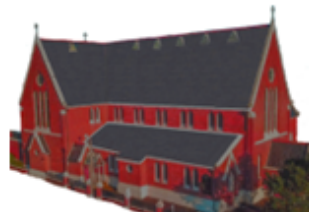


### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 6 September 2026

In Matthew's Gospel this week, Jesus offers practical guidance for preserving unity within the Christian community. Recognising that conflict and wrongdoing are inevitable wherever people live and work together, he proposes a process of reconciliation that respects both justice and human dignity.

The first step is personal and private: if a brother or sister sins against us, we are to speak with them alone. This approach protects the person's reputation and allows room for repentance without embarrassment. If this proves unsuccessful, a second step follows, involving one or two others as witnesses. Their presence helps ensure fairness and encourages a resolution grounded in truth. Only as a final resort is the matter brought before the wider community. Thus, Jesus advocates a gradual correction process in which delicacy, tact, and charity are always preferred before public discussion or discipline becomes necessary.

The goal throughout is not punishment but reconciliation. The repeated efforts to engage the offender reveal God's own patience and desire that no one be lost. Christian correction is therefore an act of love, seeking the restoration of relationships rather than the victory of one person over another.

Jesus then speaks of the authority of the Church using the rabbinic expression "binding and loosing." This phrase was familiar to Jewish teachers and referred to determining the binding force of laws and traditions or admitting persons to the community. Here Jesus entrusts this responsibility to his disciples, assuring them that decisions made in faith and unity participate in God's own authority.

The passage concludes with a powerful promise: where two or three are gathered in Jesus' name, he is present among them. The Christian community is therefore not merely a human organisation but a place where Christ himself acts. Through prayer, reconciliation, and shared discernment, believers become living signs of God's presence and mercy in the world.

*Fr Stephen Berecz*

### Liturgy of the Word ~ 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** (Ezek 33:7-9) The appointed leaders bear the responsibility to point out to wrong-doers the error of their ways and to try to get them to reform.

**Second Reading** (Rom 13:8-10) If we truly loved our neighbours we would not harm them in any way.

**Gospel** (Mt 18:15-20) We hear about the duty a Christian has to correct an erring brother or sister. But there is a proper way of doing it.

Next week's readings: Ecclesiastes 27:30-28:7, Rom 14:7-9, Mt 18-21-35.

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

### CARITAS EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR NEPAL

The devastating flooding in northern Nepal has caused widespread damage to homes, roads, bridges and essential infrastructure. Tens of thousands of people have been affected by this disaster, with many families now homeless and communities cut off from assistance. Caritas teams have been deployed to affected communities to assess needs and support the emergency response.

Recovery will take months. Families will need support to rebuild homes, restore livelihoods and regain access to basic services.

Your donation today helps provide emergency assistance now and supports the long road to recovery ahead. Your support helps provide emergency shelter, food, water and other essential assistance to families affected by flooding in Nepal.

Here are three easy ways you can donate today:

1. Make a secure online donation at [www.caritas.org.nz/nepal](http://www.caritas.org.nz/nepal)
2. Via direct deposit: Westpac - Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand - 03-0518-0211216-00. Simply input '1570961' as the reference, 'NEPAL' as the code, and 'St Benedict's Parish of Newton' in the particulars section.
3. Over the phone by calling our friendly team on 0800 22 10 22.

### Prayer for Fathers

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old. We pray for young fathers newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice. We pray for fathers whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in sorrow. We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

In all this we ask through Christ our Lord, 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 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 and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Mark Cassidy, Maurice Tangney, Grace Power, Finlay Bass, Antonietta Murrone, Peter Buffett, Wilfred Hassaw, Verona Edwards, Michael O'Brien, Margaret Melia, Ida Swann, Noelle Antelme, Luigi Zanderigo, Nukuhia Palmer, Mark Kirkham, Denis Murphy, Anna Prescott, Erin Lister, Maimoa Garren, Desmond O'Donohue, Lawrence Netto, Manel Ambityaia, Gertrude Newton, Nicola Stanaway, Sr Margaret Heath OP, Siulua Kisina, Trevor Watts.

**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**

### 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](#)