'wishful thinking' is limitless desire and abstract, HOPE is grounded in reality and life. But HOPE needs help! Without help, HOPE remains an orphan – abandoned in the nursery of a wishful mind.

The imminent departure of Jesus was a cause of concern. Jesus did not want to leave his disciples behind in a situation of HOPELESSNESS. Jesus promised them help. He promised them the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who would be with them forever. Without the help of the Holy Spirit the disciples would be lost and fragile amid persecution. Empowered with the Holy Spirit and rooted in HOPE, the disciples faced the future with a power that was bigger than themselves.

Jesus thought of you and me too. He promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to fund your HOPE so that, in times of trouble and challenges, you would be grounded rather in reality than in mere wishful thinking. Relying on your own strengths and resources, you will soon fall into the crisis of hopelessness. We think we know it all and can do it all. But in fact, if we are truly honest with ourselves, we realise that we are only riding on a roller-coaster that leads to a place called 'self-destruction'. And then, sadly, we blame God.

Today as Christians, you too are caught up in a world that does not know Christ nor the gift of the Holy Spirit. You are Christ's disciple today. You too have been empowered with the Holy Spirit. You are Spirit-filled and Spirit-led into a helpless world that does not know Christ. The only way that persecutors and onlookers will get a glimpse of Christ, His Gospel and the Holy Spirit is through your courage and HOPE in remaining steadfast in witness.

Today is Mother's Day. All mothers are HOPE-filled and SPIRIT-filled too. Like Mary, the mother of Jesus, all mothers share in the sacred ministry of nurturing their children and families in Christian faith, hope and love. "But those who hope in the Lord, will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint" (Is 40:31). With Christ, all mothers too are a 'reason for hope'! Hopelessness will be uprooted.

Fr Glenford Lowe

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading (Acts 8:5-8,14-17) We learn about the joy and enthusiasm with which the Samaritans received the Gospel.

Second Reading (1 Pet 3:15-18) Peter encourages Christians to remain steadfast under pressure in their attachment to Christ.

Gospel (Jn 14:15-21) To love Christ is to listen to his words and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to put them into practice in our lives.

Next Weeks Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Executive Secretary of the Justice & Peace Commission The Diocese seeks an enthusiastic committed person to work as Executive Secretary of the Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission to promote, encourage and support justice and peace initiatives in the Diocese. The position is full time, with some flexibility around this. For full details and requirements please visit the Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz, under Diocesan Services and Staff vacancies. Applications close 5pm Wednesday 24 May 2023.

University Ministry Coordinator – Catholic Diocese of Auckland Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who can be the driving force behind a new project? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time University Ministry Coordinator. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. For more information, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

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: [BEING A MOTHER](#)

Parent Ponderings: [SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER](#)



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).

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

Introducing Fr Gilbert Ramos, the new administrator of St Benedicts Parish and the Filipino Chaplain.

Welcome Fr Gilbert!

Born on 14 August 1979, Philippines

Arrived in New Zealand 4 February 2007

Ordained Deacon on 9 February 2008

Ordained Priest on 14 June 2008

Previous parish appointments:

St Michael's Parish, Remuera 2007-2008

St Francis of Assisi. Parish, Thames 2008

Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph -2008-2010

Good Shepherd Parish, Balmoral - 2010-2012

Holy Cross, Papatoetoe- 2012-2013

St John the Baptist Parish, Mairangi Bay and

St Francis de Sales Parish, Torbay - 2013-2017

St Dominic's Parish, Blockhouse Bay and Filipino

Chaplaincy - 2017-2020

St Anthony's Parish, Waiuku and St Andrew's Parish, Tuakau -2020-2023



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:**

Chris Toye, Robina Reardon, George Peculaitis, Clodagh McSwiney, Iris Macedo,
Sr Marie Pollard, Brian McNeil, Katie Master.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord