

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
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Parish Office Staff

Catherine van Veen
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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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 1 SEPTEMBER 2024

Mark's Gospel provides a significant insight into Jesus' teachings on true purity and the nature of genuine religion. This passage emphasizes that the mere keeping of external laws does not lead to God; rather, a heart truly converted and aligned with God's will is essential to follow the way of Jesus.

In verses 1-8, Jesus confronts the Pharisees and scribes, who criticize His disciples for not following traditional ceremonial washings. Jesus responds by quoting Isaiah, pointing out the hypocrisy of those who honour God with their lips while their hearts are far from Him. He condemns their legalism, emphasizing that their worship is in vain because they have replaced God's commandments with human traditions. This critique is not just about the specific tradition of handwashing, but a broader indictment of a religious mindset that prioritizes external rituals over inner transformation.

Jesus' challenge to the Pharisees underscores a critical point: adherence to external laws and rituals, in and of itself, does not bring one closer to God. Instead, what God desires is a heart that is genuinely committed to His ways. This calls for an internal conversion—a transformation that goes beyond outward compliance to the laws and touches the very core of a person's being.

In verses 14-15, Jesus further clarifies His message to the crowd. He declares, "Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." This radical statement overturns the prevailing Jewish purity laws that focused on external sources of impurity. Jesus shifts the focus from external observances to the internal moral and spiritual state of an individual. True defilement, according to Jesus, arises from within a person, from the evil intentions and actions that emanate from the heart.

In verses 21-23 Jesus highlights that the root of moral corruption is internal, and thus, true purity requires a transformation of the heart.

This passage strongly advocates for a religion of the heart rather than one that is legalistic. Jesus favours a faith that is characterized by inner purity and moral integrity over one that is merely concerned with external observance of rules. The keeping of external laws, while not inherently wrong, becomes meaningless if it is not accompanied by a genuine conversion of the heart. Jesus calls His followers to go beyond superficial religiosity and embrace a deeper, more authentic spirituality that transforms their inner selves and, consequently, their actions.

This week the Gospel challenges us to examine the state of our hearts and to seek a true conversion that aligns our innermost being with the will of God. Jesus teaches us that genuine faith is not about rigid adherence to laws and traditions but about cultivating a pure heart that reflects God's love and righteousness. This calls for a continuous and sincere effort to align our thoughts, intentions, and actions with the teachings of Christ, fostering a faith that is vibrant, authentic, and transformative.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Deut 4:1-2.6-8) Moses urges the people to be faithful to God's law, which is not a burden to be endured, but a source of life and wisdom.

Second Reading (Jam 1:17-18.21-22.27) It is not enough to listen to the word of God; we must put it into practice.

Gospel (Mk 7:1-8.14-15.21-23) Jesus tells the Pharisees that they have substituted their own laws for the Law of God, and are more concerned about outer cleanness than cleanness of heart.

Next weeks readings: Is 35:4-7, Jam 2:1-5, Mk 7:31-37.
For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 6th September 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic.
All Welcome.

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 the young and not so young. Includes puzzles, colouring in pages, links to other activities and yummy recipes! Open this newsletter in the St Benedict's website or app and follow the links...

Kids Korner: [Click here](#) Parent Ponderings is printed below:

NOAH'S ARK

Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark.

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
11. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

Author Unknown



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. Like and follow "St Benedict's Church, Auckland" on Facebook for regular updates and links to the newsletters.

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 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.
- Eucharistic Adoration Friday 5 September at St Benedicts from 11am-12pm (followed by mass at 12.10pm).
- 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.
- When visiting St Benedicts please DO NOT park illegally or block cars in. Please see over page for free parking details

September Prayer for Fathers

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old. We pray for young fathers newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice. We pray for fathers whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in sorrow. We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. In all this we ask 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, Anne Brent.
We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Coralie Purdom, Winifred Meharry, Clive Paver, Andree Lynch, Patrick Smith, Telmo Fernandez, Elizabeth Smith, Gordon Omahoy, Marcellina de Souza, Ida Swann, Peggy Jury, Moses Il-Mook Choi, Nellie Stowers, Robyn Vasquez, Elisay Josia, Thomas Metcalfe, Irene O'Keefe, Elisapeta Asi, Patrick Treacy, Maitland Williams, Catherine Reardon, Robert Curran, Elizabeth O'Brien, Edward Roycroft, Douglas Flemming, Irene O'Keefe, Mark Cassidy, Maurice Tangney, Grace Power, Finlay Bass, Antonietta Mussoni, Peter Buffett, Wilfred Hassaw, Verona Edwards, Michael O'Brien, Maragaret Melia.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord