

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM

SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME~ 7 SEPTEMBER 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 Luke's Gospel this week, Jesus speaks with striking honesty about the cost of discipleship. He does not offer a sugar-coated message but rather a challenge: to follow Him means placing Him above all else — even family, possessions, and one's own life. These words are radical, and they remind us that being a disciple of Christ involves a deep and often costly commitment. It is not a casual association, but a complete reorientation of one's priorities.

Jesus uses two short parables — a builder constructing a tower and a king going to war — to illustrate the importance of counting the cost before embarking on a journey of faith. In doing so, He invites us not only to feel inspired by His message, but to make a reasoned, mature decision. Discipleship is not for the impulsive or the half-hearted, but for those willing to follow through, knowing the sacrifice it entails.

Yet, in the face of such a high standard, we might feel unworthy or overwhelmed. It is here that Luke's pastoral wisdom shines through. Luke may be offering us the wise advice that it is better to succeed as a less than perfect Christian than to fail as a super Christian. Even discipleship requires a decision based on prudent evaluation of one's strength. Jesus does not demand perfection, but sincerity. The one who humbly acknowledges their limitations and still chooses to follow Christ — however imperfectly — is closer to true discipleship than the one who overcommits and collapses under the weight of unrealistic expectations.

The Gospel this week invites each of us to honestly assess where we stand. Are we willing to put Christ first, above all? What needs to be let go so we can follow more freely? But it also reassures us that the journey of discipleship is not about perfection but faithfulness. In choosing to walk the path — however falteringly — we are already responding to Christ's call with courage and humility.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Wis 9:13-18) Without the gift of divine wisdom we would be utterly unable to fathom the mysteries of the universe, the meaning of history, and the mind of God.

Second Reading (Philemon 9-10.12-17) Paul urges Philemon to take Onesimus his former slave back as a brother.

Gospel (Lk 14:25-33) Being a disciple of Christ involves self-renunciation—we must be prepared to accept the cost.

Next weeks readings: Ex 32:7-11.13-14; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

St Joseph's Primary School

ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

office@st-joseph.school.nz

09 376 5456

www.st-joseph.school.nz

CATHOLIC EDUCATION
YEARS 1-8

This year we have a record 40 candidates enrolled in the parish Children's Sacramental Programme. Please keep them in your prayers as they receive instruction in the Sacraments.



Holy Cross Seminary would like to invite all parishioners to the Diaconate Ordination of Ryan Sy, Emilio Capin, Linh Cao

Friday, 26 September 2025, 6:00pm

Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby

Bishop Michael Gielen will be presiding.

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

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](#)

Happy Father's Day!

May the Lord bless you and protect you.
May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord show you His favour and give you his peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

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.
 - Mass for The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is at 7pm on Monday 8 September.
 - 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

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: Fa'afetai Kainiu

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Wilfred Hassaw, Verona Edwards, Michael O'Brien, Margaret Melia, Ida Swann, Noelle Antelme, Luigi Zanderigo, Nukuhia Palmer, Frank Kirkham, Denis Murphy, Anna Prescott, Erin Lister, Maimoa Garren, Desmond O'Donohue, Lawrence Netto, Manel Ambiptyaia, Gertrude Newton, Nicola Stanaway, Sr Margaret Heath OP, Siulua Kisina, Trevor Watts, Mary Tinnery, Rita Holland, David Lewis OP, Elizabeth Morris, Fr William Ormond (4th parish priest of St Benedicts), Kathryn Jennings, Joseph Kwok Cheung Huie.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord