



# ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

*North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin*

**Second Sunday of Advent, Yr A**  
**7th December 2025.**



## **Jesus...the One in Whom We Place Our Hope**

Advent puts before us the longing for the Messiah, Jesus. In the First Reading for this coming Sunday, we see one of the classic expressions of hope for the Messiah, who is to come to save the world (Isaiah 11:1-10). This reading focuses on a saving figure who is to come from the house of Jesse, that is,

from the royal house of David (Jesse's son).

What gives this figure his unique quality is the fact that he is to be empowered by the spirit of the Lord. Among the many gifts the spirit will bestow upon him is 'knowledge of the Lord'. Knowledge in the full biblical sense implies not merely intellectual awareness but deep personal intimacy. That is, a deep awareness of God and God's will for human beings that the ruler will be able to institute true justice in the Land, with a particular bias towards the cause of the poor.

The reading then moves into a justly famous sequence describing the harmony in the natural and animal world at the time of the Messiah. This amounts to a restoration of the original vision of Eden. All comes to a climax in the magnificent statement that the whole country will be filled 'with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea'. That is, the knowledge first mentioned in relation to the Davidic ruler, will radiate out from him to the whole of society and even to the animal world.

This prophecy from Isaiah ends with an affirmation that Israel and her ruler will stand as a 'signal' to the nations of the world, who will seek out her wisdom. We, as Christians, interpret Jesus as Messiah and Son of God, the one 'in whom the nations will place all of their hope' (Matt 12:21). The One who save us.

## ***The Meaning of Advent: A Season of Hope, Expectation, and Renewal***

As we begin the season of Advent, the Church invites us into a time of quiet expectation and joyful preparation. Often described as a "little Lent," Advent is not merely a countdown to Christmas but a sacred opportunity to refocus our hearts on Jesus, who came to us in Bethlehem, who comes to us daily in grace, and who will come again in glory.

The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival." Throughout these four weeks, we are called to prepare for three distinct comings of Christ. First, we remember His humble birth in the manger, the moment when God entered human history to redeem us. Second, we open ourselves to His presence in our lives today—through Scripture, the Sacraments, acts of charity, and the quiet whisper of prayer, constantly communicating with Jesus as we live our lives. Finally, we look with hope toward Jesus return at the end of time, when all creation will be renewed.

The Advent wreath, candles, and deep violet colours of the season remind us of both penance and promise. The flickering candles symbolize the growing light of Christ breaking through our darkness. Each week offers a new step forward in faith: hope, peace, joy, and love.

This season encourages us to slow down, to create space in our daily routines for silence and reflection. Amid the noise and rush of December, Advent invites us to pause and listen to the longing within our hearts, longings that only Jesus can fulfill. We are encouraged to strengthen our spiritual connection by attending Mass, spending time in Adoration, praying with Scripture, or performing small acts of kindness for those in need.

May this Advent be a time of renewal for our parish community. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, let us journey together with open hearts, ready to welcome Jesus anew.

## ***Advent Liturgies***

To mark the special season of Advent, we are making two changes to our Sunday Masses. Firstly, each week we are going to sing the hymn "Come, Emmanuel" as the Processional hymn, with the refrain being sung again after the Penitential Act. Then secondly, music will be played continuously while the Prayers of the Faithful are read, and after each prayer, there will be a sung call and a sung response. This is a beautiful way of reminding us that we are in the Advent season preparing ourselves to joyfully receive the One we love more deeply into our lives when He comes.

## **Happy Anniversary!**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge established St Benedict's as a parish on December 3, 2017. So, this coming Sunday we will celebrate our eighth anniversary as a parish.

Being officially established as a parish for eight years now, I would like to thank all of those who have generously contributed their time, talent and money into the life of the St Benedict's Parish. As you know, the main purpose of us being a parish is to spread the Good News of Jesus to the world. We do this by continuing Jesus' mission of drawing more and more people to live their lives in relationship with Jesus, who always calls us to live a life of selfless charity. Reaching out to the poor, the marginalised, the lonely, the sick, the dying, the blind, the lost, the oppressed, the grieving, the wounded, and the stranger. This is how we are called to be as Christians, and it will always be the true measure of us as a parish. So,

### **Parish Priest:**

**Fr Bryan Roe**

Email: [roeb@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:roeb@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Place of Worship:**

**St Benedict's Catholic Primary School Hall**  
**22 St Benedict's Close, Mango Hill 4509.**

### **Mass Times:**

**Friday - 9.00am**  
**Saturday - 4.00pm**  
**Sunday - 8.30am and 5.30pm**

### **Parish Secretary:**

Renae Smyth-Scott

[admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Parish Office:**

**Address: Level 2/12 Endeavour Blvd**  
**North Lakes, Qld 4509**

**Postal: PO Box 1602**  
**North Lakes, Qld 4509**

**Phone: 34901768 or 0401550638**  
[admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Office Hours:**

**Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 2.30pm**  
**Friday Closed.**

### **Parish Safeguarding:**

Renae Smyth-Scott

Ph: 07 34901768

Email: [northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)

STOPline: Ph - 1300 304 550

STOPline: <http://bncatholic.stoplينerreport.com/>

### **Parish Website:**

[www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au](http://www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au)

### **Parish Facebook Page:**

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/StBenedictsCatholicParish/)

[StBenedictsCatholicParish/](https://www.facebook.com/StBenedictsCatholicParish/)

### **St Vincent de Paul:**

1800 Vinnie (1800 846 643)

### **St Benedict's Justice & Peace Group:**

[jpestbenedicts@gmail.com](mailto:jpestbenedicts@gmail.com)

### **Readings for this week - 7th December,** **Second Sunday of Advent, Yr A.**

**1st Reading - Isaiah 11: 1-10.**

**Psalm - Ps 71: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17.**

**Response - Justice shall flourish in his**  
**time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

**2nd Reading - St Paul to the Romans**  
**15: 4-9**

**Gospel - Matthew 3: 1-12.**

## The Week Ahead...

### Thursday 11th December

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter sent out via email.

### Friday 12th December

9am-1pm—Seasons Aged Care North Lakes Bake Sale.

### Saturday 13th December

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

### Sunday 14th December

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Baptism Preparation Morning .

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

**Friday 9am Mass, will resume with the start of the school term in 2026.**

thank you to everyone who has contributed to St Benedict being a vibrant faith-filled parish, and I pray that more and more people will become part of this incredibly worthy and life-giving mission in the years to come.

### **Come Celebrate Our Parish Anniversary! Sunday, December 7, 2025 — 8:30am Mass**

St Benedict's family, we are excited to invite **every one of you** to join us for the celebration **8th Parish Anniversary Mass on Sunday December 7 at 8:30am!** This special celebration is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as one community to give thanks for the many blessings God has poured out upon our parish over the years.

Our Anniversary Mass is always a highlight of the year, a time filled with gratitude, music, friendship, and a renewed sense of who we are as the Body of Christ at St Benedict's. We would love to see our church brimming with familiar faces, new families, and friends returning home for this joyful occasion.

To allow our whole community to celebrate **together, there will be no 5:30pm Mass on this particular Sunday.** We thank you warmly for your understanding and invite you wholeheartedly to join us in the morning so we can come together as one parish family.

Let's celebrate our past, embrace our present, and look forward with hope to the wonderful things God has in store for us! **We can't wait to celebrate with you!**

### **Please Bring a Plate for Our Anniversary Mass Morning Tea, December 7, 2025**

As part of our joyful Parish Anniversary celebrations, we warmly invite everyone to stay after the **8:30am Mass on Sunday December 7** for a special **Morning Tea.**

To help make this a truly shared celebration, we kindly ask parishioners to **bring a plate to share** - sweet or savoury, homemade or store-bought - anything you'd love to contribute to our Morning Tea.

Your generosity helps create the warm, family spirit that makes St Benedict's so special. We look forward to celebrating together with good food, great company, and grateful hearts.

### **Rite of Acceptance at our Anniversary Mass (Sunday December 7, 8:30am)**

Great news! We have nine adults travelling with us on our St Benedict's RCIA journey this year. These are very impressive people and will be a welcome addition to our Catholic family.

We will be introducing these wonderful people to the parish community during our Anniversary Mass on Sunday December 7 at 8:30am. During this Mass we will be having the Rite of Acceptance, where those beginning their RCIA journey are welcomed publicly, declare their intention to embrace Christ, and are signed with the Cross as they enter fully into parish life.

Please keep them in your prayers as we journey with them towards becoming fully initiated into our Catholic family at Easter.

### **Second Rite of Reconciliation**

We will be having a **Second Rite of Reconciliation** this Advent. The celebration of this sacrament will take place on **Tuesday December 9 at 7pm in our worship space.** This will be a very good opportunity for us to eliminate any barriers in our lives that are preventing us from receiving Jesus more fully into our lives. Like all our celebrations, everyone is most welcome!

### **Call for Assistance, Bake Stall at Season's Aged Care, Friday, Dec 12**

We have a great opportunity again to come together and serve the community, while at the same time raising much needed funds for the building of our new church.

We're calling on all parishioners to roll up their sleeves and bake for this wonderful cause, our spiritual home.

Please join us for our **Bake Stall at Season's Aged Care Christmas Market**, as I have said, is a **huge fundraiser supporting the building of our new church. How to help:**

- **Bake:** Cakes, slices, biscuits, or any of your favourite homemade treats.
- **Drop off:** At the **Parish Office on Thursday December 11**, or at **Season's Aged Care on Friday morning 12th.**

Let's come together as one to make this fundraiser a success and build a beautiful home for our faith.

### **\*\*\* Parish Office Closure during December & January\*\*\***

The Parish Office will be closed from 3pm Thursday 27th November, and will reopen at 8.30am Monday 17th December.

We will be closed for Christmas & New Year from 12pm Wednesday 24th December and reopen at 8.30am Tuesday 27th January.

Have a great week everyone, with excited expectation for the coming of Christ, **Fr Bryan.**

## Save the Date...

### In December...

**7th** - Parish 8th Anniversary Celebration - Morning Tea, after 8.30am Mass (NB - no 5.30pm Mass)

**12th** - Seasons Aged Care North Lakes- Bake Stall.

**21st** - Children's Liturgy of the Word, in 8.30am Sunday Mass.

**24th** - Christmas Eve Masses, 6pm and 9pm

**25th** - Christmas Mass, 8.30am

### In January...

**1st** - 9am, New Years Day Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God.

**11th** - Parish Morning Tea after 8.30am Mass

**18th** - Children's Liturgy of the Word in 8.30am Mass

**18th** - Baptism Preparation and Celebration Morning.

### In February...

**1st** - Commissioning Mass for St Benedict's Schools Staff in 8.30am Mass.

### Communion Ministers - Face Mask Reminder

A gentle reminder to our Communion Ministers: We ask you to kindly remember to bring your face mask with you, when you are rostered on for Communion Ministry Roster please. Thank you.

### **Reconciliation - Available by appointment.**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by appointment prior to the 4pm Saturday Mass and the 5.30pm Sunday Mass. Please contact the Parish Office.

## Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 2.

### Saturday 13th December, 4pm

**Commentator:** Sharon Hickey

**Reader 1:** B-Jay Foronda

**Reader 2:** Kay Corcoran

**Communion Minister:** Susana Karim

### Sunday 14th December, 8.30am

**Commentator:** Ronnie Vaipuna

**Reader 1:** Zepher Vaipuna

**Reader 2:** Angel Vaipuna

**Communion Minister:** John Vaipuna, Gabby and Sa Ikitau

### Sunday 14th December, 5.30pm

**Commentator:** Xavier Campbell

**Reader 1:** Geni Campbell

**Reader 2:** Xanthi Campbell

**Communion Minister:** Sheeja Alphonse, Claire Goss, Geni Campbell.

Should you not be able to attend your Ministry Roster, please let the Sacristans know asap, or arrange a swap please. Thank you for your assistance.



**Children's Liturgy of the Word –  
3rd Sunday of the Month**

Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place in Sunday 8.30am Mass on the third Sunday of each the Month. Next is:-21st December.  
**Children from the age groups of Prep to Grade 4 are welcome to attend.**

**Call for Assistance- Fundraiser - Seasons Aged Care (Mango Hill) Bake Sale  
Friday 12th December, 9am to 1.30pm.**

We are once again grateful to have an opportunity to help with the fundraising towards our church building project! We are putting out the call for your help!

Please save the date, for the **Season's Aged Care (Mango Hill), Bake Sale on Friday, 12th December.**

We would love to hear from you if you are able to **Provide baked goods or other treats.** These items will be sold to raise funds which shall go toward the funds needed to build our St Benedict's Church. I ask that you please get in touch with Renae in the Parish Office. Your assistance, as always, will be greatly appreciated. Once again the Parish Office will be available as a drop off point on Thursday 11th December, 9am—3pm. Thank you for your support!



**Parish Fundraising- \$5 Lucky Numbers.**

**Support our Parish Fundraising by purchasing a \$5 Lucky Number.**

**Numbers are available from the Mass Centre this weekend.**

**All funds raised will go directly back to our Church.**



**Advent Program 2025:-** As we draw closer to Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Our Saviour Jesus, joining with others for an online Advent Program is another way to prayerfully approach this beautiful season.

St Benedict's Advent Program runs for 4 weeks online, for one hour each Wednesday at 7pm. The Program begins on Wednesday evening the 26th November and continues, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

To be part of this Wednesday evening Program use the following zoom link to join in:- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85684103683>

**The Children's Choir – Leading our Christmas Carols and Christmas Vigil Mass**

Calling all children in our St Benedict's Parish to join the Children's Choir, who will come together for rehearsals after our Sunday 8:30am Mass on the Second, Third and Fourth Sundays of Advent (December 7, 14 and 21).

Our Children's Choir will be leading our Christmas Carols at 5:30pm on Christmas Eve (December 24). They will then continue to lead us in the Christmas hymns sung during our Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm.

All children in the parish are very welcome, and encourage, to join this beautiful choir.

*"Every conversation matters"  
Safeguarding Matters*



**The Sacrament of Baptism at St Benedict's.**

We invite all families wishing to have children Baptised into the Catholic Faith at St Benedict's, to please contact the Parish Office for information and available dates for Baptism Preparation and Baptism in 2025 and 2026.



**Sacramental Programs at St Benedicts Parish.**

We encourage families wishing to enroll children to receive their Sacraments or for those seeking further information about our Annual Sacramental Programs, to please contact the Parish Office via email.

Eligibility to receive the Sacraments:-

**Confirmation** - children in Grade 3 and above having already received the Sacrament of Baptism are eligible. The Program takes place through out the months of July and August each year.

**First Holy Communion (Eucharist) & Reconciliation** - children in Grade 4 and above, having already received their Sacrament of Confirmation are eligible. The Program takes place through out the months of May and June each year.

*We continue to keep all of the children and families that have taken part in the Sacramental Programs at St Benedict's Parish in 2025 in our prayers. May Gods love & peace be with you always.*



**St Benedict's Prayer Network - Prayer Requests**

Prayer requests are always welcomed and can be made in three ways to the Prayer Team.

1. Written into the Prayer Request Book located on the timber stand in the Mass Centre entrance.
2. Written and placed into the small wooden prayer box, in front of the Altar.
3. Or via email to [ranthony52@hotmail.com](mailto:ranthony52@hotmail.com).

A new prayer request will be needed after 4 weeks.

*Should you wish you have a name placed in the prayer requests in the Parish Newsletter, please email the Parish Office by email.*



**Please remember in your Prayers:**

**Those who are Unwell:** Gail Tarrier, Joy and Russell Darby, Natalia Humpries, Erin Stillman, Mike and Joy Gibbs

**All those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:**

**Our Dear Recently Departed:** John Kirby, Malcolm Lochlan.



**Justice Peace & Ecology Noticeboard.**

**2025 Vinnies Toiletries Gift Packs.** This week is our last opportunity to contribute to the Vinnies 2025 Toiletry initiative.

**If you are still wishing to contribute, please drop your donations off to the Mass Centre by Sunday morning 7th December please.**

This is a wonderful way to share goodwill with those doing it tough.

Thank you to those who have already donated! Donated items are still coming in the Shopping List is shown below.

Please place any donated items in the large zip poly bags at the Mass Centre Entrance Door. Thank you so much for supporting this amazing initiative.

**2025 Items for collection:-**

Soap	Deodorant	Shampoo and Conditioner
Toothpaste	Body Lotion	Hair Brush and Combs
Lip Balm	Sunscreen	Feminine Products
Face Clothes	Shaving items	Insect Repellant
Mens Talc	Pamper Packs	Make Up Head Bands

*Please do not buy Family Packs as they cannot be broken down to suit the different recipients.*

**Next Meeting:** We will hold our next meeting at 7pm on Wednesday, 10th December, in the School Hall. All are welcome.

**JP&E has a new email address - [jpestbenedicts@gmail.com](mailto:jpestbenedicts@gmail.com).**

The old email address is inactive. *Should you have any questions in regard to any of this information please reach out to the JP&E Group.*



### St Benedict's Parish Vision Prayer

Father You are great, You are glorious,  
and You are wonderful in every way.  
Praising You O God, brings us great joy.  
Fill us with Your grace so that we can embrace  
Jesus in our lives.

Open the ears of our heart to build up Your Kingdom in the world by  
participating fully in the life and mission of our parish.

May we treasure our cultural diversity as we live full lives  
united in You, our Beloved.

Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, help us to welcome and  
encourage each other in the incredible life-giving love of Jesus.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

### Safeguarding for Parish Ministry Roles.

The Archdioceses of Brisbane People & Culture Team, together with  
the Parish Volunteers Team are trying to assist Parishes by stream-  
lining the Safeguarding lodgment/renewal/training process for all of  
our Parishioners who are required to maintain Blue Cards, Police  
Checks & Safeguarding Compliance/Training for their Ministry Roles  
within the St Benedict's Parish.

Blue Card and/or Police Checks are to be held by those that are  
working directly with children for our Parish or hold particular roles  
in accordance with Archdiocese guidelines.

Should you be required to hold/renew your Blue Card/Police Check,  
the Archdiocese P&C/Volunteers Team (Brent Hunter) will be in  
contact. Please feel free to contact Renae also if you have questions.  
Thank you.

### Extended Offer

### Will Campaign Partnership with St Benedict's Parish

Lockett McCullough Lawyers is excited to share our partnership with St.  
Benedict's Parish in support of building your church. We are proud to launch a  
Will Campaign commencing 1 June and continuing through to 31 August 2025.  
Through this campaign, we will offer parishioners wishing to leave a bequest to  
the parish, discounted pricing of \$440 including GST per Will. In addition to  
your lasting legacy, our firm will donate an addition \$100 per Will made under  
this Campaign to St Benedict's Parish.

To take advantage of this offer, you can reach out by calling  
(07) 3264 7692 or emailing  
admin@lockettmcclough.com.au.

With offices located at the Gold Coast, Toowong, Hamilton,  
Albany Creek, and Noosa, the firm provides flexibility by  
offering to meet you at your location for document signing.

Lockett  
McCullough  
Lawyers

### Holy Cross Funerals Supporting Parishes for 25 years

Contact our experienced and friendly staff to  
assist with your pre-planning or funeral needs.  
Kippa-Ring ~ 3293 0555 Caloundra ~ 5208 9337  
www.holycrossfunerals.com



We respectfully acknowledge the Gubbi Gubbi and Ningi Ningi  
people, as the traditional custodians and caretakers of the land in  
which we gather for the St Benedict's Catholic Parish.  
We acknowledge the Elders, past, present and emerging.  
May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

### Leaving a Legacy

A simple yet powerful way to impact future  
generations, is to leave a gift to St Benedict's  
Parish, North Lakes, Mango Hill, Griffin in your  
will. After you have taken care of your loved ones,  
you may consider naming St Benedict's Parish to  
receive a gift, which will continue to make a  
meaningful and profound difference to your  
Parish.



### Financially Supporting Our St Benedict's Parish

To everyone who actively contributes financially to the life of our  
St Benedict's Parish. Thank you! Without you we would not be able  
to operate as a parish.

We know that the only stable and recurring income that our parish  
receives is from the **support of our Planned Giving Program**. Our  
Planned Giving is required to meet the financial cost of running the  
Parish and raising funds to build our Church.

I am asking every parishioner to commit some of your **TREASURE**  
and help make our dream become a reality. Our Parish Pledge Card  
is available at the Mass centre; asking everyone to **commit to the  
Planned Giving Program**. If you are already in the Planned Giving  
Program, we are asking you to at least continue and if at all possible  
increase your financial support.

If you are not yet part of our Planned Giving Program, then please  
join and make a commitment to our Parish. There are three (3)  
options to financially contribute to the running of the Parish.  
These are:

- 1. **Direct Debit**                      2. **Credit Card**                      3. **Giving Envelopes**

On our Parish Pledge Card we will have an opportunity to support:

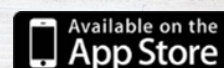
- \* **The Parish (Running) Collection**, which supports the expenses  
incurred for the day-to-day, efficient and effective running  
of the parish. (Leases, Wages, Supplies)
- \* **The Building (Church) Donation**, which supports our purchasing/  
building of assets, which include our future church, office,  
and an adult faith formation/gathering space.

If we want the Archdiocese to contribute significantly to the building  
of our church, then we need to show that we are financially viable  
as a parish. So please join our Planned Giving program to help  
secure our financial future and to give us funds to answer God's call  
for us to spread the Good News of Jesus through our words, our  
deeds, and by being vessels of God's hope, love, and peace.

Our faith sustains us through challenging times.

Now, more than ever, your support is needed to help our Parish  
to continue valuable pastoral activities and to provide ongoing  
sustainability. To assist you in supporting the St Benedict's  
Parish, you can now give via the Planned Giving APP:

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>



**Smoke Free School**, A reminder to all Parishioners and Friends that  
smoking is not permitted within school grounds. The law relating to  
school land applies at all times - during and after school hours, on  
weekends and during school holidays.

Where persons are observed smoking on school grounds or near our  
school, legislation requires that the person to either stop smoking or  
move to an area where smoking is permitted.

**A matter for safety/care and concern**, We ask that families please  
do not allow children to use the playground equipment on school  
land before or after Mass of a weekend as a matter of safety. Thank  
you