

## 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:** 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**

Father Gilbert Ramos  
[frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

## **Parish Office Staff**

Catherine van Veen  
[catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz](mailto:catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz)

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

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 25 MAY 2025

### Facing New Possibilities

*Readings:* Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rev 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29

*Scripture:* "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities..." (Acts 15:28)

*Reflection:* The first Christians or followers of Jesus the Christ were Jewish. It's easy to lose sight of that when so much of the New Testament was written as his followers were preaching in new territories, eventually becoming a separate entity from Judaism. Even Paul's earliest letters, written before the first Gospel, exhibit traces of the tensions that were growing between traditional sects of Judaism and the newest sect, whose members believed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. The readings from Acts this week follow the missionary efforts of some of the apostles beyond the familiar borders of Israel and Judaism. Initially they seek out Jewish enclaves across the region, but soon enough Gentiles are responding to the apostles' message and requesting baptism. Leaders of the early church convened in Jerusalem to hear what was happening in the mission field and to determine how to proceed with regard to Gentile converts. Must they become Jews first in order to become members of the Christian community? Or is faith in Jesus, itself a gift, enough to "qualify" Gentiles as true believers and full-fledged members of the church? The decision of the Council was sent around the region: becoming Jewish was not necessary for becoming Christian. What is of particular importance in this account is that this momentous decision came from the Holy Spirit and the church. Jesus did not leave specific instructions about this inevitable development among Gentiles, but he did promise that the Spirit would assist his followers. This early decision of the emerging church is a profound example of how doctrine and practice would continue to take shape across the centuries.

*Meditation:* When the church or individual Christians are faced with difficult decisions, we have two companion routes to help us get to a resolution. The first route is to offer our concerns, ideas, and efforts to the Spirit to help guide us. The second is to do the hard work of gathering information and carefully considering options. How could this two-part process help assure a healthy response when we are uncertain about something? *Prayer:* O God, it is your will to draw all people to yourself. May our decisions on the local and international levels reflect what tradition teaches us and what the Spirit guides us to understand.

*From Daily Reflections for Easter to Pentecost (Rejoice and Be Glad 2025) by Catherine Upchurch*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 15:1-2.22-29: A big issue for the early Church was how much of the Law and traditions of Moses should be imposed on Gentile converts. This reading tells us how the problem was solved.  
Rev 21:10-14.22-23: We are given a majestic picture of the new Jerusalem, the heavenly Church of the future, when God's Kingdom will come in all its glory.

Jn 14:23-29: We hear yet another portion of Jesus' farewell discourse at the Last Supper. It is dominated by the thought of his imminent departure.

Next weeks readings: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24: 46-53

*For Sunday /weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://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.*

## Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025 - The Way of Hope

Accompanied by Bishop Steve Lowe departs Monday 29 September 2025—17 nights  
Lyon, Cuét, Turin, Venice, Siena, Assisi, Rome

Our Way of Hope together will begin in Lyon. Mother Church for the Catholic Church in New Zealand, and journey to Rome. On the way we will meet pilgrims of the past who have influenced our local and the universal Church and who will inspire us in hope as we prepare to pass through the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome and receive the Jubilee blessing.

[info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com) NZ free-call 0800 819 156

The New Zealand Bishops Conference have released a Pastoral Statement "Fighting Hopelessness in the Jubilee Year of Hope". Copies available at back of Church and on Parish App and Facebook or from the parish office.

Prayer and fasting for peace and the relief of suffering for children worldwide. Catholics, moved by confronting images of children in Gaza, invite you take part in 24 hours prayer and fasting for Peace and the relief of children suffering starvation, injury and death due to wars being fought by adults. You are invited to fast on Friday 30 May and to Pray for Peace in all places of conflict. You might like to pray "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us" or the Litany of saints we were asked to pray for the election of Pope Leo XIV.

## 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:  
Paul Temm, Francis Smith, Stella Jarka, Bernard Morahan, Sonya Vessey, Sue Martin, Siew Yam Tong, Raymond Courtney, Phillip Zambucka, Molly Sullivan.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord