



ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

**Second Sunday of Lent,
Year A.
1st March 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 - 1st March,
Second Sunday of Lent, Yr A.**

**1st Reading - Genesis 12: 1-4.
Psalm - Ps 32: 4-5, 18-20, 20.
Response - Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
2nd Reading - St Paul to the Timothy 1: 8-10.
Gospel - Matthew 17: 1-9.**

"Lord, 'It is Wonderful for Us to be Here.'" (Matthew 17:4)

In the Archdiocese of Brisbane's Lenten resource, The Journey Home, Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge reflects on the powerful biblical metaphors that describe the difference between life without God and life with God. These images are not merely poetic, they also tell the story of salvation and the story of our own hearts and minds.

Without God, life slips from chaos to disorder. We see this in the opening of Genesis, where creation begins in formless confusion. In our own lives, when God is pushed aside, priorities blur, relationships fracture, and anxiety reigns. Yet with God, chaos becomes order. Think of a family that rediscovers prayer together - peace slowly replaces tension, and harmony begins to grow.

Life without God is also described as slavery rather than freedom. The Israelites in Egypt laboured under heavy burdens, just as we can become enslaved to sin, resentment, and/or unhealthy habits. With God, however, comes liberation. Forgiveness breaks chains, and grace restores dignity. This enables us to walk upright again as beloved daughters and sons of God, not captives.

Then there is the movement from darkness to light. Darkness can symbolise confusion, despair, or moral blindness. Many know what it is to feel lost or overwhelmed. But Jesus is the light who scatters the shadows. A person burdened by guilt who encounters mercy in Reconciliation experiences that radiant shift from night into dawn.

Scripture also proclaims the journey from death to life. Without God, hope withers and meaning fades. Yet in our relationship with Jesus, even the tomb is not the end. The Resurrection transforms loss into promise. We witness this each time faith rises in a grieving heart.

The Bible also speaks of desert to garden. The desert is dry, harsh, and unforgiving - like seasons of spiritual emptiness. But God leads us toward the garden, a place of communion and fruitfulness. Where prayer returns, joy blossoms, and peace reigns.

Even the image of life from a barren womb and the tomb reminds us that God creates possibility where none seems to exist. Sarah's child in old age, and above all the empty tomb of Easter morning, proclaim that God brings life where human strength cannot.

As we continue our Lenten journey, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity are our pathways home. They open us to the God who transforms our lives from chaos to order, darkness to light, slavery to freedom, and death to true life in the vibrant garden where beauty truly reigns.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

During Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation stands at the heart of our journey home to God. Sin distances us from divine life, darkening our hearts, and weakening love. In confession, Jesus meets us with mercy, speaks forgiveness through the Church, and restores us to full life with Him (grace). This sacrament is truly transformative: it carries us from death to life, from guilt to freedom, from isolation to communion. What feels heavy is lifted, and what is broken is healed. Reconciliation renews our baptismal dignity and rekindles hope, enabling us to walk the Lenten path with lighter hearts and deeper joy in God's life.

The First Rite of Reconciliation

The First Rite of Reconciliation involves individual confession and absolution. A penitent meets privately with a priest, confesses sins, expresses contrition, receives a penance, and is given absolution. This personal encounter highlights Christ's intimate mercy, offering space for honest reflection, spiritual counsel, healing, and renewed commitment.

The First Rite of Reconciliation will be offered during Lent on Saturdays at 3:30pm in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Second Rite of Reconciliation

The Second Rite of Reconciliation is a communal celebration with individual confession and absolution. The community gathers for Scripture, reflection, examination of conscience, and shared prayer. Individuals then confess privately to a priest. This rite beautifully expresses both personal conversion and our shared journey back to God.

Our St Benedict's Parish community warmly invites you to our **Second Rite of Reconciliation at 7pm on Tuesday March 10 in our Mass Centre**. All are more than welcome. Come and experience God's mercy and love as we strengthen and encourage one another, enhancing our Journey Home together to God this Lent.

Lent: Our Journey Home to God

In my mid to late teens, I travelled a lot playing tennis, both interstate and overseas. And while away from home I missed the love, familiarity, and comfort of being at home. I always loved returning home to my beautiful family, the house I grew up in, my bedroom, my bed, my pillow, Mum's cooking etc. I could really relate to the following two sayings, "There is no place like home." I think that comes from Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, and "home is where the heart is."

Both of the above sayings are particularly the case when we come to realise as people of faith

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 4th March

St Benedict's Lenten Prayer Group, via Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83564701456>

Thursday 5th March

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

Friday 6th March

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass together with Grade 12 students.

6pm - St Benedict's Parish Stations of the Cross

Saturday 7th March

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 8th March

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

that our true home is with God. Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge has really nailed what Lent is all about with title of the Archdiocese's Lenten resource..."The Journey Home."

Through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity, we turn our hearts back to the One who loves us most. We clear away what distracts us. We realign our lives.

We journey closer and closer to God, we experience the perfect love, peace, and contentment, which we all yearn for and desperately need. For when we are with God — we are home, and there truly there is no place like being at home with God.

Journey Home to God through Prayer, Fasting, and Acts of Charity

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.

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.

Our Prayer Network has also organised a Lenten Group at 7pm on Wednesday evenings during Lent on zoom, and an exciting Deanery Lenten Retreat. Please see below for more details.

Fasting during Lent helps us detach from worldly comforts and refocus on spiritual nourishment. By fasting from food, selfish 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.

Caritas gives us the opportunity to support communities less fortunate than us through Project Compassion.

St Benedict's Lenten Groups on Zoom - from Wednesday 25/02/26, 7pm.

Prayer is the foundation of our Lenten journey, and the oxygen for the spiritual life. 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 (formerly Evangelisation Brisbane), 'The Journey Home' written by Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge. This resource includes a Scripture reflection, a spiritual writing, reflection questions, and prayer.

Our prayer Network will be leading a Prayer Group on Zoom on all Wednesdays during Lent at 7pm starting on Wednesday February 25. Here is the link for the Wednesday Prayer Group: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83564701456>

I encourage you all to come along. All are welcome!

The Stations of the Cross each Friday in Lent – from Friday 20/02/26, 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.

Important—Update on Building Our Church and Finances.

This week I met with our Architects to do some 3D modelling for our church. We are now going to send these models off to a Quantity Surveyor who will give a high-level costing. This will be added to our Business Plan, and I will organise a meeting with Archbishop Shane and Father Peter Dillon (Vicar General) to request funding.

Please note, we (the parishioners) need to contribute financially towards the running of our Parish and the building of our church. At present, our collections are a major concern for the Archdiocese (last weekend Parish Collection: \$700, and Church Building Collection: \$600). This will inhibit acquiring the funding required for the building of our church. Our Business Plan is also sourcing revenue from leasing out our church multi-purpose space during the weekdays.

Cont.

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 2.

Saturday 28th February, 4pm

Commentator: Sharon Hickey
Reader 1: B-Jay Foronda
Reader 2: Kay Corcoran
Communion Minister: Susana Karim

Sunday 1st March, 8.30am

Commentator: Ronnie Vaipuna
Reader 1: Zepher Vaipuna
Reader 2: Angel Vaipuna
Communion Minister: John Vaipuna, Gabby and Sa Ikitau

Sunday 1st March, 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.

Date Claimer – Sunday March 1 After Our 8:30am Mass



Do you have an interest in St Francis of Assisi? Would you like to know how you can follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis in your everyday life? Deacon Adrain Eldridge of the Secular Franciscan Order will be presenting a talk on St Francis, his life and spirituality in the school hall on Sunday 1st March 2026 following the 8:30am Mass. All are welcome.

Have a great week everyone, journeying home to God, **Fr Bryan.**

Lenten Retreat with Fr Sam Samuel (Divine Retreat Centre)

When:- Saturday 28th February 9.30am to 3.30pm

Where:- Holy Cross Church, 110 Nottingham St Kippa Ring.

Notes:- Admission is Free, No Registration required, BYO Food.

For enquires please call 0432 833 439

Justice Peace & Ecology Noticeboard.

Groups activities in 2025 were successful in some significant areas – presenting another Signs of Our Times spiritual program, completing a draft Laudato Si Parish Plan, and leading a very successful Parish contribution to toiletry packs for Vinnies.

Our recent meeting noted that in 2026 we should more closely participate with the Archdiocese where Executive Officer, Emma Beach, is a great supporter. We met with her last weekend. A new program will evolve.

Help! We have passionate hard workers and a great team, but we are needing assistance with recording and communicating where we are going. Anyone with an interest in the activities of the JPE Group, with available time, and a skill in simple Group administration please contact Ken on 0438799028.

Caritas Project Compassion has commenced for 2026. Please find read our Newsletter for information or see Caritas projects at <https://www.caritas.org.au/>

The South Brisbane Mens' Shelter tell us their need is greater than ever. So, the shirt collection is on again with a target of 60 shirts – good quality collared shirts suitable for a business interview.

Farewell and Thank you, we record our gratitude to Margaretha Mortiaux for her passion and commitment to our Group since inception as she now leaves in pursuit of new interests.

Future meeting dates will be the second Wednesday of each month: 11 March, 8 April, 13 May, etc. Meetings will be at a member's house, notified before each meeting.

JP&E email address - jpestbenedicts@gmail.com. Should you have any questions in regard to any of this information please reach out.



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 March.**

Children from the age groups of Prep to Grade 4 are welcome to attend.

Children younger than Prep, age are welcome to attend but they are to be accompanied by an adult please.

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.



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.



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: Lyn Kellerher



Northern Rivers Deanery - Lenten Retreat. 12pm - 3.30pm Saturday 14th March.

St Benedict's Parish Mass Centre, 22 St Benedict's Close Mango Hill.

Parishioners and Friends are warmly invited to a special Deanery Retreat at St Benedict's Parish, 22 St Benedict's Close, Mango Hill, on Saturday March 14, 12:00pm–3:30pm, including afternoon tea. Our Retreat Director will be Father Kevin Gonsalvos (OFM Cap), a Capuchin priest who has faithfully served God by directing retreats and preaching the Gospel in more than 20 countries around the world. Father Kevin brings with him not only deep insights of God, but the lived experience of a Franciscan whose heart burns with love for Jesus and His Church.

The theme of our retreat is "St Francis as Alter Christus" — St Francis as 'Another Christ.'

This Retreat is a free to attend, so please mark the date in your calendars and join us for this grace-filled opportunity. Come hungry for God. Come open to renewal. Come ready to be sent forth in perfect peace.

For any enquiries please contact St Benedict's Parish Office by email at northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au





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.**

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.

Safeguarding for Parish Ministry Roles.

The Archdioceses of Brisbane People & Culture Team, together with the Parish Volunteers Team are trying to assist Parishes by streamlining 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 Jody also if you have questions. Thank you.



Registering your details with our Parish- Email & Census.

We encourage our Parishioners to keep the Parish Office up to date with your family details. Please find our Census Cards on the Welcome Table at the Mass Centre. Please complete and submit to the office so we can register/update your contact details. This will also assist us to send out our weekly Parish Newsletter via Email to you. Receiving the Newsletter is a wonderful way to keep up to date with the varied ministries and events happening in and around our Parish. You are also welcome to email the Parish Office your information.

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



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



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Donations 2026 How do we donate?

This Lent, like in 2025, there is a single Project Compassion donation envelope – rather than the six weekly envelopes used in previous years. This change was made to reduce waste and support our shared commitment to caring for our common home. You can still give weekly by taking several envelopes at once or simply make your offering when you're ready.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the envelopes, or by calling:- 1800 024 413 or by scanning the QR Code, or by going online at:
www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



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.