



ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

**The Ascension of the Lord,
Year A.
17th May 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 Admin Assistant & Safeguarding:

Jody Gearon

Ph: 07 34901768

Email: northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au

STOPline: Ph - 1300 304 550

STOPline: <http://bnecatholic.stoplينerreport.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 - 17th May 2026,
The Ascension of the Lord.**

**1st Reading - Acts of the Apostles
1: 1-11.**

Psalm - Ps 46: 2-3, 6-9.

**Response - God mounts his throne to
shouts of joy: a blare of
trumpets for the Lord.**

**2nd Reading - St Paul to the Ephesians
1: 17-23.**

Gospel - Matthew 28: 16-20.

Dear wonderful parishioners of St Benedict's Parish,

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the great Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Forty days after the Resurrection, the Risen Jesus returns to the Father, not to abandon the world, but to remain with us in a new and powerful way.

In the Gospel from Matthew, Jesus gives His disciples the Great Commission: **"Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."** These are not simply final words to the apostles long ago. They are Christ's mission entrusted to the Church today, entrusted to us.

The Ascension is not the end of Jesus' work; it is the beginning of the Church's mission. In Acts of the Apostles, Jesus promises His disciples: **"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth."**

The apostles are not sent alone. The same Holy Spirit who descended at Pentecost continues to guide, strengthen, and empower the Church in every age. This is why the Feast of the Ascension naturally points us toward Pentecost. The Risen Lord ascends to the Father, and ten days later the Holy Spirit descends upon the Church, filling people of every language and nation with the fire of God's love.

Here at St Benedict's Parish, we will celebrate this reality beautifully at **our Multicultural Pentecost Mass at 8:30am on Sunday May 24**. Through cultural processions, the Prayer of the Faithful proclaimed in different languages, and the Our Father prayed in native tongues, we will embody the Pentecost scene itself. That is, the Holy Spirit drawing all peoples into unity through Christ. What a powerful witness this is in our world today.

This mission of making disciples is also lived in a special way through our sacramental families. **We warmly welcome our First Holy Communion children and their families as they continue their journey toward receiving the Body and Blood of Christ.** Through Baptism they were welcomed into God's family; through Confirmation they were strengthened with the gift of the Holy Spirit; and now, **in the Eucharist, they will become fully initiated into the Catholic Church.** This is a sacred and joyful time for them, and for all of us as a parish community.

As parishioners, we are called to be authentic witnesses of Jesus by welcoming these children and families with warmth, encouragement, and love. Sometimes the most powerful form of spreading the Good News of Jesus is by simple Christian hospitality, that is, with a smile, a kind word, an invitation, a genuine sense that people belong. The Great Commission begins not only in distant lands, but right here in our own parish community.

Many parishioners may remember that the Feast of the Ascension was traditionally celebrated on Thursday, exactly forty days after Easter Sunday. In Australia and many other countries, the Church now transfers the feast to the following Sunday so that more of the faithful can gather to celebrate this important mystery together. While the day has shifted pastorally, the meaning remains exactly the same: **the Risen Jesus has entered into the glory of the Father and continues His saving mission through the Church.**

Now, perhaps the most beautiful part of the Gospel this Sunday is Jesus' promise: **"Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."** The Ascension does not mean Jesus has gone far away. Through the Holy Spirit, through the Eucharist, through the Church, and most importantly, through constantly inviting Jesus into our lives, Christ remains present among His people. He walks with us, strengthens us, forgives us, and leads us to life in abundance (John 10:10). This is indeed very, very Good News! *Fr Bryan*

A Very Heartfelt Letter of Thanks, from Ken Butler.

Dear Parishioners,

I cannot express my gratitude enough for the support you gave me after the loss of Mary. Mary's sister, Jan, was very upset of course, and I asked, "Why are you worrying?" She replied, "I am worrying for you." Then, on Monday evening the JP&E Group and others called around to say some prayers and share some food. Jan joined us. On leaving she said, "I no longer have to worry about you." I told her, too, that your support extended far beyond just the JP&E Group.

Your messages of consolation and praise for Mary showed that Mary had touched so many people. Neither she nor I could have imagined the extent of that.

For me, the event has strengthened my faith. I now better understand the meaning of "sacraments", especially "marriage". Through grieving I have discovered that our wedding was not just a ceremony. Certainly, I grieve about the obvious holes that Mary's leaving has left in my life, but I have been shown that Mary was a living blessing given by God to me. What a wonderful 55 years we had together.



Parish Calendar

The Week Ahead...

Pentecost 9 Day Novena to take place throughout week (18-22).

Thursday 21st May

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

Friday 22nd May

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass, together with Year 2 students.

Saturday 23rd May

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 24th May

Pentecost Sunday

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Multicultural Mass, Pentecost Sunday.

Pentecost Multicultural Celebration Morning Tea, after 8.30am Mass.

Children's Sacramental Preparation for First Holy Communion and Reconciliation, please contact the Parish Office.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Save the Date...

In May...

15th -23rd- Holy Spirit Novena to commence.

17th - Children's Liturgy of the Word, in 8.30am Sunday Mass.

17th - Children's Sacramental Preparation begins (attendance by booking)

24th - Pentecost Multi Cultural Mass and Morning Tea

31st - Baptism Celebration and Preparation Morning after 8.30am Mass.

God's word God's work God's people

Archdiocese of Brisbane - The Catholic Church in South East Queensland

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.

Communion Ministers - Face Mask Reminder

A 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.

domestic & family VIOLENCE project

Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month



Father Bryan, Father Joe, Dianne, Renae, Edmon, Liana, the Choir, Marie, Bonni, Lucas, Sue, Losa and Terry, and all those hard workers behind the scenes, so many people have said that this was one of the finest funeral Masses they had attended. Thank you for honouring Mary in such a way.

Ken

Pentecost 9 Day Novena - 15th May to 23rd May

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful. And kindle in them the fire of Your love."

Pentecost: Once again as a parish to prepare for this important Feast Day, Pentecost Sunday, the birth of the Church, we are going to pray a 9 Day Novena to the Holy Spirit. All parishioners are encouraged to pray the Novena asking the Holy Spirit for World Peace.

A copy of the Novena will be sent out via email with the newsletter, or it can be found on the Parish Website notices. You can also join with others online at **6 a.m.** to pray the Novena on Zoom.

Online the Novena goes for approximately 20 minutes each morning, starting on **Friday, May 15th at 6am** (the day after Ascension Thursday) concluding on the 9th day at **6am** on zoom on **Saturday 23rd May**, the day before **Pentecost Sunday May 24th**. Please join us at **6am May 15-23** by clicking the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84508320621> Or pray the 9 day Novena daily using your email copy.



SAVE THE DATE:- Celebrate Our Multicultural Mass and Feast - Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, 8.30am Mass

Pentecost marks the birth of the Church, when the Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples like tongues of fire, filling them with courage and uniting them across languages and cultures to proclaim the Good News to all nations. This sacred day reminds us that the Church is universal, a home for people of every language, race, and culture.

Fittingly, on **Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, at our 8:30am Mass**, we will celebrate one of our greatest strengths as a parish—**our rich multicultural community**. With over 25 nationalities represented, we are a living reflection of the Church's diversity and unity.

Join us for a **Multicultural Mass and Feast**, a joyful and vibrant celebration of our shared faith and cultural heritage. This promises to be the highlight of our parish year!

How you can participate:

In the Mass:

* **Cultural Gospel and Offertory Processions** – In past years, we've had vibrant contributions from PNG and Tongan communities. If you'd like to lead or take part in a procession within the Mass, we'd love to hear from you!

* **Prayers of the Faithful** – Offered in various languages. Once again, calling all interested participants.

* **Wearing traditional dress** – Celebrate your heritage by dressing in your cultural attire.

* **Praying the Our Father in our native tongues** – A powerful moment of unity in diversity, reflecting the disciples in the upper room on Pentecost.



In the Feast:

* **Share a dish from your culture** – Bring a traditional meal to share after Mass as we gather for friendship and food.

If you would like to participate in any way, please email roeb@bne.catholic.net.au.

Let's come together, united in Christ, to celebrate the many cultures that make up our parish family. This is more than just a celebration—it's a joyful witness to the Holy Spirit alive in our midst!

Your support will make a meaningful difference and bring us one step closer to building our new church. Thank you in advance!

Fundraising Initiative for Building Our New Church

As we move forward with the vision of our new church and parish centre, a generous initiative from parishioner Raj Boobal Vincent offers a simple way to contribute.

Through **HavenPath Finance**, Raj provides trusted support in finding the right home loans, car loans, personal loans, and financial health checks tailored to your needs.

At no additional cost to you, 10% of the income earned from loans arranged for St Benedict's parishioners will be donated directly to our Church Building Fund.

This means your personal financial journey can also help build our shared spiritual home.

This is a practical and meaningful way to support the parish. If you are considering a loan or would value a financial check-up, **HavenPath Finance** is a wonderful option.

Together, we continue building a place of faith, connection, and mission for generations to come.

For more details, please contact Raj on:

Mobile: 0452533536 **Email:** raj@havenpathfinance.com.au

HavenPath Finance Pty Ltd [Google Form for Enquiries](#)



HavenPath FINANCE



Sacraments at St Benedicts Parish.

Baptism at St Benedict's.

We invite all families wishing to have children (up to 12 years) Baptised into the Catholic Faith at St Benedict's, to please contact the Parish Office for information and available dates for our Baptism Preparation and Baptism in 2026.

Children's Sacramental Programs

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 for Confirmation 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 the Sacrament of Confirmation are eligible.

The Program takes place throughout the months of May and June each year.

RCIA and RCIT

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and The Rite of Christian Initiation of Teens (RCIT, 13-18 years) Programs run annually.

The program runs for approx. 12-15 weeks from November through to Easter the following year, with a small break over the Christmas & New Year period.

We welcome anyone who may be interest to please reach out to the Parish Office for further information about our RCIA & RCIT Programs.



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:- 17th May, 21st June.

Children from the ages of Prep to Grade 4 are welcome to attend. Children younger than Prep, age are welcome to attend and must be accompanied by an adult. Thankyou

Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Joy & Russell Darby, Natalia Humpries, Erin Stillman, Mike & Joy Gibbs.

All those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Colin Larter

Our Dear Recently Departed: Mary Butler



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.



Justice Peace & Ecology Noticeboard.

Laudato Si Week (Care for Our Common Home). Starts this Sunday 17 May and runs to Sunday 24 May 2026.

This week in May is the 11th anniversary of the Laudato Si' (Praise be to you, my Lord) encyclical, issued by Pope Francis in 2015. Laudato Si' Week is now part of the Catholic Calendar. Due to the request from the Vatican, which is supported by are Archdiocesan SYNOD24 Document, parishes (including ours) have Laudato Si' Action Plans. Right now, we are challenged by how best to communicate the Parish Plan to you.

We can explore real life examples. Do you remember Bishop Tim Norton's visit to us in July 2023? Bishop Tim publicly put his weight behind the protests against the loss of the internationally important bird habitats at Toondah Harbour, Cleveland. After many years of politicking, the Developer withdrew its application. The wetlands are safe, for the moment. This action from Bishop Tim exemplified the Pope Francis' call, to protect and advocate for the remnant areas of natural space from urban exploitation.

Another example is on our doorstep, (at Mango Hill Village), and you can participate. Through poor maintenance of the Saltwater Creek wetlands at Rothwell, and through rapid urbanisation of the Saltwater Creek catchment upstream, the groundwater table at Danzy Buchanan Park has permanently risen. Much of the park is now unusable. Mango Hill Progress Association has been lobbying Council since 2014 about this, to ensure this green space is protected from poorly planned development.

You can help protect our local environment (in accordance with Pope Francis' call in Laudato Si') simply by getting informed, or by showing your concern at the next Mango Hill Progress Association meeting on 20 February, at 7.30pm, where a new proposal will be discussed, and hopefully presented to Ward Councillor (and Deputy Mayor) Jodie Shipway. Venue: Mango Hill Community Hall, Cherside Road, Mango Hill Village.

Next JP&E meeting, Wednesday, 10 June 2026.

Future meeting dates- will be the second Wednesday of each month: 8 April, 13 May, 10 June etc. Please reach out to Ken Butler for details.

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

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. 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.

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 23rd May, 4pm

Commentator: Hugh Shannon
Reader 1: Andreena Shannon
Reader 2: Evie Shannon
Communion Minister: Oliver Morata

Sunday 24th May, 8.30am

Commentator: Thessa Ikitau
Reader 1: Andrea Thomas
Reader 2: Chrislyn Shaji
Communion Minister: Joseph and Nancy D'Souza, Tissy Mathew

Sunday 24th May, 5.30pm

Commentator: Chris Molina
Reader 1: Theresa Saad
Reader 2: Liana Sadumiano
Communion Minister: Laisa Setefano, Raj Boobal, Isabel Alphonse.

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.



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 Jody also if
you have questions. Thank you.



Building Our Church Together with HavenPath Finance



HavenPath
— FINANCE —

Are you seeking a Home Loan, Car Loan
or Personal Loan or perhaps a general
financial health check?

Consider HavenPath Finance for your
financial needs.

Contact: Raj (Boobal Vincent)

Mobile: 0452533536

Email: Raj@HavenPathFinance.com.au

HavenPath Finance Pty Ltd

Enquiry URL = <https://forms.gle/vpaGXFZurteXC4RL7>

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

Parish Collections - Weekends of 10/05/2026.

Parish Collections:-

\$ 1088.60

Building Collections:-

\$ 889.15

Total Donations:-

\$3307.75 (total incl T&G)

*We offer heartfelt thanks to our
Parishioners who have ever so generously
donated in support of the life and mission
of the St Benedict's Parish.*

We thank you for your continued support.

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.

Containers for Change at St Benedict's

St Benedict's Catholic Parish Number- C11719697

There are many ways to support the fundraising
efforts for the St Benedict's Parish.

We are happy to share that we are now set up
with our own Containers for Change account,
perhaps you may consider donating to the Parish
through this avenue. Every little bit helps! Thank
you!



THE CATHOLIC LEADER

The Leader delivered to you

catholicleader.com.au/subscribe

or call (07) 3324 3555



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.