

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER~ 14 APRIL 2024

Today's Gospel shows the first disciples having difficulties and doubts about the Resurrection. Is it real, did it really happen, or is it an illusion, are we misinterpreting the evidence?

The English theologian, Aidan Nichols points out that traditionally, the Church has distinguished between difficulties and doubts. According to St John Henry Newman, 'Ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt'. As reasoning people, we naturally apply our minds to our religion, including to what happened after the Crucifixion. There are difficulties here – about the sources, about the agreement of the witnesses, about the possibility of miracles even. We all encounter these difficulties, which are not impossible, and through them we grow into a more informed and intelligent faith. Doubt is more radical. Doubt is wondering whether religious terms have any reference to reality at all. 'God', 'Christ', 'The Resurrection', 'The Holy Spirit', 'grace' – are those realities or is it all a game? Curiously, this kind of radical doubt is mentioned by both St Luke and St Matthew in connexion with the Resurrection appearances. With the risen Christ before their very eyes, some doubted. In today's Gospel, Christ has an answer why: fear and anxiety. 'Why are you so agitated?' 'Why are these doubts arising in your hearts?' 'Your hearts', notice, not 'your minds'. Something is wrong with their sensibility, with their passions, their emotions, and this is what is doing the damage to their judgment. This is what is causing doubt.

We can find those causes in our experience of the material world. If we are, in some way, fearful of reality in its richness and depth, we tend to clam up. We shut out the unexpected, which could be uncomfortable. We like to have things taped. We feel secure and unchallenged that way. Predictability is a comfort zone. A new reality requires a new us, and even in unhappiness we don't always welcome change. This is strange but true. 'Human kind', wrote T. S. Eliot, 'cannot bear too much reality', or, perhaps even, too varied a diet of it.

So, then: to accept the risen Christ, which means, among other things, to accept a new and different reality, and also to accept that we are going to be in some manner changed by him and have our lives interfered with. Which can be scary. But that is why Jesus's first words are: 'Peace be with you!' As he said throughout his ministry. 'Why are you afraid?' 'You believe in God, believe also in me.'

This Eastertide calls us to put aside fear, of change, of the new and unfamiliar. To seek something new that may transform our lives. To accept that how we are now is not the best that we can or should be. To allow our hearts to be changed by the true reality of the Risen Lord. And perhaps to ask the Lord to open our minds as he did those of the disciples, so that we can be his witnesses, even to the ends of the Earth.

Fr Chris Denham

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 ~ 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading (Acts 3:13-15,17-19) This reading is an early explanation of the Passion and an example of the early witness to the resurrection.

Second Reading (1 Jn 2:1-5) We show that we know God by keeping his commandments. But when we fail, Christ intercedes for us with the Father.

Gospel (Lk 24:35-48) Jesus appears to the apostles, and commissions them to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Next weeks readings: Acts 4:8-12, 1 Jn 3:1-2, Jn 10:11-18.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

REGINA COELI

Priest: Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia:

All. For He whom you merited to bear, alleluia.

Priest: Has risen, as He said, alleluia.

All. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Priest: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

All. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Priest: Let us pray:

O God, who through the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ gave rejoicing to the world. Grant, we pray, that through His Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same 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](#)

Wilson's Parking Issue

A number of parishioners have received parking tickets for parking in the Wilson's carpark during the time when it is free for visitors to St Benedict's.

Evidently Wilson's have updated their system which has caused a communications glitch. We are very sorry for the stress and inconvenience this has caused. If you have received a ticket for parking during the free parking hours (12pm Saturday to late Sunday evening) or over Easter, please DO NOT PAY. Forward a copy of your ticket to catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz and Catherine will arrange for your ticket to be cancelled.

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 Benedict's has the following options for planned giving and donations to our Parish:

- Collection at Sunday Mass • Automatic bank payment
- St Benedict's 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:

Mary Ellen & Michael Carroll, May Craney, Nelly Simister, T.P. Monaghan, Dolly Turner, Bunny Hotene, Jimmy Petricevich, John Treacy, Madeleine Tocher, Brian Galvin, Antonia Macedo, Katalina Cservik, James Herbert, Maud Manley, Alice Keaney, Peter Moran, Mary Foy, John McEvay, John Brown, Ella Smith, Geoff Harris, John Woods, Ardimore Vakalahi, Asita Latu, Rodney Butterworth, Noreen Shanahan, Mary Rajaratnam, Nora Garner, Fr Pat Littlewood, Timothy Counihan, John Bupton, Lorna Long, Sheila Murnane, Clare Bennett.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord