

The Ascension
of the Lord.

Year A.

21st May 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:

Renae 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 - A0B@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)

Readings for this week - 21st May 2023,

The Ascension of the Lord.

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

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

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

Gospel - Matthew 28: 16-20.

Spreading the Good News of Jesus to the World

My beautiful niece, Ashlee, turns 21 this year. Time flies, for it seems like yesterday a seven-year-old Ashlee joined my Mum, Dad, and I at a Chinese restaurant for the first time. Now at this time, Ashlee was a big fan of eating chicken, and she also liked honey. As did my Mum. So I ordered the honey chicken as one of our dishes. When the food came out, we said grace, and then I gave Ashlee some of the honey chicken to try. After tasting it, Ashlee said, "That's really good!" And immediately turned to Mum and said, "Nana, you want to try this. It's honey! And it's chicken! Two things we really love! You'll love it!"

The enthusiasm that Ashlee showed in sharing the gift of honey chicken with Mum, is the same enthusiasm in which God calls us to share our great gift of faith with others. In this coming Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us, "Go make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you" (Matthew 28:18).

Our faith really is Good News. It is the Good News that God loves us and wants the best for us. That God is with us every second of everyday, loving us, and calling us to live good fruitful lives. Calling us to selflessly love, through a deep, personal, and intimate relationship with Jesus. Jesus, the glorified One, seated at the right hand of the Father, who always stands at the door of our hearts always calling us to love, to forgive, and to care for others. Who unburdens us of worries and leads us to peace and harmony in our lives. Who always calls us to speak out against injustices, and to do all we can to correct them. Our deep and intimate relationship with Jesus is the source from which all good things flow.

Jesus, therefore, calls us to be missionary disciples. To spread the gift of our faith to all people of all nations. Pope Benedict XVI echoed this call of Jesus, when he said that our gift of faith "is not an exclusive prerogative of those who receive it, but is a gift to be shared, a piece of good news to be passed on." He added, "this gift commitment is entrusted not just to a few, but it is entrusted to all baptised people." All of us are to share our gift of faith with all others. To spread our gift of faith not just through what we do and say, but how we are as human beings. By being loving, kind, and compassionate people who journey with Jesus, others will be attracted to God's loving embrace through us.

An essential ingredient to being people of faith is to live our lives in the love and companionship of God. This love and companionship of God is assured to us in this coming Sunday's Gospel. The risen Jesus assures us that "He will be with us always; yes, to the end of time" (Matthew 28:20). This is both reassuring and great news. Further, in this coming Sunday's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the risen Jesus assures us that the Holy Spirit will give us the power to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. To spread the Good News of God's loving reign to all people.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are drawn into an intimate relationship with the risen and ascended Jesus, who will always and everywhere lead us to the Father, who in turn gives us life in abundance. A life of selfless love, which is always life-giving. Not just for the people we are loving, not just for ourselves, but for the whole world. This self-giving love of God, embodied in Jesus, will lead all people to experience an incredible joy, freedom, peace, and contentment. A joy, freedom, peace, and contentment that only God can give.

Novena to the Holy Spirit - Friday May 19 to May 27

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful. Kindle in them the fire of your love." Yes, we are once again, as a parish, going to pray a Novena to the Holy Spirit in the 9 days leading up to Pentecost. All parishioners are encouraged to pray this Novena asking the Holy Spirit for a **renewal of faith in the World.**

The Novena will be starting this Friday May 19 and concluding on Saturday May 27. Please join in praying the Novena via zoom each morning at 6:00am. These gatherings will be recorded, and the zoom link sent out later each day.

Please join us at 6am by clicking the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81062411654>

Archbishop Mark's Seven Apostolic Priorities

Archbishop Mark's sixth apostolic priority is Implementing Integral Ecology.

Archbishop Mark writes:

Natural and human ecology interact in mysterious and unmistakable ways. To interfere with one is to interfere with the other; to promote the good of one is to promote the good of the other. Fratelli Tutti (a recent Papal Encyclical) focuses more upon human ecology in speaking of the radical interconnectedness of all human beings at a moment

The Week Ahead...

Thursday 25th May

Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 26th May

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass together with Grade 4 classes.

6.30pm - St Benedict's Youth & Young Adults.

Saturday 27th May

6am - Holy Spirit Novena to conclude.

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass

Sunday 28th May

Pentecost Sunday

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass
Sacramental Preparation - First Holy Communion

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass
Sacramental Preparation - First Holy Communion

Save the Date...

May...

19-27th May - Holy Spirit Novena runs.

** Eucharist Sacramental Program runs.

June...

24th June - St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal to begin

July...

9th July - St Benedict's Feast Day, Archbishop Mark Coleridge to visit.

* Confirmation Sacramental Program to start.

30th July - Bishop Tim Norton, Justice, Peace & Ecology Workshop at St Benedict's.

Mass Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 27th May, 4pm

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

Sunday 28th May, 8.30am

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

Sunday 28th May, 5.30pm

Commentator: Chris Molina
Reader 1: Theresa Saad
Reader 2: Ashley Oliver
Communion Minister: Christopher Beck

** 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.

Counter Roster -

Monday 22nd May - Ken Butler and Ada Bernardo

Monday 29th May - Jim Kearney and Gary Smyth

when alienation and polarisation are making disconnectedness seem the norm. The Church is called in such a moment to be a sign of contradiction, speaking in a way that rises above politics and economics so that a genuinely biblical and Christian voice can be heard.

To download Archbishop Mark's document entitled "Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane from 2023" please click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/lampsablaze>

A Beautiful Welcoming Community

One of the wonderful gifts we have as a parish are our beautiful welcoming communities. Starting this Sunday, the 21st May, and continuing right through until the end of August, our Sacramental families will be joining us for the celebration of Masses. Let's welcome them with great joy, as their children journey towards receiving the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. May we keep all of the children and their families in our prayers, and wish them well.

Archbishop's Dinner for Women

We have many wonderful faith-filled young ladies in our Youth/Young Adults group. I would very much like these young ladies to consider accepting Archbishop Mark's invitation for them to join him for dinner with many other faith-filled young ladies from the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

The Archbishop's Dinner for Women is an evening event that provides a space for women who are discerning their vocation to gather and connect with each other. Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Archbishop of Brisbane) will share his personal journey of vocation to help you gain insight and wisdom into your own discernment and the questions you're currently facing. This event is a great opportunity for women to be inspired, ask questions, and continue your discernment journey.

When: Thursday 1 June 2023, 6.00pm

Where: Archbishop's Residence, New Farm.

If you would like to attend this dinner, please email me on roeb@bne.catholic.net.au

Archbishop Mark Joining Us for Our Feast Day – 8:30am Mass on Sunday July 9

Great news! Our Chief Shepherd for the Archdiocese of Brisbane will be joining us for the celebration of our Feast Day at the 8:30am Mass on Sunday July 9 (St Benedict's actual feast day is July 11). Please put this date in your diary as Archbishop Mark Benedict Coleridge we lead us in a beautiful Mass to celebrate St Benedict's Feast Day. The celebrations will continue after Mass with a morning tea/sausage sizzle.

Update on the Church

As mentioned last week, significant members of the Archdiocese and I had a meeting to discuss our church. We have decided to move closer to having a church. I have another meeting on the 25th of May, after which I will give you a more concrete update. In the meantime, we will be organising a Parish Church Futures Group to assist in progressing towards building our church, and to develop a strategy looking at how our parish will fund it.

Planned Giving Envelopes - Available for Collection from the Mass Centre

Thank you ever so much to our Parishioners that completed a Pledge Card indicating that that wish to contribute to the Parish Planned Giving Program via Planned Giving Envelopes.

There are still just a few boxes of Planned Giving envelopes for Parishioners awaiting collection from the Mass Centre. They are on the Welcome table ready for you, if you could kindly find the box with your name labelled on the front and the top, thank you.

For those that may still wish to contribute to Parish Planned Giving via envelopes, we do have spare boxes available, please feel free to contact the Parish Office and we will arrange to have them sent to the Mass Centre for you to collect.

Have a great week, knowing that Jesus is with us always,

Fr Bryan



SUNDAY 11 JUNE | 2PM | CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

Communion Ministers—Face Mask Reminder

A gentle reminder for 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, Genesis Neru, Sang Yeoul Choi.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Our Dear Recently Departed: Kevin Rose, Maricris David



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.

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. Thank you very much to those who Volunteer.



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.

Sacramental Programs for Children 2023

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

Enrolments for 2023 Eucharist are now closed .

Please keep all of the children and families preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in your prayers over coming weeks.

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

Enrolments for Confirmation in 2023 are now being accepted.

Sacramental Preparation, to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, takes 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. Thank you.



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.



The Lords Day

When the COVID pandemic struck, I joined other bishops in deciding for a dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Now that the pandemic seems to be receding, it is good for us to reflect not only upon the Sunday obligation but upon the meaning of Sunday itself. To call the first day of the week Sunday recalls the Roman name, but from the first Christians always called it the Lord's Day, in honour of the Risen Christ who is the true light of the world and the source of life. The Lord's Day was the weekly Easter and the weekly Pentecost, because on the first day Jesus Christ rose from the dead and breathed the Holy Spirit into the Church. It was the day that looked back to the first day of creation and forward to the last day of the Lord's return in glory. Even in times of persecution, Christians remained faithful unto death to the assembly of the Lord's Day. The spontaneous practice of the early days eventually became Church law. Yet it is not law that draws us to Mass but the Lord's desire to eat the Passover with us (cf Luke 22:15). The deepest reason we go to Mass on Sunday is not because we have decided or because the Church's requires it but because we are drawn there by his desire for us. In coming to Mass, we surrender to the Lord's love and let ourselves be drawn by him who wants to speak to our heart and share his feast with us. Therefore, in the Archdiocese of Brisbane from Pentecost Sunday of this year (28 May) the pandemic dispensation will be withdrawn and the Sunday obligation will be restored, so that all of us, responding to the Risen Lord's call, may say with one heart and voice, "This is the day which the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

X Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane



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.

Parish Giving and Donations:- Week ending, Sunday 14th May 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$551.10
 Parish (Running) - \$876.40

Direct Deposits, Credit Cards & Tap N Go:-

Building (Church) - \$405.00
 Parish (Running) - \$334.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$956.10
 Parish (Running) = \$1210.40

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.

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

If you or anyone you know is struggling and needs a 'hand up', please contact St Vinnies on 1800Vinnie.



Help us keep you up to date.

Please feel free to contact 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 great way to see what is happening in and around our 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**. At present, we are not receiving enough income from our Planned Giving to meet the financial cost of running the 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, which will cease in 2024. Also, as I have said, after a church is built there will be additional operating costs such as insurance, maintenance, utility bills etc.

Please, 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 possible increase your financial support. 500 people on average attend Mass each week and we have 83 families that 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 to our Parish. There are three (3) options to financially contribute to the running of the parish. These are:

- 1. Direct Debit or**
- 2. Credit Card or**
- 3. Giving Envelopes**

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

- * **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, offices, 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.

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.

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.



Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Priority Six: Implementing Integral Ecology

Natural and human ecology interact in mysterious and unmistakable ways. To interfere with one is to interfere with the other; to promote the good of one is to promote the good of the other. Fratelli Tutti (a recent Papal Encyclical) focuses more upon human ecology in speaking of the radical interconnectedness of all human beings at a moment when alienation and polarisation are making disconnectedness seem the norm. The Church is called in such a moment to be a sign of contradiction, speaking in a way that rises above politics and economics so that a genuinely biblical and Christian voice can be heard.



Download the whole document at tinyurl.com/lampsablaze

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