

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 26 OCTOBER 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 familiar Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, offering a profound lesson on the nature of true prayer and humility before God. The two men go up to the temple to pray, but only one comes away justified.

The Pharisee's prayer is essentially a self-congratulatory speech. He rehearses his virtues—fasting, tithing, moral superiority—and uses the prayer as a stage to elevate himself by downgrading others: "I am not like other people... or even like this tax collector." His focus is not on God, but on himself. This kind of prayer, though cloaked in religious language, is ultimately self-serving. Jesus uses this character to warn us about the danger of presumptuousness in the presence of God. The Pharisee assumes he has earned righteousness and sees others as beneath him.

In sharp contrast, the tax collector stands at a distance, won't lift his eyes to heaven, and simply prays, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." He offers no long list of failures or excuses—just a simple, honest plea. In this moment, he personifies the one essential prerequisite for praying: an honest recognition of our place before the justice and mercy of God. There is no pretence in his prayer—only sincerity, humility, and an openness to God's grace.

Jesus makes it clear who is truly righteous in God's eyes. The one who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted. This parable invites us to examine our own posture in prayer. Do we come before God with pride, comparing ourselves to others, or with humility, acknowledging our need for mercy?

The tax collector reminds us that we don't need perfect words or polished piety to approach God. What God desires is a humble heart, a truthful spirit, and a willingness to receive mercy. True prayer begins not in claiming our worth, but in recognising God's—justice, compassion, and boundless love for the humble.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading (Sir 35:12-14.16-19) God shows no partiality for the rich and powerful, but listens to the humble prayer of the just and the lowly.

Second Reading (2 Tim 4:6-8.16-18) Paul, a prisoner in Rome, feels that his death is drawing near. But his confidence is unshaken and his hope of the 'crown of glory' is bright.

Gospel (Lk 18:9-14) The parable of the Pharisee and tax-collector.

Next weeks readings: Rev 7:2-4.9-14, 1 Jn 3:1-3, Mt 5:1-12.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

GENERAL NOTICES

• Youth Leaders Hui | Saturday 15 November 9:00am-1:30pm | 30 New Street Pompallier Diocesan Centre. Join us for our Youth Leaders Hui - a day for youth leaders to connect, share and shape the future of youth ministry in our Diocese. We want to hear your hopes, insights and ideas as we look ahead together!

In particular, at this Hui we will explore how we can:

- (1) Strengthen youth ministry across the Diocese,
- (2) Relaunch Diocesan Youth Masses in 2026, and
- (3) Grow regular consultation and collaboration among youth leaders.

We're all in the same waka! Come ready to share, learn and be inspired alongside others who share your passion for seeing young people encounter Jesus.

Free barista coffee on arrival! Lunch will be provided. Be sure to register:

<https://events.humanitix.com/youth-leaders-hui>

• Celebration Mass | Sunday 7th December 4:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. Celebrate a fantastic year of youth ministry at our end-of-year Celebration Mass! This special event marks the end of our year-long journey with the young leaders of the Diocese of Auckland. We are excited to celebrate the many ways they have served in 2025. At this mass, we are excited to present the Tu Kahikatea Awards. These awards recognize young people who have made an outstanding contribution in the Diocese. Bishop Steve Lowe will celebrate the mass, present the Awards, and give a special blessing to all our youth and young adult ministry leaders. Young leaders, make sure you don't miss it!

All are welcome at this celebration!

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

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

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](#)

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 Borqueta, Margie Newman, Jason Oxenham, Arleen Canlas.

We remember those who have died recently

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Sylvia Porteous, Francis Costello, Nora Lavan, Christian Nicoll, Fr Reginald Batten, Kevin Pereira, Fr Ernie Milne IC, Janine Holt, Joan Smith, Desmond Fahey, Hugh Mulligan, Lena Seccombe, Ellen Cheetham, Colleen Green, Kathy Lister, Gordon Hardy, Robert Malone, Beh Ching Chua, Louisa Potter, Don Hall, Tom Weal, Marie Green, Catherine Lugan, Fr Fintan Campbell OP.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord