

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**SATURDAY 6 PM**  
**SUNDAY 9.30AM**

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD ~ 31 MARCH 2024**

LOVE CONQUERS ALL: The Resurrection

The death of a loved one is always an unspeakable loss. Suddenly, everything changes. The inevitable absence of a loved one tells a story of pain, tears, and emptiness. The grieving period can take years to accept the loss and to let go. One thing is sure, and that is, we will never see the loved one face to face alive again. Easter is different!

Mary of Magdala was in for a total surprise. Early, on the first day of the week, she runs to the tomb of Jesus. Her expectation of a 'rendezvous with death' turns to sorrow as she notices the stone has been rolled away. Her only conclusion is that the body of Jesus has been stolen. She cannot keep quiet. Peter and John had to be informed.

Now begins the first Easter morning jog! Three disciples on a race to witness the greatest act of the Father's response to the Cross. Peter represents the icon of the 'primacy of authority', John the Beloved represents the icon of the 'primacy of love' and Mary of Magdala represents the icon of the 'primacy of witness'. First things First – it is dark, the tomb is empty, and the burial clothes are well folded. But where is the body of Jesus? John the Beloved gets it first. He believes. Jesus is alive! We celebrate Easter – the truth of the resurrection is God's liberating love for Jesus his well-beloved Son. The Cross was not the end, the tomb was not his final resting place. The Resurrection is a strong reminder of the Father's response to the violence, passion and Cross of Jesus. The Father had the final word and victory over death was the Father's response to the Cross.

If the life, ministry, passion and death of Jesus is deeply rooted in history, then his resurrection is also deeply rooted in history. The witness of Mary of Magdala was not a hysterical invention. She is the first in a long chain of witnesses who proclaimed that Jesus was truly alive. The Roman Empire and the Jewish Temple authorities could do nothing to counter these witnesses. The prophecies of old and of Jesus himself are revealed on that Easter morning. He is the 'grain of wheat' come alive, the 'temple destroyed' and rebuilt in three days! He is the 'sign' greater than Jonah. He is the 'Resurrection and the Life'.

We too believe that God will extend that same graciousness to us all and that we too will participate in Jesus' resurrection on the last day. Jesus extends the same home-coming invitation to all of us. Death has no more power over us. We are an 'Easter' people and 'Alleluia' is our song.

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:** 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  
[rgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:rgilbert@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

## LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ EASTER SUNDAY

*First Reading* (Acts 10:34-37-43) This is part of an early sermon of Peter.

*Second Reading* (Col 3:1-4) Through our Baptism we already share in the risen life of Christ, though in a hidden and mysterious way.

*Gospel* (Jn 20:1-9) On discovering that Jesus' tomb is empty, the disciples begin to grasp what the scriptures had foretold, namely, that he would rise from the dead.

Next weeks readings: Acts 4:32-35, 1 Jn 5:1-6, Jn 20:19-31.

*For Sunday /weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://mobilegabriel.com)*



**CHRIST THE LORD  
IS RISEN TODAY!**

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@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz](mailto:office@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz)

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@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz](mailto:miranda@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz) or (09)3790624

## 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.

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\*\*\*

## April Prayer for the Role of Women

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination women face in various parts of the world.

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:**

Nellie Tobin, Henry Wilson, Elsie Bryant, Max Turner, Valerie Wells, Thomas Cotter, Eva Goodwin, Marie Bryer, Robert Wilson, Jacob Peregaddan, Francis Simmons, Hazel Bish, Joseph Straka, Margaret Ussher, Hendrika Draaijer, Pa Henare Tate, Lily Casey, Robert Cochrane, Myrtle Hutton, Henry Ussher, Maurice Taylor, Ben Swann Snr, Daniel Riordan, Valerie Wells, Jean Kronfeld, Michael Clarkin, Toma Latu, John Lynch, Alexious Jones, Adelaide Fitzpatrick, Andrew Sullivan, Ole Lelisi, Annie Monk, Jean Slater, Helen McCoy, Dorothy Lewis, George Thomas.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**