

First Sunday of Advent.  
Year A.  
27th November 2022.



# ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

## 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:

**Renaë 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 Youth:

**Coordinator:** Chrisma Shaji

Phone: 0423 503 546

Email: [sbparishyouth@outlook.com](mailto:sbparishyouth@outlook.com)

Gather Friday evenings, 6.30pm - 8pm

## Parish Safeguarding:

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

**STOpline: Ph** - 1300 304 550

**STOpline: Em** - [AOB@stoline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stoline.com.au)

## Parish Website:

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



## Our Fifth Anniversary!!!

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

Being officially established as a parish for five 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 the reason for our existence, and it will always be the true measure of us as a parish. So, thank you to everyone who has contributed to St Benedict's in being an effective 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.

*To mark this special occasion, we will be having a Sausage Sizzle after the 8:30am Mass this coming Sunday, November 27 - the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent.* We are asking for \$2.00 donations to aid in sharing some of the costs of the celebration. There will be cold drinks, together with tea and coffee available, as well as the Sausage Sizzle.

Please come along and join in this great celebration.

## St Vinnies Christmas Appeal

With the beginning of our new liturgical year, we welcome the Gospel of Matthew, which will give us the sustenance needed to strengthen our life-giving relationship with Jesus. Now, a key theme in Matthew's Gospel is **mercy**. Jesus says on multiple occasions, "What I want is mercy, not sacrifice" (Matt 9:13; 12:7; 23:23 etc).

Jesus makes it very clear in Matthew's Gospel that showing mercy to the poor, the sick, and the imprisoned will lead us to life, while its opposite leads to exclusion from the banquet of life. With this in mind, we are all invited to show mercy to our sisters and brothers in need this Christmas by supporting the **St Vinnies Christmas Appeal**.

This weekend our St Vinnies Conference will be setting up a Christmas tree adorned with generous ways in which we can bring the joy of Christmas into the lives of those struggling financially in our area. Please, if you can, give generously.

## Advent – Joyful Waiting for the One We Love

This coming Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, which marks the start of our new liturgical year. Advent is not about parties, shopping, Santa, decorations, cards and stressing out. It is more about preparing ourselves to receive Jesus into our lives more deeply. Advent is the expectant waiting, hopeful anticipating and cheerful preparation of God breaking into our lives in all moments, all places, all times – past, future, and present. Where we commemorate the birth of Jesus, prepare for Jesus' return, and welcome God into our lives every day. Advent prepares us for all these events, reminds us there is a joy in waiting, and it begins the Church year.

To mark this special season, we are making two changes to our Sunday Masses during Advent. 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.

## Children's Advent Resource

Our parish secretary, Renaë, has put together a brilliant resource for our children of Primary School age to get the most out of our Advent season. These resources will be handed out and explained after our 8:30am Mass on Sunday.

## This Sunday's Readings, 27th November

1st Reading - Isaiah 2: 1-5  
2nd Reading - St Paul to the Romans 13: 11-14  
Gospel - Matthew 24: 37-44

## The Week Ahead...

### Tuesday 29th November

6pm - RCIA Introduction to 'At Home with God's People' Resource.

### Thursday 1st December

9am - St Benedict's Primary School End of Year Mass.

Parish Newsletter Day.

### Friday 2nd December

**\*\* No Friday Mass \*\***

6.30pm - St Benedict's Youth Group.

### Saturday 3rd December

St Vinnies Christmas Appeal concluding weekend.

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

### Sunday 4th December

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass, includes RCIA Rite of Enrolment.

9.45am - ALPHA SERIES, College Staffroom, Final gathering.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

## Save the Date...

### December...

9th December, St Benedict's Parish Anointing Mass, 9.00am.

14th December, St Benedict's Parish Second Rite of Reconciliation 7.00pm.

17th December, St Benedict's Parish Youth Group Christmas Carols 6.00pm.

18th December, Rehearsals for Christmas Eve Children's Mass.

## Mass Ministry Roster - Week 1.

### Saturday 3rd December, 4pm

**Commentator:** TBA  
**Reader 1:** TBA  
**Reader 2:** Nancy D'Souza  
**Communion Minister:** Neville Williams

### Sunday 4th December, 8.30am

**Commentator:** Thessa Ikitau  
**Reader 1:** Chrisma Shaji  
**Reader 2:** Chrislyn Shaji  
**Communion Minister:** Daisy Kurian

### Sunday 4th December, 5.30pm

**Commentator:**  
**Reader 1:** Ministers to be confirmed  
**Reader 2:**  
**Communion Minister:**

\*\* Should you not be able to attend your Ministry Roster, please let the Sacristans know asap or please arrange to swap weeks with another Minister. Thank you.

### Friday Mass in coming weeks.

We will join together for Friday Mass this week at 9am on the 25th November. Next week we will then join with the Primary School for their end of year Mass on Thursday 1st December at 9am, there will be **no** Mass on Friday 2nd December. We will join together for an Anointing Mass on Friday 9th December at 9am (1st week of School Holidays). Finally from Friday 16th December we will return to our regular 9am Friday morning Mass.

### Memorial Mass, Saturday 26th November 9am.

One of the great things about being Catholic is our traditions. One of these traditions is that each year in November we remember our loved ones, who have gone before us. Asking God to receive them and care for them.

This **Saturday 26th November at 9am** we will join together for our **Memorial Mass**, remembering the souls of our loved ones.

### Our Advent Resource - The Heart of a Disciple

I have now had the chance to look at our Advent resource, The Heart of a Disciple, and it is excellent! It is a little different from the usual Lenten and Advent resources, for there are no dates given, so this is how I recommend we use it.

The book covers personal prayer for the four weeks of Advent. Week 1 **starting on Sunday November 27**, and Week 4 **finishing on Saturday December 24**. I suggest that as we are praying each day, we write down something we like, or something that we did not quite understand as praying the resource. Then, each week during Advent we gather via zoom to share these experiences.

The resource is available from the Mass Centre, for \$5.00 each book.

Our Parish Prayer Network will be organising the following dates and times for these zoom gatherings:

7pm Wednesday November 30 [Wednesdays Zoom Link Advent Group](#)

7pm Wednesday December 7 [Wednesdays Zoom Link Advent Group](#)

7pm **Thursday December 15** (we have our 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation on Dec 14) [Thursday December 15 Zoom Link 7pm](#) and

7pm Wednesday December 21 [Wednesdays Zoom Link Advent Group](#)

I wish you all abundant blessings this Advent as we journey together in raising our hearts and minds to God in praying **The Heart of a Disciple**.

### Second Rite of Reconciliation

We will be having a **Second Rite of Reconciliation** this Advent. The celebration of this sacrament will take place on **Wednesday December 14 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!

### First Rite of Reconciliation

At St Benedict's the First Rite of Reconciliation is celebrated by appointment. So, if you would like to receive the First Rite of Reconciliation, please email me on [roeb@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:roeb@bne.catholic.net.au) and we will organise a time.

Have a great week everyone, with excited expectation for the coming of Christ,

*Fr Bryan*

**COVID-19 ADVICE**

When the traffic light is: Please follow this advice:

**RED (Tier 2)** Wear a mask indoors

**AMBER (Tier 1)** Wear a mask:

- In healthcare settings
- Indoors, if you can't socially distance
- On public transport
- If you are older or medically at risk
- If you're around people who are vulnerable to COVID-19

Take a rapid test (RAT) every 2 days if someone in your household has COVID-19

### Communion Ministers - Face Mask Reminder

A gentle reminder to our Communion Ministers.

**If you could kindly remember to bring your face mask with you, when you are rostered on for Communion Ministry Roster please.**

Alternatively; Face Masks are available for sale from the Sacristy for \$1.00 each.

*Please remember in your Prayers:*

**Those who are Unwell:** Sophie Allen, Mick Lowcock.

**Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:**

**Our Dear Recently Departed:**



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

Prayer requests are welcomed, please fill in your details using one of the following methods: email requests to: [sbparishprayerhub@gmail.com](mailto:sbparishprayerhub@gmail.com) or online requests: [St Benedict's Prayer Request Form](#) or the prayer box available at the rear of the church.



**Parish Office - Closure for Christmas and New Year.**

The St Benedict's Parish Office will be closed for a Christmas and New Year break:-  
**from 3pm Friday 23/12/22, reopening on Monday 30/01/23 at 8.30am.**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Please feel free to email the office with any questions or queries during this period, the emails will be responded to after the 30/01/23.

**St Benedict's Youth Group Christmas Carols 2022**

Join St Benedict's Regium Youth on **Saturday 17th of December from 6pm-7:30pm in the Hall** for a festive night, to sing along to Christmas Carols, both new and old! Bring along your family and friends, as well as your favourite snacks, as we gather as a parish to celebrate this joyous time. This is a fundraising event organised by our parish youth, helping them to raise funds for future events such as World Youth Day 2023. **Tickets are \$3** which will be sold at the door on the night or at our weekend Masses in coming weeks, cold soft drinks will be sold for \$2 each on the night. There is also the option for a donation if you cannot make it but would like to support us which can be made at Mass on the weekends. Come in your reindeer ears, Santa hats and holiday shirts to spread good cheer! Please feel free to contact Chrisma on [sbparishyouth@outlook.com](mailto:sbparishyouth@outlook.com) or [0423503546](tel:0423503546) for more details!



**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS 2023**

**Programs for 2022 have now been completed.**

We invite families to please contact the Parish Office ([admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)) for information in regard to the 2023 Sacramental Programs. Thank you.

**Confirmation.** Children in Grade 3 and above, having already received the Sacrament of Baptism are eligible.

**First Holy Communion (Eucharist),** Grade 4 and above, having already received the Sacrament of Confirmation, are eligible.

**Covid-19 Awareness**

**PLEASE** may we refrain from coming to Mass if we have any cold or flu symptoms. And, may we wear a mask, socially distance, and sanitise our hands regularly to help prevent the spreading of this very contagious virus.

We unfortunately continue to experience Parishioners and Friends coming down with COVID. We wish them well. Please, may we continue to keep each other and ourselves safe by :-

- \*\* Stay home if you are sick or showing signs/symptoms of illness.**
- \*\* Feel free to bring and wear your face mask. Masks are recommended when you cannot socially distance.**
- \*\* Maintain good hand hygiene, sanitizer is provided.**
- \*\* Please do not shake hands, hug, or kiss hello. These actions are not COVID safe.**

*Thank you for your commitment.*

**Justice and Peace - Australian Blanket Exercise**

The Australian Blanket Exercise is raising awareness, with truth telling, about the cost to our indigenous brothers and sisters of white colonisation. Members of our Parish recently attended the Australian Blanket Exercise at Caboolture, many thousands of others have already attended this significant and at times emotional event.

Our eyes were opened in an interactive exercise, using blankets laid on the floor, to not only represent the land taken often by force and attempts at annihilation, but representing the displacement of its indigenous people who always walked lightly on this land for it is thought, 60,000 or more years. This story is not a pretty story, but rather a shameful story of restrictions, dispossession, incarceration, death, grief, loss, prejudice, over representation of the First Nations population in prisons. Often with children as young as 10 in recent past times being held as prisoners. You only need watch 4 Corners on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> to see this. Also, this is a story of deaths in custody and a stolen generation.

Thelma Parker one of the indigenous presenters of this session, when one of the people in our group, during debriefing, expressed feeling great shame and guilt at what had happened to our indigenous brothers and sisters. Thelma graciously said, "we do not want you to feel shame or guilt." We are seeking understanding and awareness.

J&J Kearney

**Baptism at St Benedict's in 2023.**



The Sacrament of Baptism at St Benedict's takes place on the First (1st) Sunday of the month.

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 2023.

Please note; our dates do fill quickly, thank you.

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

Respect & Protect.



Zero tolerance. No excuse for abuse.

**SAFEGUARDING - STOPLine 1300 304 500**

*We respectfully acknowledge the Gubbi Gubbi and Ningi Ningi people, as the traditional owners and caretakers of the land which is the St Benedict's Parish.*

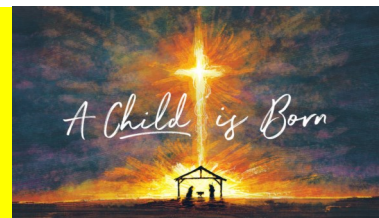
*We acknowledge the Elders, past and present. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.*



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>

Thank you for your kind support.



Planning Ahead...

### St Benedict's Christmas Celebrations

Let us all join together this Christmas, to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

The St Benedict's Catholic Parish and Community, will be joining together to celebrate the following Masses for Christmas 2022.

6pm 24/12 - Christmas Eve Mass (Children's Mass)

9pm 24/12 - Christmas Eve Mass

8.30am 25/12 - Christmas Morning Mass

There is no need to book in to attend any of our Christmas Masses this year thanks to the easing of COVID restrictions.

**Please note: Fr Bryan requests;** Families that wish for their children to take part in the Children's Mass, 6pm Christmas Eve, to please attend the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 18th December for rehearsals, fittings, allocation of roles and preparations. Thank you.



Donations received with Thanks,  
from St Vincent De Paul North Lakes Conference.  
SVDP received for week ending 20/11/22 - \$10.00



### VINNIE'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

Our St Vincent de Paul Conference will be holding the Annual Christmas Appeal at all Masses over the **26th and 27th November, through to 3rd and 4th December.**

This year we are aiming to provide over 30 Christmas hampers to families in our local area, including 60 children. It is with great hope that those who are able, may generously donate financial assistance to ensure that our families receive some Hope and Joy this Christmas. Thank you.

### St Benedict's Church Fundraising - Lucky 100!

100 tickets available to be purchased.  
\$5.00 a ticket, available from the Mass Centre.

### Giving and Donations:- Week ending - Sunday 20th November 2022.

#### Loose & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$366.05

Parish (Running) - \$704.45

#### Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$947.05

Parish (Running) = \$1548.45

#### Direct Deposits & Credit Card:-

Building (Church) - \$581.00

Parish (Running) - \$844.00

*'For it is in giving that we receive' ...  
St Francis of Assisi*

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.

### St Benedict's Planned Giving

As a Parish, we have the responsibility of meeting the associated costs of running our Parish. It is with great hope and appreciation that Parishioners and Friends of St Benedict's Parish will help to support our Parish financially and consider contributing to the Parish Planned Giving and Building funds. Our Parish has the following giving options available for those who are willing and able to contribute:-

Planned Giving via **Credit Card Deduction**

Planned Giving via **Direct Debit**

Planned Giving **Envelopes**

We also have available the **Plate Collections** at Mass, the **Tap N Go** facilities and the **Parish Plan Giving App** (see above)

**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.

Pledge cards are available at the Mass Centre for those wishing to contribute to the Parish Planned Giving and or Building Funds by completing these cards and placing them in the Tap'n'Go Collection stand at the entrance of the Mass Centre. Our Office will be in contact after they are submitted. **We sincerely thank you for your kind and generous support of the St Benedict's Catholic Parish.**

**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 behind the OSHC building before or after Mass of a weekend as a matter of safety. Thank you