

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 4 FEBRUARY 2024

“WHY ME?” – Sickness and Suffering

The story of Job is a man caught between deep faith and suffering. Though upright and blameless, he is tested to the extreme. He loses his family, friends, and fortune. Amid these series of disasters, he never gives up his faith. He defies all odds with these words, “The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” We often ask, “Is this the way God treats those who keep the faith?” “Why is Job chosen to be a victim of pain, suffering, loss and sickness?” The most difficult question to answer is, “Why me?”

Jesus was a man on the move. He was always on the ‘other side’ – encountering people in their hunger, sickness, pain, bereavement, hurt and sinfulness. Amid all the tragedies of life, Jesus never got caught in this eternal quest, “Why suffering? Or Why me?” Jesus with the heart of a shepherd reached out to carry the wounded, to bring back the stray and to heal those most in need. Jesus gave hope to them all. The ministry of Jesus was not just about preaching and teaching. Healing was very much part of Jesus’ ministry. The Gospel of today is about a regular day in the life of Jesus. Pray and healing go hand in hand. Jesus begins and ends his day with an intimate ‘Abba’ prayer moment. And in between these prayer moments numerous miracles took place. The gospel today presents us with the miraculous and instant healing of Peter’s mother-in-law, those possessed with demons, and those inflicted by various diseases.

Jesus came to bring life and life in all its abundance. Sickness and suffering were often seen as a curse from God. But Jesus turned the tide and proclaimed that we are all loved by God in our weakness, suffering, frailty, and sickness. No one who ever came to Jesus was ever left unaided. A simple gesture of a touch, a word of rebuke to the demons, or an appreciation of one’s faith were sufficient to bring total healing. The ministry of Jesus’ healing continues today in full measure too. All it takes is to approach Jesus the healer with faith and hope. We too are called to participate in the healing ministry of Jesus. We see it so tangibly in the witness of numerous doctors and nurses, hospital chaplains and healers. Faith and medication are twin sisters in the ministry of healing. Jesus is at work healing you both spiritually and physically. Rather than dwelling hopelessly on the question, “Why me?”, its prudent to trust in Jesus who can make you whole again! You too are a miracle waiting to happen.

Fr Glenford Lowe

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
frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Job 7:1-4.6-7) Wrestling with the problem of why the innocent should suffer, Job takes a rather pessimistic view of life.

Second Reading (1 Cor 9:16-19.22-23) St Paul tells how he has made himself all things to all people in order to bring them the Good News of Salvation.

Gospel (Mk 1:29-39) In the midst of his work of teaching and healing, Jesus finds it necessary to escape to a lonely place to pray.

Next weeks readings: Lev 13:1-2.45-46, 1 Cor 10:31-11:1, Mk 1:40-45.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

WAITANGI DAY 2024 MIHA All are welcome to celebration of Mass in Te Reo Māori and English to pray for our nation as we acknowledge the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in 1840. Miha (Mass) will be celebrated at Whaiora Marae, 14 Ōtara Road, Ōtara beginning with a Pōwhiri at 8.30am on Tuesday 6th February 2024. Following Mass there will be refreshments and a talk on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. For more information email ManuelB@cda.org.nz

Year of Prayer Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Resources are available on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/year-of-prayer/> and will be updated regularly particularly as resources become available through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY Tuesday 13 February. Tuesday 13 February is World Marriage Day. In his 2023 apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis says: "Marriage based on an exclusive and definitive love becomes an icon of the relationship between God and his people and vice versa. God's way of loving becomes the measure of human love.

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.

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.

We have great pleasure in announcing that Fr Gilbert Ramos is our new Parish Priest at St Benedicts following the confirmed appointment from Bishop Steve.
We (officially) warmly welcome Fr Gilbert and God bless!

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

Catherine Van Veen wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to all who have sent cards and messages following the passing of her husband Tony.
Your kindness and support is appreciated.

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: Tony Van Veen and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

John Sealy, Paul Andermatt, Bishop Gerard Luft, Marina Valero, Robert Frangetti-Amos, Evan Pattillo, Colleen Reardon, Losa Auva'a, Madeline Pickering, Elizabeth Dome, Sadie Adams, Mary O'Shannassey, Mabel Jackson, Daphne Yin, Dorothy Wakim, Bob Cotterall, Nonie Kiely, Esparanza Lopez, Edna Mercer, Fesola'l Lavea, Bonnie Martin, Terry D'Souza, Joaquin Barretto, Michael Maher, Ama Tawiah,

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord