

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
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

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 11 FEBRUARY 2024

In today's Gospel we read a profoundly moving encounter between Jesus and a leper. This narrative is not just a testament to Jesus' miraculous power to heal physical ailments but also a profound insight into His deep understanding of human suffering and His approach to healing that goes beyond the physical.

In the reading we witness a leper approaching Jesus, imploring Him for healing. Leprosy in biblical times was not just a physical ailment; it was laden with social and spiritual implications. Lepers were not only shunned by their communities but were also seen as bearers of divine punishment for sin. This man's illness was a source of profound physical suffering, social isolation, and spiritual despair. The heartbreak accompanying this disease was immense, as it severed individuals from their communities and made them subjects of scorn and fear. Jesus' reaction to the leper is deeply telling. He is moved with compassion, understanding the full spectrum of the man's suffering. This compassion is not just for the physical ailment but for the profound emotional and spiritual pain that comes from being ostracized and labelled as cursed by God. Jesus' response is holistic – He sees the leper not just as a sick body but as a whole person, crushed under the weight of illness, social rejection, and spiritual anguish. By reaching out and touching the leper, Jesus does something revolutionary and deeply symbolic. In that society, touching a leper was unthinkable; it rendered one ceremonially unclean. Yet, Jesus' touch was a powerful statement – He was willing to share in the leper's social and spiritual alienation to restore him. This action was a radical message of inclusion and acceptance. Jesus was not only healing the man's physical leprosy but was also restoring his dignity, his sense of belonging, and his spiritual well-being. When Jesus commands, "be clean," it is more than a physical healing. It is a restoration of the man's total identity – his social, emotional, and spiritual life. Jesus gives back to the man what his condition had stolen – his humanity, his place in the community, and his relationship with God. The healing is comprehensive, addressing the deep-seated feelings of being despised and rejected, not just by society but also seemingly by God.

This passage is a vivid reminder that Jesus' ministry was deeply rooted in compassion and radical inclusion. It challenges us to see beyond the surface, to understand the complex nature of suffering, and to approach others with the same depth of compassion and bold love that Jesus demonstrated.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Lev 13:1-2,45-46) Lepers were considered ritually unclean and were compelled to live apart from the community.

Second Reading (1 Cor 10:31-11:1) St Paul urges us never to do anything offensive to anyone but to do everything for the glory of God.

Gospel (Mk 1:40-45) This tells of the cure of a leper by Jesus.

Next weeks readings: Gen 9:8-15, 1 Pet 3:18-22, Mk 1:12-15.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Would you like to know what happened at the Synod in October? Everyone is invited to join one of the two evening Zooms to hear Auckland Vicar for Māori Manuel Beazley, St Joseph's Levin parish Priest Fr Dennis Nacorda and Archbishop of Wellington Paul Martin, SM.

The three were part of the wider Oceania group from Australia and the Pacific who participated in the first session of the Holy Father's Synod on Synodality in Rome. Their shared experiences are very topical because we will all be preparing over the coming months for the Second Assembly of the Synod in October this year.

Register now to attend one of these special one-hour Zoom sessions:

Tuesday 13 February 7:30pm. Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/yc8c2s28>

Thursday 15 February 7:30pm. Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/4e2hnf9p>

Lent at St Michael's In the lead up to Lent, St Michael's RE Committee invites you to a programme of five weekly talks by Fr Merv Duffy. This unique series is designed to enrich our understanding of Lent, deepen our faith, as well as explore the mysteries and significance of the Eucharist during this sacred season. This programme will be presented on Tuesday evenings at St Michael's beginning Tuesday 20 February 7.00pm – 8.00pm. Register at St Michael's website <https://www.remueracatholic.org.nz/lenten-programme>



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:

13 February - Shrove Tuesday Mass at 7pm

14 February - Ash Wednesday Mass at 12.10pm and 7pm.

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: Sharon Sze Long Lee and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Fr Charlie Murray, Elizabeth Connolly, John Foley, Olive McGrath, Joseph O'Keeffe, Muelin D'Silva, Cecil Gallagher, Leo Creedin, Patrick Connolly, Elizabeth O'Driscoll, Iese Henry, Cecilia Navera, Rosa de Egusquiza, Fr John Flanagan, George Slade Kika Adams, Ernest Price, Fr Clement Evans, Raymond Straka, Anita Geraghty, Ivan Mirko, Amy Young, Laura Smith, Clara Adato.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord