

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

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER~ 28 APRIL 2024

Being Fruitful is Fun

All through the Easter season, we have reflected on the 'I AM' statements of Jesus. The person of Jesus is manifested not by the *'leadership of titles'* but by the *'leadership of images'*. Jesus spoke of himself in images/metaphors as the 'Bread of Life' (Jn 6:35), the 'Light of the World' (Jn 8:12), the 'Door' (Jn 10:9), the 'Good Shepherd' (Jn 10:11,14), the 'Resurrection and the Life' (Jn 11:25), the "Way, the Truth and the Life" (Jn 14:6) and finally, today's Gospel is on the 'Vine' (Jn 15:1,5).

In the Old Testament, Psalm 80 is a communal prayer to God to 'visit this vine and protect it'. Israel was represented as the 'vine' planted by God's right hand. But, with the people turning against the covenant, its walls were broken down! This 'vine' was destroyed and trampled upon. In Isaiah 5:1-7, often referred to as the 'song of the vineyard', once again brings in the theme of God's relationship with Israel and Judah.

Jesus reinstates and heals this relationship in the Gospel of today, "I am the Vine, and you are the branches". The key to this relationship is the invitation to 'abide in Me'. You and I are God's chosen and appointed ones to be fruit-bearers! With Jesus we bear 'fruit that will last'. United to 'Jesus the Vine' our fruit-bearing becomes fun! "These things I have spoken to you, that My JOY may remain in you and that JOY may be full" (Jn 15:11). Apart from Jesus, we are fruitless, we wither and are thrown into the fire. Jesus calls us into an active fruit-bearing partnership.

But there is a flip side to fruit-bearing. God is also the 'Vinedresser' who owns us and cares for us. Bearing much fruit is not devoid of pain! Discipleship comes with a cost. God is also an active 'pruner'. He prunes anything that hinders our growth and usefulness. He trims our weaknesses and stifling tendencies. Pruning is an opportune moment, and every gardener knows it. Pruning doesn't stifle it, it enhances growth.

A disciple who is 'pruned' by the master Vinedresser, can lovingly obey God's commandments. Pruned disciples are given a new identity. We are called 'Friends' and no longer 'servants'. This human-divine partnership is not an empty promise. "No greater love than one lay down his life for his friends". Jesus laid down his life for friends like you and me. God promises to give us all that we ask of Him. He created us to glorify Him with bearing lasting fruit.

Our only desire then is to obey God, to remain in His love, to receive from Him and to produce lasting fruit. Truly, with Jesus, Fruitfulness is Fun!

Fr Glenn Lowe

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading (Acts 9:26-31) This tells us about some of the trials Paul endured after his conversion.

Second Reading (1 Jn 3:18-24) Here John is reflecting on Christ's commandment of love.

Gospel (Jn 15:1-8) Jesus uses the image of a vine and its branches to illustrate how close are the ties that bind him to his disciples.

Next weeks readings: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48, 1 Jn 4:7-10, Jn 15:9-17.

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.

Ave Maria A night of prayer, music and reflection in honour of our Blessed Mother. Sunday 5th May at 7pm, St Michael's Catholic Church, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera. All welcome.

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.

Wilson's Parking Issue

A number of parishioners have received parking tickets for parking in the Wilsons carpark during the time when it is free for visitors to St Benedicts. Evidently Wilsons have updated their system which has caused a communications glitch.

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@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz and Catherine will arrange for your ticket to be cancelled.

PLEASE NOTE THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE TOURNAMENT PARKING TICKETS. St Benedicts Church DOES NOT have a parking arrangement with Tournament.

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

- Eucharistic Adoration this Friday 3 May at St Benedicts from 11am-12pm (followed by mass at 12.10pm).

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](#)

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 Borqueta, Margie Newman, Jason Oxenham, Judi Oxenham, Mary Jacobson.

We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Johanna Fitzwilliam, Rose Casey, Cornelius Mullins, Mavis Bendall, Liam Cogan, Desmond O'Brien, Winifred Proctor, Leavina Hopkins, Gladys Lineen, Br Albert Smith O.P., Ann Clayton, Alice Cobourne, John Herbridge, Fr Albert Fogarty O.P., Dorothy Legg, Patricia Huges, Laupama Paleti, Arthur Green, Arthur Insley, Nellie Nola, Laurence Ryan, William Murphy, Ermine Temperman, Jo Numa, Fred Smith, Fr Philip Purcell, Rita McMillan, Tanisha Gallahar-Ikitule, Fr Bernard Larkin O.P., John Walsh, Veneranda Fernandez.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord