

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 5.00pm - 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 6.15pm, Novena at 6.45pm
Mass at 7.15pm

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 Thursday 10am—4pm
Friday 10am—3pm
Contact Details: Phone (09) 379 0624
Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz
Website: www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

St Benedict's Parish Priest

Father Gilbert Ramos
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Parish Office Staff

Catherine van Veen
catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

Miranda Wagg

miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

CATHOLIC STUDENT CHAPLAIN

Email: thechaplains@cda.org.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

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 18 FEBRUARY 2024

Each year, as Lent begins, we hear of Jesus heading out into the wilderness to fast and pray, and there encountering the Devil, who tempts him. Before we rush to the great spiritual battle that concludes the story it is good to consider the setting.

The wilderness was often shown in the scriptures as a testing place; a place where the lack of everyday things forced people to consider the “big picture.” But going back to the beginning, literally, the wilderness was where Adam and Eve went after leaving Eden. The place where life was hard, what they needed was gathered by the sweat of Adam's brow and Eve's experiences were full of discomfort. It is into that reality that Jesus goes, and it is not surprising therefore that there he meets the cause of that situation, the one who tempted Adam and Eve to turn away from the Lord. And the temptations that Jesus faces aren't something new and startling.

Which is not surprising. Evil cannot do anything new. If you look over the great sweep of history there is a dreadful sameness about what is wrong. Again and again the same faults, the same horrors. The prizing of material things and worldly power – those temptations that Satan tries on Jesus - leading to violence and abuse.

So the wilderness where Jesus is tempted is not just a random place, it is in fact the place to which the things that Satan offers lead. The question that is put to us at the start of each Lent therefore is: Do you want this, or do you want something more?

Hopefully, in the full meaning of that word, we want something more. Lent is a time for us to think about what we really want. Just as the things we give us for Lent tend to reveal to us our deeper needs, so the period of forty days as a whole can be an opportunity for us to step away from the busyness of our ordinary lives, in which all the things we do for work or leisure, all the routines we have in place, often distract us from facing what is really important in life.

That busyness stops us seeing both the deeper temptations we face to give in to patterns and habits of sin that damage us and damage those around us, and the deeper hunger we have for the life Christ offers to us and which can really make us free. So, we might pray that this Lent will help to make our choices clearer to us, that we might choose, not the wilderness of want and hard labour, but the joy that God has willed for us from the beginning.

Fr Chris Denham

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading (Gen 9:8-15) This tells of the friendship-agreement (covenant) which God established with Noah and his descendants after the Flood.

Second Reading (1 Pet 3:18-22) The waters of the Flood of Noah's time were a type of the waters of baptism by which we were saved.

Gospel (Mk 1:12-15) After his baptism Jesus spent forty days in the desert, during which time he was tempted by Satan.

Next weeks readings: Gen 22:1-2.9-13.15-18, Rom 8:31-34, Mk 9:2-10.

St Mark's Lenten Companion Booklet 2024

A booklet of inspiring and contemplative reflections to guide you through your Lenten journey this year; including Gospel reflections for Ash Wednesday, the Sundays of Lent, and Easter Sunday; a conversation with the Emeritus Bishop of Auckland, an examination of conscience, and reflections on the Seven Last Words. \$10 per copy, available to order now.

If you are interested in placing an order, please contact us: liturgycentre@cda.org.nz

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 1st March 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

St Mary's College Past Pupils Assoc. Ponsonby is hosting a Cocktail Party on St Mary's Staff Room Deck overlooking the Harbour. The event will take place on Thursday March 14th 6pm - 8pm, Tickets \$50.

Contact Pat Goddard at patgoddard@xtra.co.nz for information and tickets.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT CAR PARKING

The parish office has received a number of complaints from neighbours about visitors to St Benedicts parking illegally. In some cases even blocking the neighbours cars in.

Please only park in spaces allocated to the church (see over page)

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: [Click here](#)

Parent Ponderings: [Click here](#)



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.

St Benedicts has the following options for planned giving and donations to our Parish:

- Collection at Sunday Mass
- Automatic bank payment
- St Benedicts App
- Tap and Go

Our new bank account number is 02 0108 0706611 000

If you need assistance or require more information, please contact the parish office on 09 379 0624

Reconciliation Rite I is available before Mass on Saturday evenings from 5pm-5.45pm.

Coming up at St Benedict's:

Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm
Every Friday during Lent

All are welcome to morning tea in the crypt every week after 9.30am mass.

Please check the notice boards in the foyer for upcoming events

February Prayer for the terminally ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

Alice Swann, Teresa Rajaratnam, Phil Bawden, David Master, Rus Quinn, Gladys Borgueta, Margie Newman, Jason Oxenham, Judi Oxenham, Mary Jacobson.

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

Ernest Bannister, Veronica Gye, Michael Ramsey, Thomas Scannell, Basil Weatherill, June McCabe, Rodger Batucan, Jutau Lutera, Kyra Cole, Peter Considine, Mary Maguire, Lindsay Gillniven, John Mitchell, Julia Tipping, James Tipping, Herbert Tipping, Ward Tipping, Edward Barry, Edith O'Brien, Evelyn Considine, Keith Gower, William Kemble, Jean Spelman, Agnes Kennedy, Caitlin Rajwer, Beatrice Johnson, Metui Latu.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord