

**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 5.00pm - 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)  
Website: [www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](http://www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

**St Benedict's Parish Priest**

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**

Email: [thechaplains@cda.org.nz](mailto: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

**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 17 MARCH 2024**

John 11:35 is famously the shortest verse in the entire bible. Whether in the original Greek, Latin, or in English, it is only two words, in English: "Jesus wept." Powerful words, but also intriguing. Why does Jesus weep as he contemplates the grave of his friend, when he knows what he is about to do? Lazarus will be raised, why the need for tears?

But that is the point. This is the "raising" of Lazarus, not his "resurrection." They are two different things. After he was raised, Lazarus died again. This raising was returning Lazarus to everyday life not to the life of glory in heaven. He would experience pain and suffering, as a follower of Jesus. Indeed his second death would be not by disease but by murder as those who sought the death of Jesus sought also to remove the evidence of his miracles. That the evidence of raising someone from the dead would produce, not joy and praise of God, but evil plans and murder was good enough reason to weep.

Which leads to the question: Why would Jesus do such a thing to Lazarus? The answer is surely for love, but not just love of Lazarus. It was surely for the sake of Martha and Mary that Lazarus was raised from the dead. Jesus was restoring Lazarus to his close family and to his friends. That reunion was an undoubted good. And a reminder that our joy and happiness are not just for and about ourselves.

Love given and received is the heart of our true life. That is why Lazarus returned. In death Lazarus heard a divine command and he recognized in that voice the voice of a close friend. Jesus was not simply reanimating a corpse. He was doing something much more significant than that! He was showing that love of others, especially family and friends, is the core of our joy. And since family and friends await us also in the life to come, death is no longer something to fear for God's purpose must lie in reunion.

Sometimes the world around us seems quite chaotic but there is nothing more chaotic than our own death and dissolution. But if we believe that God has created us for a purpose then historical events only matter in so far as they affect the way that we respond to God. It matters that people are being born and that people are dying; it matters even more whether people are being born to a new life in Christ or have yet to respond to His commandment to emerge from our spiritual graves. It matters whether they are making their greatest desire and goal love, fellowship, and unity, or separation and despair.

Fr Chris Denham

## LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

*First Reading* (Jer 31:31-34) The prophet Jeremiah tells a shattered people that God has not forsaken them, but will soon make a new and more intimate covenant with them.

*Second Reading* (Heb 5:7-9) Through his obedience and suffering Christ became the source of eternal life for us.

*Gospel* (Jn 12:20-33) In his death Jesus will be glorified and this will bring life to those who follow him.

Next weeks readings: Mk 11:1-10, Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Mk 14:1-15:47.

Divine Mercy Feast here at St Benedict's Parish Sunday 7th April 5:30pm. Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. **You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed.** Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day."

Framed Divine Mercy Images are available to purchase from the parish office. Only \$20 each. Three different images to choose from with option of black or white frame. Please contact Miranda in the parish office for further information [miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz) or (09)3790624

### March Prayer for New Martyrs

Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.  
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](#)

Training session for Children's Sacramental Programme Catechists  
**Wednesday 3 April 6pm – 7.30pm**  
Crypt or meeting room, depending on numbers. For anyone interested in being a part of this ministry. No cost, but please register with the office.  
Phone 09 379 0624 or email [office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

### 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:

John Monaghan, John Belcher, Nick Rooney, Dorothy O'Brien, Julia Counihan, Charles Davis, William Duffey, Fr F.X. Brown OP, Lam Man Ying, Michael Nash, Lena Lambert, Mary White, Michael McNamara, Giovanni Rigoni, Francis Connolly, Lawrence Linehan, Malae Peleti, Terry O'Sullivan, Emma Maguire, Violet Whyte-Hille, Ross Burton-Bradley, Arthur Beatram, Aileen Markey, Nora Beveridge, Joseph Auva'a, Julia Roden, Margaret McCormick, Michael Benson, Katie Matijasevich.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**

## 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.

### Lent and Holy Week at St Benedict's:

Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm every Friday during Lent

Mass for St Joseph at 12.10pm on Tuesday 19 March

Rite II at 6.30pm on Thursday 21 March

Palm Sunday 24th March

Parish Mass at 9.30am with blessing of palms outside 10 minutes before mass (weather permitting).

Filipino Mass at 11.30am

Holy Thursday 28th March. Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm  
The Altar of Repose will be open until 10.30pm

Good Friday 29th March. Stations of the Cross at 10.30am  
Reflection on the Seven Last Words at 1.30pm  
The Passion of Our Lord Liturgy at 3pm

Holy Saturday 30th March  
Easter Vigil Mass at 8.00pm

The Resurrection of the Lord Easter Sunday 31st March  
Parish Mass at 9.30am and Filipino Mass at 11.30am

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.

\*\*\*Remember to park in the spaces available for public use only\*\*\*