

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 1 DECEMBER 2024

The Gospel this week captures a central theme of the Advent season: watchfulness and preparation for the coming of Christ. These verses point to both the second coming of Jesus and our need to remain spiritually alert, resisting the distractions and burdens of daily life that can pull us away from God's presence.

In verses 25-28, Jesus speaks of signs in the natural world—distress among nations and upheavals in the heavens—that signal the coming of the Son of Man. These descriptions are apocalyptic and can evoke fear, but Jesus encourages his followers to respond with hope rather than despair. He tells them to "stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." This is a call to courage and trust in God's promise of salvation. During Advent, this hope resonates deeply as we prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming and anticipate his return.

Verses 34-36 remind us of the importance of vigilance. Jesus warns against being weighed down by distractions and the worries of life. These distractions can numb our spiritual sensitivity and make us unprepared for the day of the Lord. Advent is a time to step back from the chaos and busyness of life, to realign our priorities, and to focus on what truly matters. By staying awake and praying, we open our hearts to God's presence and ensure we are ready to meet Christ, both in the small moments of daily life and in his ultimate return.

The Advent season calls us to live with joyful expectation, but also with intentional preparation. It invites us to let go of the burdens and insensitivities that weigh us down, whether they are material distractions, anxieties, or complacency in our faith. Instead, we are encouraged to keep our eyes on God's promises and live with a sense of purpose and anticipation.

In this season, may we heed the message of Luke's Gospel—to stay watchful, prayerful, and hopeful, trusting in the coming redemption and renewing our hearts to receive Christ anew.

Fr Stephen Berecz



LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading (Jer 33:14-16) The prophet assures the people that God will send the promised one, the Messiah.

Second Reading (1 Thess 3:12-4:2) Paul prays that the Lord may deepen the love the Thessalonians have for each other, and thus prepare them for the second coming of Christ.
Gospel (Lk 21:25-28,34-36) In language borrowed from the Old Testament, Luke describes the second coming of Christ. Christians should prepare for it with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

Next weeks readings: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Christmas at St Benedicts

Save the Date...

There will be a parish Christmas party in the crypt after 6pm mass on Saturday 14 December. Keep an eye on the newsletter for more details closer to the time.

Calling families with young children!

There will be a children's nativity play commencing at 5.45pm (before 6pm mass) on Christmas Eve.

All children are welcome to join in.

There will be a rehearsal at a date closer to the time.

Christmas and New Year Mass Timetable at St Benedicts

Tuesday 24 December - Christmas Eve

Mass at 6pm (with children's nativity play at 5.45pm),
9pm (with Christmas Carols from 8.45pm)
and Filipino Chaplaincy Mass 11pm

Wednesday 25 December - Christmas Day

Mass at 9.30am, and Filipino Chaplaincy Mass 11.30am

Monday 1 January - New Years Day

Mass at 9.30am and Filipino Chaplaincy Mass 11.30am

Last weekday mass on 27 December 2024 - Weekday mass resumes on 8 January 2025

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 6th December 7:00pm

at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitemui 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: [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.
- Eucharistic Adoration Friday 6 December 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

Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

HOPE

Heavenly Father, we pray that You will turn our hearts towards You as Christmas approaches. Let us not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season this year and miss the chance to celebrate the gifts of hope, peace, joy, love, that you sent to us on that first Christmas. That first Christmas you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift.

In Jesus' precious name, we pray. 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:
Patrick McRiff, Walte Peasente, Tony Blaskovich, Jacinto Gantuangco, Fa'asina Muliumu, Albert Lisala, Edward Dunne, James Ropata, BJ Nathan, Albert Reardon, Norah Regan, Fr Edward Walsh, Florence McCarthy, Fr Alfred Hyde (5th parish priest at St Benedict's), Sean Webb, Fifita Ramanlal, Catherine Worthington, William Eville, Lance Loader, Irwin Hing, Sarah Coppell, Fr Dominic O'Neill, Margaret Grey, Alfred Santos, Antonio Guzzo, David Pfahlert, Ivan Brady, Reginald Luck, Mollie Baird, David Shackleton.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord