

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 15 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: 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 9.30am—2.30pm

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 John's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind is far more than a physical miracle; it is a revelation about light, sight, and the condition of the human heart. Jesus declares himself the light of the world, and in giving sight to the blind man he restores not only vision but dignity, faith, and truth. The gradual journey of the healed man - from calling Jesus "the man," to "a prophet," and finally worshipping him as Lord - shows what happens when someone opens himself to the light, opens himself to God, and opens himself to grace. His physical sight becomes a sign of a deeper awakening.

Our lives are sometimes similar to that of the blind man. At our best, we allow Christ to touch the places of darkness within us. We consent to be led, even when we do not yet see clearly. We wash in the waters of obedience and trust, and slowly our vision changes. But at other times, we resemble the doctors of the law. From the height of our pride, we judge others and even presume to judge the Lord. Convinced that we already see, we become blind to grace. We can be baptised believers and still cling to unchristian behaviours - habits of superiority, harsh judgment, resentment, or indifference. We are all Christians, yet all of us sometimes act in ways that contradict the light we have received. Today's Gospel invites us to step down from pride and step into illumination.

Seeing is a central biblical theme. Scripture reminds us again and again that God sees differently than we do. We look at appearances, at categories, at inherited assumptions. God looks at the heart. The Pharisees saw a sinner and a rule-breaker; Jesus saw a man ready for revelation. Our task, therefore, is to bring our seeing into line with God's seeing - to see with the eye of God. When we allow Christ to heal our vision, we begin to recognise grace where we once saw failure, possibility where we once saw limitation, and brothers and sisters where we once saw strangers. In that light, we truly begin to bear fruit.

Fr Stephen Berecz

LITURGY OF THE WORD ~ FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading (1 Sam 16:1. 6-7.10-13) God chose David, the least of Jesse's sons, to be king of Israel. While people look at appearances, God looks at the heart.

Second Reading (Eph 5:8-14) Paul tells the Ephesians that now that Christ has enlightened them, they must adopt a lifestyle in keeping with their new state.

Gospel (Jn 9:1-41) Jesus, the light of the world, not only gives sight to the physically blind, but the light of faith to the spiritually blind.

Next weeks readings: Ezek 37:12-14, Rom 8:8-11, Jn 11:1-45.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Palm Sunday Candlelight Vigil

Come and join in a beautiful, family-friendly witness to the sanctity of human life from conception.

The Palm Sunday Candlelight Vigil closes out our 40 Days for Life prayer vigil.

When? Palm Sunday - 29 March at 7:30 p.m.

Where? Potter's Park – corner of Dominion and Balmoral Roads, Balmoral

For more information, contact Simon: 021 400 729 – simon@fli.org.nz

or at FLI.org.nz/prolifeevents/

Resources for families from the Auckland Diocese

Video clips and activities are updated weekly to follow the liturgical year.

Includes puzzles, colouring in pages, and links to other activities.

Open this newsletter in the St Benedict's website or app and follow the links...

Kids Korner: [Click here](#) Parent Ponderings: [Click here](#)

Divine Mercy Feast Sunday 12th April 5:30pm at St Benedict's Parish

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Blessing of Images, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day". Free parking is available at Wilson Carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

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.

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.

Children's Sacramental Programme 2026

Our parish programme will commence on Sunday 22 March after 9.30am mass. Please collect an enrolment form from the church foyer or email the office to be emailed a form. Note you need to be able to attend all sessions.

If you wish to enrol your child please complete and return the form to the parish office as soon as possible. Please note that due to demand we will prioritise children from St Benedicts Parish. One parent must be a baptised Catholic in order to enrol their child.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:
Teresa Rajaratnam, Phil Bawden, David Master, Rus Quinn, Gladys Borqueta, Margie Newman, Jason Oxenham.

We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Arthur Wishart, Arthur Albertson, Luke Webb, Alolisi Bourke, Cecelia Owsley, William Swann, Frances Perkin, Maree Bonnar, Fr Matthew Brady, John Monaghan, John Belcher, Nick Rooney, Dorothy O'Brien, Julia Counihan, Charles Davis, William Duffey, Fr F.X. Brown OP, Lam Man Ying, Michael Nash, Lena Lambert, Mary White, Michael McNamara, Giovanni Rigoni, Francis Connolly, Lawrence Lineham, Malae Peleti, Terry O'Sullivan, Emma Maguire, Violet Whyte-Hille, Ross Burton-Bradley,

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord