

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME~ 24 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

As Jesus journeys toward Jerusalem, someone asks him, “Lord, will only a few be saved?” Rather than answering with numbers or certainty, Jesus shifts the focus from speculation to action: “Strive to enter through the narrow door.” In today’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us again in the parables that lip service is not enough. We must strive to enter by the narrow door, the way that forces us to lay aside all pretension and false pride.

The “narrow door” represents the challenging, disciplined path of true discipleship. It’s not enough to simply be near Jesus, to hear his words or even eat and drink in his presence. Jesus warns that many will claim familiarity with him but will find themselves outside when the door is shut. This startling image urges us to look inward and ask whether our lives genuinely reflect the values of the Gospel—humility, mercy, self-sacrifice, and love for the poor and forgotten.

To enter by the narrow door requires more than cultural or religious identity. It demands ongoing conversion of heart. It means letting go of ego, privilege, and the desire for recognition. The narrow door is walked by those who forgive when it’s hard, serve without reward, and follow Christ even when the path is unpopular or difficult.

But this Gospel also offers hope. Jesus speaks of people coming from east and west, north and south, to take their place at the feast in the kingdom of God. The door is narrow, but it is open to all. No one is excluded by background or history—only by unwillingness to live the Gospel fully.

In the end, the first may be last and the last first. God’s mercy is generous, but we are called to respond wholeheartedly. May we walk with humility, authenticity, and perseverance toward that narrow door that opens into eternal life.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Is 66:18-21) Gentiles will be converted and receive a share in Israel's blessings.
Second Reading (Heb 12:5-7.11-13) As a father shows his concern for his son by training him in discipline, so God trains his children through suffering.
Gospel (Lk 13:22-30) The Kingdom of God is offered, not just to the Jews, but to people from the four corners of the world.
Next weeks readings: Sir 3:17-20.28-29; Heb 12:18-19.22-24; Lk 14:1.7-14.
For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture! 20 – 21 Sept 2025

Saturday 20th Food stalls, discover dishes from around the globe. Concert from 9am concert begins 1.30pm @ Sancta Maria College

Sunday 21st Sept Mass 1 pm @ St Luke Church Flatbush with Bishop Steve

Join us at the Migrant Chaplaincy Rise Up & Shine Jubilee Festival, where every bite tells a story and every dance sparks joy!

Don't miss out on David Wells, international speaker and friend of the diocese. Join us for a day with David reflecting on A Pilgrims Journey in the Synodal Church. Sancta Maria Auditorium 6th September 2025 10am to 3pm. Lunch provided. FREE Registration is essential on <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/event-1/hope-in-a-synodal-world-david-wells/> This is for everyone young adults, catechists, those working in ministries such as Proclaimers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word, RCIA catechists. Anyone with a disciple's heart.

Local Youth Ministers Wanted!

The Catholic Diocese of Auckland has launched a new initiative in 2025 to support young people on their faith journey. We are looking for self-motivated relationship-builders to become full-time and part-time Local Youth Ministers, working in a secondary school and parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/ Closes 31 August.

Our regular organist at 6pm mass, Denis Lozica, will be away overseas from the end of August until the beginning of October. During this time we are fortunate to have Annemarie Kerridge playing the organ accompanied by Warren our regular cantor.

Denis, may God bless you and your family with a safe and enjoyable trip, and we warmly welcome Annemarie.

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 and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Mary Patchett, Ralph de Berry, Alfred Stowers, Joan Watt, Alfred Healey, Patricia Jones, Clement Edwards, Patrick Lennane, Maurice Beadle, Kevin Dowling, John Gallagher, Maurice Boland, Julia King, Maurice Kearin, Catherine Long, Henry McCoy, Mary Kearin, Herbert Keenan, Peggy Bell-Booth, Margaret Dalton, Mary Reardon, Fr Sheehan, Ula Loader, Joan Burton-Bradley.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord