

Liturgy of the Word ~ 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading (1 Kgs 3:5.7-12) Told by God that he could have any gift he wanted, Solomon chose the gift of wisdom.

Second Reading (Rom 8:28-30) Those who love God can turn everything to their spiritual advantage.

Gospel (Mt 13:44-52) What God offers us is so precious that it is worth everything we have.

Next week's readings: Is 55:1-3, Rom 8:35.37-39, Mt 14:13-21.

For Sunday /weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Please be aware of scam emails

The Auckland Diocese has advised that there are emails in circulation saying they are from Priests making what seems to be a genuine request.

The emails are very well worded and are tailored for the reader to respond as they are slightly personalised.

At a quick glance they would be easy to respond to but are sent from Gmail accounts that are not the priests' emails and are phishing emails.

Please be very careful with any emails like this you may receive, as this is happening on a regular basis.

Please check email addresses and any emails that say they are coming from priests. It is better to phone the parish office or send an email direct to the parish office to check before responding if there is any doubt.

Prayer for Grandparents

God of love, we thank you for our wonderful grandparents.

They bring such joy and happiness into our lives.

Thank you for all the special times that we have with them.

Please watch over them, protect them and care for them.

May they know your goodness and love always.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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).

- 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.

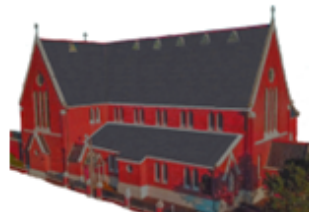
We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Philomena Reardon, Victoriene Madigan, Nell Johnson, Robert Wilson, Ella Reid, Leo Kane, Helen Cranston, John Payne, Veronica O'Neill, Kevin Pereira, Mervin Smith, Sr Rosalie O.P, Veronica O'Neill, Mary Treacy, Millie Moir, Bridget Monaghan, Adler Hill, Joan Redmond, Dorothea Stevenson, Sarah Madigan, Mary Melody, Eileen Smyth, Thomas Kelly, Sr Joan Timpany, Remedios Santiago, Reginald McCarthy, Joseph Resetar, Thomas Haigh, Jim Scanlan, Don Cederwell, Anurag Jose.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 26 July 2026

In Gospel of Matthew, Jesus gathers a series of short parables that reveal the incomparable value of the Kingdom of heaven. The treasure hidden in a field and the pearl of great price both speak of a discovery so profound that it reshapes a person's entire life. The one who finds the treasure sells everything with joy; the merchant who recognises the pearl does the same. These images highlight not loss, but gain - the overwhelming worth of what has been found.

At the heart of these parables lies the question of understanding. What readers do learn is that understanding is critical - not so much intellectual perceptiveness, but an understanding of the heart. It is possible to hear these stories and remain unchanged, but true understanding leads to decision, commitment, and transformation. To recognise the Kingdom is to recognise its supreme value, and to respond with a wholehearted "yes."

The final parable of the net cast into the sea returns to the theme of judgment, reminding us that there will be a sorting at the end of time. Yet, as with earlier teachings, the emphasis is not on fear but on readiness - on living now in a way that reflects the values of the Kingdom.

Jesus then offers a striking image: the scribe who has been trained for the Kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old. The scribe who has undergone training for the kingdom of heaven is a lively image. It conjures up the spectre of disciplined learning, of committed engagement to prepare for life under the divine rule. This learning is not static; it is dynamic and alive.

The disciplined learning involves both old and new. There is the old story to be rehearsed - the story of God's promises, of a reign of justice and peace, and of God's faithful work through history. There is also the new reality: Jesus himself, who fulfils and reveals that promise in a hidden yet decisive way.

In the life of the disciple, these two belong together. To follow Christ is to treasure the past, embrace the present, and live with hope toward the future, recognising the Kingdom as the greatest treasure of all.

Fr Stephen Berecz