

Liturgy of the Word ~ 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading (Is 55:10-11) God cares for the earth by sending rain to make it fruitful. He cares for us by sending us his word.

Second Reading (Rom 8:18-23) The glory which awaits us in the next life far outweighs anything we could suffer in this life.

Gospel (Mt 13:1-23) Jesus compares the word of God to a seed falling into the ground.

Next week's readings: Wis 12:13.16-19, Rom 8:26-27, Mt 13:24-43.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Catholic Caring Foundation

For Caring Sunday, the 19th of July, please support Bishop Steve's Caring Foundation's annual appeal and help those in poverty be seen, heard, and helped. A donation to Bishop Steve's Caring Foundation is needed more than ever this year as our brothers and sisters battle with the cost-of-living crisis, job losses and food and housing insecurity.

To make your donation, please scan the QR code, use a donation card, donate through their website www.caringfoundation.org.nz use a special collection envelope, or donate directly to BNZ 02-0100-0242648-00 using your surname and initials and your phone number as references. You can also donate directly into our parish bank account with your pledge number and 'Caring' as reference.



Prayer for Global Peace

Heavenly Father, I pray for peace across the world. Soothe conflicts and heal divisions among nations. Comfort those suffering from strife and guide leaders with wisdom. Let Your love inspire unity and compassion. May Your peace prevail on earth. Thank You for Your boundless grace. Amen.

Psalm 29:11

"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace."

Resources for families from the Auckland Diocese

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 every week before Mass on Saturday evenings from 5pm-5.45pm.
- Eucharistic Adoration every first Friday of the month at St Benedicts from 11am-12pm (followed by mass at 12.10pm).
- Caring Sunday there will be a special collection for the Caring Foundation on Sunday the 19th of July.
 - 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.

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

Phil Bawden, David Master, Margie Newman, John Shaw, Eva Mitchell, Dave Harrop.

We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Christopher Reardon, Charles Hogg, Tony Lozica, James Salisbury, Leo O'Malley,

Kathleen Owen, Lee Hock Hye, Kathleen Redmond, James Bayer, Ray Quinn,

Alice Flanagan, Annie Rainsford, Ronald Hutton, Arpada Feketich, Edmund Power,

Etuale Kolio, Mons Ray Green, Olive Bear, Norman Mitchell, Ina Fowler, Mrs Drysdale,

C.N. Advaiappa, Margaret Scanlan, Jackie Gibson, Matilda Wishart, John Dooley,

Theresa Foy, Francis Nelson, Amy Rainsford, James Barker, Fr Aquinas McComb OP,

Fr Carl von Rotter, Margaret Dowling, May Batucan, Mary Flynn, Elsa Garrett.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 12 July 2026

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Wednesday - Friday: Mass 12.10pm

ETHNIC MASS TIMES

Filipino: Every Sunday at 11.30am

Tongan: 3rd Sunday of the month at 1.30pm

Indonesian: 4th Sunday of the month at 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

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 AT 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 Matthew's Gospel this week, Jesus tells the familiar parable of the Sower, a story both simple and searching. A farmer scatters seed across different types of ground: the path, the rocky soil, the thorn-filled earth, and finally the rich soil. Each setting represents a different response to the word of God. Some hear but do not understand; others receive the word with joy but fall away when difficulties arise; still others are overwhelmed by the cares and attractions of the world. Only the good soil bears fruit.

This parable invites honest self-reflection. While the disciples may have to ask themselves questions about their own hearing of the gospel, there is nevertheless assurance about the ultimate outcome of the sowing of the word. Jesus is not simply describing failure or warning of obstacles; he is revealing the deeper truth that God's word is always fruitful, even if that fruit is not immediately visible.

The final scene of the parable shifts our focus. It is a picture not of the birds snatching away the seed sown on the path, nor of the rootless plants on the rocky ground wilting in the heat, nor of the fragile stalks crowded out by weeds, but of a full and bountiful harvest. The yield is astonishing - thirty, sixty, even a hundredfold. This is not ordinary growth; it is a sign of divine abundance. For the first disciples, who were so few among so many, and for Matthew's community, dwarfed by its surroundings, this image would have been deeply reassuring. Their experience may have been one of small numbers, rejection, and opposition. Yet Jesus points them beyond what they can see to what God is bringing about. The remarkable size of the harvest becomes a promise: God's purposes will not fail.

The same message speaks to us today. We may sometimes feel that our efforts to live the Gospel are unnoticed or ineffective. We may encounter indifference or resistance. Yet the parable reminds us that the growth of the Kingdom does not depend solely on human success, but on God's grace.

We are called to be good soil - open, receptive, and faithful. And as we allow the word to take root in our lives, we trust that, in ways often hidden from us, God is bringing about a grand and glorious harvest.

Fr Stephen Berecz