

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Year A.
19th March 2023.



ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

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:

Rena 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 Youth and Young Adults:

Coordinators: Brandon D'Silva and
Kali Yopp
Phone: 0423503546
Email: sbparishyouth@outlook.com
Email: youth.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au
Instagram: @regiumyouth
Gather Friday evenings, 6.30pm - 8pm

Parish Safeguarding:

Email: northlakes.slr@bne.catholic.net.au
STOPline: Ph - 1300 304 550
STOPline: Em - AOB@stopline.com.au

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)

Seeing Jesus as God – The Light of the World

The first thing that stood out for me as I read this coming Sunday's Gospel is: mud. The mud that Jesus uses to heal the man born blind reminds me of the dirt used by God to create Adam in the second creation story in the Book of Genesis, which says, "Then the Lord God formed man, of dust drawn from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life." (Genesis 2:7).

By Jesus using mud to heal the man born blind, suggests that life in Jesus is a new creation. One where we see that life lived in an intimate personal relationship with Jesus cures our blindness, enabling us to see that God loves us infinitely, and wants the very best for us.

Immediately before this Gospel, Jesus says, "I am (Ego eimi) the Light of the world (John 9:5). Jesus then goes on to heal the man born blind, so that he can see. However, he doesn't just come to see physically. The man also comes to see who Jesus really is. But, like the process of his physical healing, his spiritual healing (or coming to faith) was also a process. Firstly, seeing Jesus as "a man" (v. 9:11), then seeing Jesus as a Prophet (v. 9:17), then seeing Jesus as coming from God (v. 9:23), and finally seeing Jesus as the Son of Man (v. 9:38), which in John's Gospel means the One who fully reveals God to us.

So may we, like the man born blind, embrace Jesus in our lives. Fully believing that Jesus is the Light of our lives, and the Light of the world. The One who breathes life into us, so that we can be vessels of God's life and love for others.

Financially Supporting Our St Benedict's Parish

Thank you everyone who has contributed to the life of the St Benedict's Parish financially over the last five years. Without you we would not be able to operate as a parish.

Due to good financial stewardship, and the tireless work of our Fundraising Team, together with the generosity of those who have supported fundraising initiatives, we have now been able to use surplus funds to repay the loan on the Presbytery. This goes a long way to show that the parish is becoming financially viable, and that further support from the Archdiocese is warranted to support our mission for the construction of a church.

Since being established as a parish, we have been very fortunate to receive over \$100 000 support from the Archdiocese of Brisbane to assist with the running of our parish. This support, however, is due to cease next year, that is, in 2024.

The only stable and recurring income that our parish receives is from parishioners who **support our Planned Giving Program**. At present, we are not receiving enough income from our Planned Giving to meet the financial cost of running the parish.

This is a constant challenge for us, as costs will rise sharply once we have a church. With the income from the Archdiocese in the future certain to stop, we need to step up as a parish.

There is a need to increase our collections by \$2000 a week in-order-to plug the gap when we are no longer eligible to receive the current level of subsidies from the Archdiocese. Also, as I have said, after a church is built there will be additional operating costs such as insurance, maintenance, utility bills etc.

This weekend the Finance Council and I are asking every parishioner to commit some of your **TREASURE** and help make our dream become a reality.

Each family will receive a Parish Pledge Card 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 possible increase your financial support. At the moment around 500 people attend Mass each week and only 70 families contribute to the Parish through the Parish Planned Giving Program.

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

- By Direct Debit or
- By Credit Card or
- By Planned Giving Envelopes.

On this Pledge Card we will have an opportunity to support both:

* **The Parish (Running) Collection**, which supports the running costs of the parish such as, the priest's expenses and stipend, copyright for music, the staff's pay, bills, and other expenses needed for the effective running of a parish.

* **The Building (Church) Donation**, which supports our purchasing/building of assets, which include our future church, offices, and an adult faith formation/gathering space.

When joining the Planned Giving, we encourage you to distribute your donation 50/50 between the Parish and Building donation.

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.

This Sunday's Readings, 19th March 2023

1st Reading - Samuel 16: 1, 6-7,
10-13
Psalm - Ps 22
2nd Reading - St Paul to the
Ephesians 5: 8-14
Gospel - John 9: 1-41

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 22nd March

7pm - 'From Ashes to Hope' Lenten Prayer Group, via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85183920838>

Thursday 23rd March

Parish Newsletter Day.

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass, with Grade 6

Friday 24th March

* No morning Mass *

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

6.30pm - St Benedict's Youth Group .

Saturday 25th March

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 26th March

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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.

Called to Serve God in the Life of our St Benedict's Parish

On the Fifth (postponed by a week) Sunday of Lent we will be having our annual ministry drive. As you continue to pray this Lent, please listen to where you are being called to love and serve God in the life of the parish. The following ministries are in much need of support:

- * Nursing Home Communion Ministers for two of our three Nursing Homes in the Parish.
- * St Vincent de Paul leadership roles and helpers.
- * Mass ministries (Commentators, Readers, and Communion ministers) for our Saturday 4pm and Sunday 5:30pm Masses.
- * Fundraising and Events Leadership team.
- * Fundraising and Event helpers.
- * Hospitality for our Events.

Please pray and reflect on where God is calling you in supporting the life of the parish and building up God's Kingdom of love in the world. Ministry Cards are available at the Mass Centre.

Second Rite of Reconciliation - Tuesday March 28th at 7pm

We will be offering the Second Rite of Reconciliation this Lent, the sacrament will take place on Tuesday March 28th at 7pm in the St Benedict's worship space. Everyone is welcome!

Stations of the Cross - Friday evenings 6pm

We will be having Stations of the Cross **every Friday** during Lent at **6pm** in our usual worship space. We will also have them on Good Friday at 10am. All are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Lenten Retreat - Rescheduled to Saturday 1st April

Unfortunately due to the predicted weather we were to experience last weekend, the decision was made to postpone and **reschedule the Lenten Retreat to Sunday 1st April**. All details, other than the date remain the same.

Lent is a time where we make a concerted effort to connect with God more in prayer, so that we can be blessed with a deeper understanding of the Paschal Mystery (the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus). This year we have **Shane Dwyer** (Evangelisation Brisbane), co-author of "From Ashes to Hope", directing us in our **Lenten Retreat**. I encourage you all to join us on **Saturday April 1st from 9am to 2pm at St Mary's Parish Centre, Woodford**.

This is a free Retreat, with morning tea provided, but please bring along your own lunch and water bottle.

As a parish, we will be car-pooling (meeting in the St Benedict's car park at 7:30am).

So, please book-in for this retreat using the link: [Northern Rivers Deanery Retreat Booking Form](https://www.northernriversdiocese.org.au/retreat-booking-form) . Please also let us know (admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au) if you need a lift. It will be great to see you there.

Our Lenten Group

On **Wednesdays during Lent at 7pm** all are welcome to join our **St Benedict's Parish Lenten Group**, as we gather together via zoom.

We will be using our Lenten resource "From Ashes to Hope" focusing on the coming Sunday's Gospel. Please click on the link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85183920838> These sessions will be for 30 minutes, and it would be great if we could get lots of parishioners to come along as we journey together with Jesus towards Easter.

Have a great week everyone, as we place our trust in the Lord,

Fr Bryan

Save the Date...

March...

28th March, 7pm St Benedict's Parish Second Rite of Reconciliation.

April...

1st April, 9am - 2pm **RESCHEDULED** Deanery Retreat at St Mary's Woodford

2nd April, Palm Sunday, 8.30am & 5.30pm Mass.

6th April, Holy Thursday, 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper.

7th April, Good Friday, 10am Stations of the Cross & 3pm The Passion of the Lord.

8th April, Easter Saturday, 7pm Vigil of The Resurrection of the Lord

9th April, Easter Sunday, 8.30am Mass for The Resurrection of the Lord .

Mass Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 25th March, 4pm

Commentator: Hugh Shannon
Reader 1: Andreena Shannon
Reader 2: Evie Shannon
Communion Minister: Neville Williams

Sunday 26th March, 8.30am

Commentator: Werner Mascarenhas
Reader 1: Andre Mascarenhas
Reader 2: Erika Mascarenhas
Communion Minister: Joseph and Nancy D'Souza

Sunday 26th March, 5.30pm

Commentator: Ministers to be confirmed at Mass.
Reader 1:
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.

Let us come together for Easter 2023...

Palm Sunday, Sunday 2nd April—8.30am and 5.30pm Mass

Holy Thursday, 6th April – 7pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, 7th April – 10am, Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, 7th April – 3pm, The Passion of the Lord

Easter Saturday, 8th April – 7pm, Easter Vigil – The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday, 9th April – 8.30am, The Resurrection of the Lord.

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.



St Benedict's Parish Safeguarding.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has reviewed the requirements for Parish Volunteers who are required to hold a Blue Card and/or a Police Check:-

* Most Parish Volunteers are NOT REQUIRED to have a Blue Card/Police Check unless they are working directly with children or vulnerable adults for our Parish or hold particular roles.

* If the you are required to hold or renew your Blue Card/Police Check, our Parish Office will be in contact with you directly. Thank you.

If you wish to become a volunteer for St Benedict's the Welcome Portal is:- <http://archbne.org/welcome>

If you are required to hold a Blue Card, we ask that you please take part in the Level 1 Training for Safeguarding, this is online:-

[Level One Induction Video for Safeguarding](#) and submit the form on completion. Please contact the Parish Office should you require any help.



Congratulations and Welcome into the **CATHOLIC FAMILY**

This Sunday 19th March 2023, we will welcome into the Catholic Family,

Arielle and Elian,

as they received the Sacrament of Baptism, with us at St Benedict's Parish.

May Arielle and Elian, together with their family and their friends, experience God's happiness, joy and love, now and always.

Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Sophie Allen, Mick Lowcock, Margaret Cafferty, Bernadeen Hodby, Cheryl Black.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Faye Graham.

Our Dear Recently Departed:



Friday 31st March—Creating Palm Crosses.

Please, come along on Friday the 31st March and join a group of crafty creators and learn how to make Palm Crosses for our Palm Sunday celebrations.

Should you already know how to make these beautiful crosses, please come and share your talents with us. We would love to have a number of Palm Crosses made to share with those at our Palm Sunday Masses.

Feel free to join in the Parish Stations of the Cross at 6pm and stay for the crafty creations from 6.30pm at the St Benedict's Mass Centre. All are welcome.



St Benedict's Prayer Network - Prayer Requests

Prayer requests are always welcomed, please fill in your details using one of the following methods:

email to sbparishprayerhub@gmail.com , or

online requests: [St Benedict's Prayer Request Form](#) or

via the prayer box available at the Welcome Table at Mass.

All requests will be submitted to the team and will be prayed for two weeks. A new request will be needed after 2 weeks.

Should you wish you have a name placed in the prayer requests in the Parish Newsletter, please email the Parish Office on- admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au.

Men's Shelter South Brisbane

The St Benedict's Parish and greater community have been proud to support the Men's Shelter in South Brisbane for many years by donating shirts and socks for those in need.

In January this year, Mitchell (from the shelter) stated that their need is greater now than ever before.

Mitchell is seeking assistance once again, in the way of donating white shirts/executive shirts suitable for job interviews, socks and good quality warm clothing.

Almsgiving is one of the three pillars of Lent. Are you able to help in this worthy cause?

From Saturday, March 4th, the St Benedict's Justice and Peace group will be collecting donated items at all Masses in our worship centre. There will be a washing basket available for all donated goods.

It is with the greatest of hope that we can improve on last year's donations of 12 pieces of clothing.

The donated goods will be presented at the preparation of gifts during Holy Thursday Mass, 6th April.

The donated clothing items will be then given to the Men's Shelter after Easter.

Thank you for your support of this important initiative.



You are invited to join the Petrie Catholic Parish Faith Night

Friday 24th March 2023, 7.00pm

Guest Speaker - Bishop Tim Norton SVD
Theme - Parish and Mission

For further information please phone - 07 3285 6759 or email petrie@bne.catholic.net.au



LENTEN RETREAT IN BRISBANE

with Fr. Roni George VC,
Director of Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby

Saturday, 25th March 2023

9.30am-4pm

School Hall, Holy Cross Church
110 Nottingham St, Kippa Ring, QLD, 4021

Contacts: Gabrielle 0432 833 439, Steve 0435 590 630

Covid-19 Awareness

PLEASE may we refrain from coming to Mass if we have any cold or flu symptoms, this will help greatly to prevent the spreading of this very contagious virus.

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.**



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

Giving and Donations:- Week ending - Sunday 12th March 2023.

Loose & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$362.90
Parish (Running) - \$775.60

Direct Deposits & Credit Card:-

Building (Church) - \$420.00
Parish (Running) - \$590.00

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

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$782.90
Parish (Running) = \$1365.60

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.



Donations received with Thanks,
from St Vincent De Paul North Lakes Conference.
SVDP received for week ending 12/03/23 - \$10.00

Help us keep you up to date.

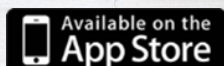
Please feel free to reach out to the Parish Office if you would like to update or check any contact details we may have on file for you and/or your family. Receiving our weekly Newsletter by email is a wonderful way to see what is happening in and around our Parish.

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.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS 2023

First Holy Communion (Eucharist) and Reconciliation - children in Grade 4 and above, having already received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Enrolments are open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in 2023, Sacramental Preparation will take place throughout the months of May and June, with Sacraments being received in June. Families that participated in the 2022 Sacramental Program for Confirmation have been contacted via email by the Parish, should families not have received an email please feel free to call the Parish Office.

Confirmation - children in Grade 3 and above having received the Sacrament of Baptism are eligible.

Enrolments will open late April, Sacramental Preparation to take place throughout the months of July and August, with the Sacrament being received in August.

We welcome you to please contact the Parish Office on 34901768 or admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au if you are wishing to have your child/children enrolled or seek information for Sacramental Programs for 2023, and you have not yet done so.



Fourth Sunday of Lent- 18 & 19 March

Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.

Please donate if you are able to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by calling 1800 024 413 or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion.



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.

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