

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**SATURDAY 6 PM**  
**SUNDAY 9.30AM**

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 23 MARCH 2025**

**Scripture Note for the Third Sunday of Lent**

The First Reading tells how God appeared to Moses in the burning bush and revealed his name as *Yahweh* ('I am the Existing One'). God has heard the cries of his oppressed people, and sends Moses to liberate them. It is a turning point in the Old Testament. It leads to the Exodus and beyond.

In the Gospel we see how Jesus rejected the popular belief that accidents which befall people are inflicted by God as punishment for sin. Still, sin calls for repentance. And Jesus tells the Jews that they will lose the promises unless they repent. The barren fig tree symbolises the barren state of Israel. But God is patient. There is still time to repent, though that time is getting short.

The role of Moses prefigures the role of Jesus. Through Moses God saved his people, Israel, from slavery in Egypt. We are the new people of God, saved through the waters of baptism from the slavery of sin, and now *en route* under the leadership of Jesus to the promised land of eternal life. We too are fed with food 'from heaven', namely, the Eucharist.

In the Letter to the Romans Paul says that in spite of all God had done for them, most of the Israelites were not pleasing to God. Christians must not think that just because they have received the sacraments they are automatically saved.

**Reflection**

Days pass and the years vanish, and we walk sightless among miracles.

Lord, fill our eyes with seeing, and our minds with knowing.

Let there be moments when the radiance of your presence  
illuminates the darkness in which we walk.

Help us to see, wherever we gaze, that the bush burns, unconsumed.

And we, clay touched by your hand,  
will reach out for holiness and exclaim in wonder,

'How filled with awe is this place, and we did not know it.'

(Anon)

**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](#)

**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:** 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)  
Website: [www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](http://www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

**St Benedict's Parish Priest**

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**Parish Office Staff**

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Miranda Wagg

[miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

**CATHOLIC STUDENT CHAPLAIN**

Email: [thechaplains@cda.org.nz](mailto: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 LENT

*First Reading* (Ex 3:1-8.13-15) We are shown God's concern for his oppressed people.

*Second Reading* (1 Cor 10:1-6.10-12) What happened to the Israelites in the desert is a warning for us Christians.

*Gospel* (Lk 13:1-9) Jesus stresses the necessity of repentance and tells the people that time is running out.

Next weeks readings: Josh 5:9-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32.

*For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com*

## The Parable of the Fig Tree

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 13:6-9 (NIV).



U S B F E R T I L I Z E T T A  
 Y Q N D O W N O W L U O V Z T  
 B A R N T P H T C E S L I I R  
 R U F L H A A O S A E U N M E  
 Z E R A R R S L Y V Q W E A X  
 J F U B E A J D H E A P Y K N  
 S B I X E B Y O F T P L A T U  
 P J T G T L V E S O I L R O L  
 A W R Q P E J J A H T R D J P  
 T L C G C U T F O R U P F K Z  
 X R O F I N D Q I F S M O G S  
 P Y E N E A I S V A E O F N Q  
 M O S E E M G Q B Z L R H S L  
 D A P L A N T E D N L X V J D  
 K Z N L U L G S B O L U C W M

YEARS	THREE	LOOK	LEAVE	FRUIT
DOWN	FIND	VINEYARD	MAN	TOLD
PLANTED	USE	SOIL	ALONE	FIG
FERTILIZE	DIG	PARABLE	TREE	CUT

## 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.
- 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

## THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of love enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise forever.

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

**We remember those who have died recently**

**And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Julia Roden, Margaret McCormick, Michael Benson, Katie Matijasevich, Bernard McGrath, Annie Radich, Johanna Keaney, Andrew Worthington, Herbert Walker, Vincent Ahkiau, Loretta Desa, Rita Frank, Hilda Howard, Sarah McGinley, Cecily Kenrick, Thomas Craney, Hilda Church, Michael Hughes, Fr Norbert Berridge, Jean Pattillo, Bertha Noonan, Blair Rankin, Win McNamara, William Hynes, Terry Welch, Anne O'Sullivan, Ivan Resetar, Leo Bell, Peter Tieng, Jacob O'Grady.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**