

### Liturgy of the Word ~ 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** (1 Kgs 19:9.11-13) Fleeing for his life, the prophet Elijah takes refuge in a cave where he encounters God.

**Second Reading** (Rom 9:1-5) St Paul tells us about the sorrow and anguish he suffers because his fellow Jews refuse to accept Christ as the Messiah.

**Gospel** (Mt 14:22-33) When they are caught in high winds and rough seas, Jesus comes to the apostles; he calms their fears, and brings them peace.

Next week's readings: Is 56:1.6-7, Rom 11:13-15.29-32, Mt 15:21-28.

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

### Catholic Caring Foundation

Everyone is warmly invited to join Bishop Steve and the Caring Foundation team for the Caring Mass. Wednesday August the 12<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am at Christ the King Church, 260 Richardson Road, Mt Roskill.

### Local Youth Ministers Wanted!

The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated relationship-builders to become part-time Local Youth Ministers, working in a secondary school and/or parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! Please visit: [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/)

### G.I.F.T.

Special Needs Ministry "Saints and Angels DINNER DISCO". Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm to 9pm at the Pompallier Centre. Everyone is most welcome!

### 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).
- 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, Eva Mitchell, Dave Harrop.

**We remember those who have died recently:** John Shaw, Margie Newman.

**And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

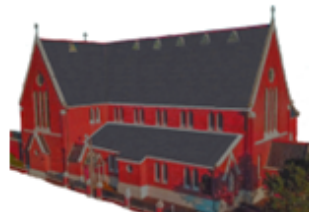
Kathleen Cowley, Margaret Redmond, Thomas Hill, William Marinas, Hilario Marinas, Valentina Lacanilao, Sydney Yates, June Mausfield, Anastasia Farrell, Audrey O'Carroll, Patricia Kelly, Murray Lee, Anne Medrano, Alice Casey, Ivan Andrews, Bertram Andrews, John Bassett, William Crimmins, Margaret McKnight, Olive McMahon, Bernard McClusky, Irene Crimmins, Dorothea Kelly, Bert Morgan, Oscar Miranda, Isabella Lopez, Maree Hills, Fr Neville Browne, George Johnson, Doris Brien, Robert Carroll, John Gill, Bill O'Donnell, Peter Hughes.

**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:** 4<sup>th</sup> 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](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 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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 9 August 2026

Matthew presents one of the most dramatic and faith-filled moments in the Gospel. After feeding the multitude, Jesus sends his disciples ahead by boat while he withdraws to pray. As night falls, the disciples find themselves struggling against strong winds and rough seas. In the midst of their fear and exhaustion, Jesus comes to them, walking on the water. His appearance fills them with terror until he reassures them with the words, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

This Gospel passage speaks powerfully to the struggles and uncertainties that every believer experiences. The boat tossed about by the waves has often been understood as a symbol of the Church facing trials and difficulties in the world. It also represents our individual lives when we encounter suffering, doubt, loss, or fear. At such moments, God can seem distant, and we may feel overwhelmed by the storms around us.

Peter's response is particularly significant. Filled with faith, he steps out of the boat and begins to walk toward Jesus. Yet when he notices the strength of the wind, fear takes hold, and he begins to sink. His cry, "Lord, save me!" is one of the most honest prayers in Scripture. Jesus immediately reaches out his hand and catches him. This reminds us that faith is not the absence of fear but the willingness to trust in Christ even when fear threatens to overwhelm us. Many biblical scholars suggest that the experience underlying the calming of the storm comes probably from the disciples' experience of the Risen Lord, who came to restore their broken faith after his Passion and to bring them interior peace. After the trauma of Jesus' suffering and death, the disciples were confused, fearful, and discouraged. The appearances of the Risen Christ reassured them of his presence and renewed their confidence. In this light, the story becomes a powerful testimony to the Lord who comes to his followers in times of distress and restores their faith.

The Gospel concludes with the disciples worshipping Jesus and proclaiming, "Truly you are the Son of God." As we face the storms of life, we are invited to place our trust in Christ, confident that he is always present, extending his hand to guide us safely through every trial.

*Fr Stephen Berecz*