



ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time,
Year A.
8th February 2026.**

Parish Priest:

Fr Bryan Roe

Email: 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:

Renaë Smyth-Scott
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**

Office Hours:

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

Parish Safeguarding:

Jody Gearon
Ph: 07 34901768
Email: northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au
STOPline: Ph - 1300 304 550
STOPline: <http://bncatholic.stopinereport.com/>

Parish Website:

www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au

Parish Facebook Page:

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

St Vincent de Paul:

1800 Vinnie (1800 846 643)

St Benedict's Justice & Peace Group:

jpestbenedicts@gmail.com

**Readings for this week - 8th February,
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr A.**

**1st Reading - Isaiah 58: 7-10.
Psalm - Ps 111: 4-9.
Response - A light rises in the darkness
for the upright.
Alleluia!
2nd Reading - St Paul to the Corinthians
2: 1-5.
Gospel - Matthew 5: 13-16.**

Called to Serve

The Catholic Leader wrote an article about me, about two months before being ordained a priest, with the title "Called to Serve." I remember a senior priest at the time glancing at the headline and remarking in a somewhat sarcastic way, "What a corny title." When I explained it was a play on words referring to me formerly being a tennis player, he quickly apologised and conceded it was, in fact, rather clever.

As Christians, we are all called to serve. Jesus leaves no room for doubt about this. He tells us plainly: "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Service is not an optional extra of Christian life; it is at its very heart.

In this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 5:13-16), Jesus uses two simple but powerful images to describe our vocation: salt and light.

Salt exists for the sake of something else. It brings out flavour, enhances what is already present, and makes food enjoyable. Salt serves the meal. In the same way, Jesus calls us to use our gifts, talents, and personalities to bring out the best in others and in the world around us. We are encouraged not to dominate or diminish, but to uplift—to help one another become the best versions of ourselves. When we allow Jesus into our lives, he continually raises us up, so that we in turn can raise others up, encouraging them to use their gifts so that all may thrive.

Jesus also calls us to be light. Light serves by allowing us to see clearly. The Light of Christ helps us to see first and foremost that we are infinitely loved by God. It also shows us a way of living marked by compassion, generosity, and loving service. And perhaps most importantly, the Light of Jesus assures us that we are never alone. In times of struggle, uncertainty, or grief, Jesus remains with us, offering strength, hope, and love when we need it most.

Jesus then entrusts this same mission to us. We are to be salt and light for one another—serving quietly, loving generously, and reflecting the presence of Christ in our everyday lives. In doing so, we fulfil our shared calling: to serve God by serving others.

Welcome to Our Parish Team

It is with great joy that I welcome Jody Gearon to the St Benedict's Parish Team as our new Parish Administration Assistant. Jody joins Renaë, our Parish Secretary, and me in the shared ministry of serving our parish family and supporting all that happens in the life of our parish. Jody will be in the office on a Wednesday and Thursday. Please join me in warmly welcoming Jody to our Parish Team, and please keep us in your prayers.

A Reflection on Our Church Space and Our Life of Faith

The **Second Vatican Council** made it very clear that **the liturgy belongs to all of us**. The Altar, in particular, is not the priest's table alone. It is the table around which all the baptised are gathered. The Council reminds us that the liturgy is "the summit and source" of the Church's life (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 10), and through our baptism we all share in Christ's priesthood and are called to participate fully in what takes place there (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 14).

Also, the Council affirms that the Ambo and the Baptismal Font need to be permanent and prominent within the church. This is not about aesthetics, but about faith. When the Scriptures are proclaimed from the Ambo, it is Christ Himself who speaks to us (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 7). The Word of God is living and active, and it deserves a place that reflects its dignity.

The Baptismal Font, too, holds a special place in our church. Each time we pass it, we are reminded of who we are and where our journey with Christ began. Through baptism, we are joined to Christ's life, death, and resurrection (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 6). Our whole Christian life flows from that moment.

At every Mass, Christ is truly present in four ways: in the Eucharist, in the Word, in the Priest who presides, and in the gathered community (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 7). Our church space is meant to help us become more aware of that presence and to draw us into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus.

This way of understanding worship also connects closely with the call of the **Synod on Synodality**, which invites us to grow as a Church marked by **Communion, Participation, and Mission**. We are not spectators, but a people walking together, listening together, and sent together to bring Christ to the world.

My hope in sharing all of this is very simple: that each of us might come to know Jesus more deeply, to encounter Him more personally, and to allow Him to shape our lives. If our church space helps us pray better, listen more attentively, and love more generously, then it is serving its true purpose.

Please know that I continue to hold you and your families in my prayers as we journey together in faith.

The Week Ahead...

Tuesday 10th February

9am - St Benedict's Primary School Opening
2026 Mass. All are Welcome.

Thursday 12th February

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter -
distributed via email, and also available on
our Parish Website.

Friday 13th February

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Saturday 14th February

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Happy Valentines Day

Sunday 15th February

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Children's Liturgy of the Word, within 8.30am
Mass

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Update on Our Church

On the evening of Tuesday January 20, we had a very fruitful Church Steering Committee meeting. We are at the stage of slightly modifying the latest architect plans and receiving a high-level pricing for the church. This pricing will be a very important part of our business plan that we will present to Archbishop Shane, who will hopefully give us the financial support we need to commence the building of our church as soon as possible. Please keep this very important project in your prayers.

Preparing for Lent— Lenten Resource

Archdiocesan Ministries Brisbane's Lenten resource is excellent. This year's Lenten resource is **The Journey Home**. It has been written by Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge. Archbishop Mark is a very competent Scripture Scholar, which gives this resource a great richness of beauty and depth.

This resource is available at the Mass Centre for \$5.00 each.

Preparing for the Lenten Journey - Ash Wednesday 18/02/26 - 7am & 7pm Mass

Lent is a time of preparation and reflection, as we draw toward the heart of the Christian faith—the Easter Triduum, which celebrates the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus. This season, lasting 40 days, offers a unique opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and renew our commitment to living the Gospel. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity, we open ourselves to transformation and spiritual growth.

Prayer is the foundation of our Lenten journey. It is a time to grow in our connection with God, allowing His presence to guide and strengthen us. As always, we have sourced a Lenten resource from Archdiocesan Ministries, which includes a Scripture reflection, a spiritual writing, reflection questions, and a prayer. **Our Lenten Resource is on sale at the Mass Centre at each of our Masses for \$5. Limited books left.**

Praying during Lent offers us a chance for deeper connection with God, offering a space to withdraw from daily distractions and encounter God more profoundly. Through prayer, we prepare to enter into the Paschal mystery with a renewed sense of awe and gratitude.

Fasting during Lent helps us detach from worldly comforts and refocus on spiritual nourishment. By fasting from food, habits, or distractions, we are reminded of our dependence on God and our commitment to self-discipline. This act of self-denial enables us to open our hearts to God's grace, fostering humility and mindfulness of the suffering Christ endured for our salvation.

Acts of Charity invite us to live out the love of Christ by serving others. Lent calls us to a deeper compassion for the poor, the marginalized, and those in need. Through acts of kindness, we follow Jesus' example and prepare our hearts to celebrate His resurrection with joy and gratitude.

The Stations of the Cross – Fridays in Lent 6pm

To enhance our preparation for our celebration of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter), the church offers us the devotion of **The Stations of the Cross** – a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers. We will be praying the Stations of the Cross each **Friday during Lent at 6pm**. Concluding with **praying the Stations on Good Friday at 10am**. Please join us.

Have a great week everyone, serving the Lord with gladness, *Fr Bryan.*

PAX
in every step

Please join us for our 2026 Opening School Mass!

Date: Tuesday 10th February

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: School Hall

Each class will have their classroom prayer mat ready to share with the community, with Father Bryan blessing these during the Mass. A special event not to be missed.



Save the Date...

In February...

- 15th - Children's Liturgy of the Word, in 8.30am Sunday Mass.
- 15th - Parish Morning Tea after 8.30am Mass
- 18th - Parish Ash Wednesday Mass, 7am and 7pm.
- 18th - Caritas, Project Compassion to begin.
- 20th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.
- 25th - St Benedict's Parish Prayer Network Lenten Group - detail to follow.
- 27th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.

In March...

- 1st - Baptism Preparation and Celebration Morning.
- 6th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.
- 13th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.
- 15th - Children's Liturgy of the Word, in 8.30am Sunday Mass.
- 15th - Parish Morning Tea after 8.30am Mass
- 20th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.
- 27th - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross, 6pm.
- 29th - Palm Sunday.

Communion Ministers - Face Mask Reminder

A gentle reminder to our Communion Ministers: We ask you to kindly remember to bring and wear 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 to arrange an appointment. Thank you.

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 3.

Saturday 14th February, 4pm

Commentator: Oliver Morata
Reader 1: Mary Foronda
Reader 2: Sheila Pereira
Communion Minister: Gerard Davis

Sunday 15th February, 8.30am

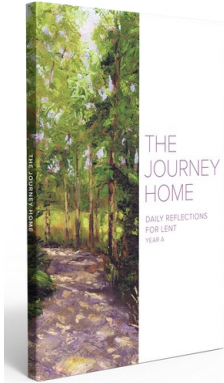
Commentator: Charles D'Rosario
Reader 1: Morton Howes
Reader 2: Aviva Coutinho
Communion Minister: Bobette Sindicic,
Pierina Ziebarth and Juvenal

Sunday 15th February, 5.30pm

Commentator: Judith Fernandes
Reader 1: Seema Masih
Reader 2: Zandra Farr
Communion Minister: Theresa Saad,
Michael Fraser, Sheilah Ojuri.

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.

**A DAILY REFLECTION RESOURCE FOR
LENT 2026**




This year Archdiocesan Ministries has developed a new Lenten reflection resource called *The Journey Home*. *The Journey Home* has been written by our guest writer, Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge, former Archbishop of Brisbane. With a background in studying Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute, and many years of experience teaching scripture, we are delighted to offer this resource to you.

This resource is designed with both individuals and groups in mind, offering simple, easy-to-follow prompts for small group leaders to use each Sunday during Lent. Each weekday includes a beginning prayer, a short scripture text, a reflection upon it, some thoughts to provoke reflection and/or discussion and a closing prayer.

The 2026 Lenten Resource Book is available to purchase for \$5.00 each at the Mass Centre.

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 Parish, will be celebrating Mass for Ash Wednesday, 18th February, at 7am and 7pm. All are Welcome.

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.

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.*



THE CATHOLIC LEADER

The Leader delivered to you
catholicleader.com.au/subscribe
or call (07) 3324 3555




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:



Make a new beginning with **Jesus**

**LENT
IDEAS FOR KIDS**



catholic encounter **KIDS**

Archdiocesan **MINISTRIES**



Parish Weekly Newsletter via Email.

Receiving our weekly Parish Newsletter via Email is a wonderful way to keep up to date with the varied ministries and events happening in and around our Parish and the Archdiocese.


If you are not currently receiving our Newsletter via email and would like to, please contact the Parish Office so we can set you up in our Database to receive them electronically.

The Newsletter is uploaded to our Parish Website every Thursday also.

We do have very limited access to printing a small amount of the Newsletter most weeks, however our preferred method to share information is via email.

**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:-15th February.
Children from the age groups of Prep to Grade 4 are welcome to attend.



Justice Peace & Ecology Noticeboard.

2025 Vinnies Toiletries Gift Packs—THANK YOU. We wish to extend a sincere thank you to all those who were in a position to donate goods to the SVDP 2025 Toiletry initiative.

Working collaboratively with the St Benedict's Primary School. SVDP and our Parish, we were able to put many packs together that will go towards helping many people in need over the Christmas and New Year period.

Next Meeting. We will hold our next meeting at 7pm on Wednesday, date TBC, in the School Hall. All are welcome.

JP&E has a new email address - 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.*

"Every conversation matters"
Safeguarding Matters





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.

LIVING PRAYER
RHYTHMS OF PRAYER IN LENT

**A 3 Day
Lenten Retreat**
27 Feb - 1 March
Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre

Scan for Info
and Registration

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:

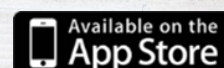
- * **The Parish (Running) Collection**, which supports the expenses
incurred for the day-to-day, efficient and effective running
of the parish. (Leases, Wages, Supplies)
- * **The Building (Church) Donation**, which supports our purchasing/
building of assets, which include our future church, office,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