

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

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 6 OCTOBER 2024

There are those who think that Jesus's teaching about marriage has become out of date nowadays. It does not fit the facts or the experience of so many. "The world has changed, and so must we" is the principle, whether spoken or not. Well, the world does change, and will keep on doing so. But not always as much as we think. Jesus's teaching was "counter-cultural" even in his own day. Obviously Jewish law and practice went against what he taught, as mentioned in the gospel, but so also did Roman law and culture.

Divorce in ancient Rome was very easy. One of the most famous ancient inscriptions preserved in Rome is what is called the "Laudatio Turiae." It was erected by a grieving husband in honour of his late wife. In it he says "Marriages as long as ours are rare, marriages that are ended by death and not broken by divorce. For we were fortunate enough to see our marriage last without disharmony for fully 40 years." 40 years without divorce was worth erecting a stone tablet for, it seems. What Jesus taught about divorce and remarriage was counter-cultural at the start. It did not fit in easily at the time he said it.

We should not get used to sin and moral weakness, seeing them as our deepest and most natural condition. It is goodness and love that are at the heart of creation, and marriages are built on them. On hearing today's gospel our minds may well start to focus on the issue of divorce and remarriage, but Jesus wants us to discover or rediscover how it was in the beginning, at creation, and to live and love accordingly. So we are not to put asunder what God has joined. The central and sustaining image is that the two spouses become one indivisible flesh. As Jesus says, we must go back to the beginning, to creation, and, to help fill our minds and imaginations before we hear the gospel, today's first reading is in fact from *Genesis*. But we do not hear these readings just to remind ourselves of the teaching on marriage. We hear them to remind ourselves that, like the whole of creation, we were made by God, and made for good.

You should be able to tell Christians by their realism and by their founded belief that God is greater than any weakness or sin. It is fashionable to say that we are all sinners. True enough, but this is only part of the truth. We are also *repentant* sinners, and we seek the grace of deeper conversion during the whole of our lives. We seek to commit ourselves to a vision of human life that is based, not on the changing culture of the world, but on the solid rock of the teaching of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Fr Chris Denham

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Gen 2:18-24) God made man and woman for each other. The bond of marriage means they are no longer two but one.

Second Reading (Heb 2:9-11) By entering fully into human life, and by experiencing the bitterness of death, Christ became a brother and a saviour to all people.

Gospel (Mk 10:2-26) Christ teaches that the marriage bond comes from God and is therefore indissoluble.

Next weeks readings: Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

The Upper Room Thursday 17th October 6:30pm-9:00pm at Good George Mission Bay. Young adults, this event is a fantastic opportunity to grab a drink, enjoy some (free) bar snacks, meet other young Catholics, and dive into some relevant topics.

Our guest speaker for this Upper Room is Tim Wilson. Tickets are \$10:
Go to facebook.com/AKCYM or email felicitym@cda.org.nz for more info.

SCHOLARSHIP for Theological Study

Bishop Steve Lowe is pleased to call for applications for the *Ruth Miller Scholarship* for Theological Study. This scholarship will be available ideally for those already teaching in a Catholic school, who intend to do one or more theology papers towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2025. For further information about this scholarship and to receive an application form, please email: scholarships@cda.org.nz. The closing date for applications is 15 NOVEMBER 2024

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is accepting enrolments for first semester 2025 from 23rd September to 22nd November 2024. Courses offered are Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma and Certificate in Christian Studies, and a new microcredential on Managing Church Organisations.

If you are passionate about vibrancy in your parish, "*Building a Fruitful Parish*" is an Auckland Catholic Diocese event not to be missed.

Cathy Kennedy - Evangelisation Director of St Declan's Parish in Sydney will be sharing practical experience and knowledge on how to help your parish grow in vibrancy by understanding "what comes next" in growing a parish and building parishioner engagement. All are welcome to join us on **Monday October 14th 7pm - 9pm** at St Francis Retreat Centre 50 Hillsborough Road Hillsborough, to enjoy nibbles and refreshment with likeminded parish leaders. Please register at <https://brushfire.com/divinerevovationministry-nz/thefruitfulparishintentionallybuildingacultureofev/585438>

Registration are essential- \$15.00 per person. If you have any questions, please contact Emily on finance@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or Cheryl on cheryl.surrey@divinerevovation.org

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: [Click here](#)

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.

- **Defibrillator Training 1pm Sunday 13 October has been cancelled and will be rescheduled very soon**

- 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

October Monthly Intention and Prayer for Missionaries

Lord Jesus Christ, watch over your missionaries, priests, religious, and lay people who leave everything to give testimony to your word and your love.

In difficult moments, sustain their energies, comfort their hearts, and crown their work with spiritual achievements.

Let the adorable image of you crucified on the Cross, which accompanies them throughout life, speak to them of heroism, generosity, love and peace.

And all these 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 Borqueta, 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:

Akuila Paini, Celia Holley, Nevaeh Folau, Mary Mangern, James Loughan, Florrie Neven, Hazel Reid, June Wilkins, John Casey, Senia Auva'a, Fr Peter Kay, Darry McCarthy, Victor Aquino, Audrey Kelly, Mary Mahoney.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord