

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME~ 17 AUGUST 2025

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 9am to Sunday 7pm** 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

In this striking and uncomfortable Gospel, Jesus declares, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!" These words challenge the image of Jesus as a purely peaceful figure. The fire he speaks of holds a double meaning: it is both an instrument of judgment and the gift of the Spirit. Fire in Luke's Gospel is symbolic of purification, transformation, and divine presence. Just as fire refines metal, so too does the fire of God refine hearts—burning away self-interest and false attachments.

Jesus goes on to say he brings not peace but division. This may seem confusing until we understand that the Gospel demands a radical choice. Choosing to follow Christ means embracing a way of life that can challenge the values of society—and even strain relationships within families. The "division" Jesus speaks of arises not from his desire to separate people, but from the inevitable tension between the values of God's Kingdom and the values of the world.

Those who welcome the fire of the Spirit—who allow themselves to be transformed by love, justice, and truth—will find themselves at odds with a world that often resists change, justice, and humility. Following Jesus requires courage, especially when it brings conflict with those closest to us.

Yet this passage is not without hope. The fire Jesus longs to kindle is also the fire of Pentecost—the Spirit that empowers, enlivens, and renews. It is the fire that purifies hearts and sends disciples into the world with boldness and compassion.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Jer 38:4-6.8-10) This describes the persecution of the prophet Jeremiah, whom Christians see as a figure of Christ.

Second Reading (Heb 12:1-4) The author exhorts his readers to persevere in their faith, drawing strength from the example of Christ and all those who have gone before them.

Gospel (Lk 12:49-53) The coming of Christ marks a time of division in which people will be called on to declare their loyalties.

Next weeks readings: Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7.11-13; Lk 13:22-30.

Holy Cross Seminary, Ponsonby would like to invite you to join in our celebration of the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. Archbishop Paul Martin of Wellington will be the principal celebrant. We are celebrating our feast day early because the seminarians will be in a parish their diocese for pastoral experience when the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross falls on 14 September. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on Monday, 01 September 2025 at Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland. Light refreshments will be served at Holy Cross Seminary, 44 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland after Mass.

Any Parishioners who wish to join us, are most welcome.

Discover why the Family is the Pillar of Society. Join international speaker, Fr. Shenan Boquet for an engaging and informative presentation unpacking how God's plan for marriage and life are the foundation of a flourishing society. Come and be inspired to see how living your faith can transform our world. All welcome!

Wednesday 24 September St Patrick's Church, 133 Seddon St, Pukekohe 6pm – 9pm.

For more info contact Simon Archer 021 400 729

FLI.ORG.NZ/PROLIFE-SPEAKING-TOUR-2025

Pastoral Coordinator St Patrick & St Joseph Cathedral

The Cathedral wishes to employ a person part-time for 25 hours per week as the parish Pastoral Coordinator. This role is to assist the Cathedral Dean to ensure that the pastoral and administrative needs of the parish are met. The role provides pastoral assistance and is responsible for the coordination of the Parish Education Programmes and assisting with Sunday morning Masses. Applicants should be active Catholics able to partake in the full sacramental life of the church, with theological formation (preferred) and ministerial experience. Good communication, planning and organisation skills are essential.

Applicants for this position must have NZ residency or a valid NZ work permit.

To view the full advert, position description and how to apply, please visit:

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Applications close at 5pm on 20th August 2025.

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 "St Benedicts Parish"

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 UPDATED 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, Arleen Canlas.

We remember those who have died recently: Remedios Santiago and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Albert Dunne, William Farrell, Kitty Wilkin, Tony Miocevic, Jack Hopkins, Gwen Paul, Annie Cartwright, Laiki Aluia, Mary Smith, Peter Courtney, Katie Stanton, Kathleen Marchant, Margaret Fleming, Patricia Bryne, Ron Grinter, Hubert Madigan, Terry O'Donnell, Vincent Santos, Sr Clare Timpany OP, Billie Tong, Henry Smith, Winifred Gell, Kathleen Smith, Donald Lawson, Edward Hurtubise, Christine Kolio, Hugh Granger, Sean Reynolds, Stan Sargon, Fr Colgan, Amber Stewart, John Hogan, Ivka Managh, Henry Reid, Muriel Prendergast.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord