

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**SATURDAY 6 PM**  
**SUNDAY 9.30AM**

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 1 MARCH 2026**

**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 9.30am—2.30pm

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 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

Matthew's Gospel invites us to ascend the mountain with Peter, James, and John and to witness a moment of dazzling revelation. Jesus is transfigured before them; his face shines like the sun and his clothes become white as light. The glory that blazes forth is not something added to him from outside, but a disclosure of who he truly is. In Jesus, God begins to resume and bring to fulfilment his creative plan for humanity. The radiance of Christ is the radiance of the new creation already breaking into the old.

Moses and Elijah appear, representing the Law and the Prophets. All of Israel's history converges on this moment. The God who once spoke on Sinai and guided his people through the wilderness now speaks again: "This is my beloved Son... listen to him." The command to listen is crucial. Only a short time earlier, Jesus had warned his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, suffer, be killed, and on the third day be raised. They struggled to accept a Messiah who would not claim earthly glory as a king. Peter's instinct to build tents and prolong the experience reflects our own desire to hold onto triumph and avoid the road to suffering.

Yet the Transfiguration does not cancel Jesus' prediction of his passion; it confirms it. The glory revealed on the mountain is inseparable from the obedience he will show in the valley. The scene directs us toward the biblical texts of the Servant of the Lord, especially in Isaiah, where the chosen one submits entirely to God's will, even in suffering. The shining face of Christ is the face of the Servant who "sets his face like flint" toward Jerusalem.

As the disciples fall to the ground in fear, Jesus touches them: "Rise, and do not be afraid." The vision fades, and they see "Jesus only." This quiet ending reminds us that God's creative renewal will unfold not through spectacle, but through faithful obedience, self-giving love, and the cross. In listening to him and following him down the mountain, we participate in the new creation he has begun.

Fr Stephen Berecz

## LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**First Reading** (Gen 12:1-4) This tells of the call of Abraham. Thanks to his faith in God the whole human race has been blessed.

**Second Reading** (2 Tim 1:8-10) The power of God and the vision of immortality enable the Christian to face the sufferings which faithfulness to the Gospel inevitably brings.

**Gospel** (Mt 17:1-9) On Mt Tabor the three disciples get a glimpse of the Glory of Jesus.

Next weeks readings: Ex 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2.5-8, Jn 4:5-42.

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

**Life Teen Aotearoa Leadership Convention | 13-15 March 2026 at Sacred Heart College Auckland.** THE BEST place to be trained, renewed and inspired for Catholic Youth Ministry. Whether you are new to ministry, or looking for the best practices to continue your ministry, this event is designed for you. Expect incredible keynotes from the Catholic speakers, practical breakout sessions, and in addition to practical, comprehensive training, you will experience community and personal spiritual renewal. Whether you are a priest, in parish leadership, youth minister, DRS, teacher, youth leader, college chaplain, or an interested parent, we are ready to serve and train you this year at Life Teen Aotearoa's 2026 Leadership Convention. Register NOW! Earlybird prices available until 9th March: <https://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/life-teen-aotearoa-leadership-convention>

**CALLING ALL TERTIARY STUDENTS!** There is a LARGE, VIBRANT and RAPIDLY growing Catholic STUDENT COMMUNITY present across University of Auckland and AUT campuses. JOIN US in 2026! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at [dans@cda.org.nz](mailto:dans@cda.org.nz) and/or check out the Auckland Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC) socials. Search "aucklandcatholicchaplaincy"

**Young Leaders Commissioning Mass | 4:30pm Sunday 22nd February at St Patricks Cathedral.** Join us as we begin another grace-filled year of youth ministry with our Young Leaders' Commissioning Mass! Monsignor Bernard Kiely will be celebrating the mass and commissioning our young leaders as they are sent out for ministry in 2026. If you're a youth ministry leader or young adult ministry leader, you're an essential part of this mass! We want to pray with you and for you, as you begin your ministry year. Please invite your whānau, your friends, and your wider faith community to join us as well. We invite Catholics from across the Diocese to join us for this celebration. Unite with our young leaders in faith, hope and joy as we commence another incredible year of youth ministry in the Diocese of Auckland! More information here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1BAQEMwXL/>

**Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 6th March 7:00pm** at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by Veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

## 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.
- Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during Lent at 6.30pm
  - 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 parish weekly schedule and free parking details.

## Prayer for Children

Heavenly Father, hold our children in your loving arms and protect them from all danger and evil. Let them know right from wrong. May they show forgiveness and compassion for all living things. Fill their hearts with peace, love and happiness. When their days have passed take them with you to your everlasting kingdom.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

**Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:**

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:**

Martin Murphy, Emily Rushworth, Quentin Kelly, Bernardo Flores, Bernard Hunt, Margaret Santos, Annie Sparks, Peter Chappell, Pat Gye, Dellwyn Whiteford, Margaret Petricevich, Ane Lisala, Mons Michael Browne, Georgina Ntarmah, Nellie McLean, Sara Murphy, Katherine McKnight, James Cannon, James Monaghan, Ellen McLean, Raymond Connolly, Michael Magnussen, Br John Prendergast, Roy Cho, Fr Leo Doyle, Michael Coleman, Barry Mitchell, Vising Marababol, Robert Carroll, Margaret Murphy, Stephen Fox, Roy Holley, Elizabeth Madigan, Thomas Grant, Mathew Fernandez.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**