

Twenty Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time.
Year A.
10th September 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:

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 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 - 10th September, Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading - Ezekiel 33: 7-9.

Psalm - Ps 94: 1-2, 6-9.

2nd Reading - St Paul to the Romans
13: 8-10.

Gospel - Matthew 18: 15-20.

Counter Roster -

Sunday 10th September - Ken and Joseph.

Sunday 17th September - Peter and Brian

Including God in All Decisions

At our recent Convocation (that is, a gathering of all the Clergy of the Archdiocese of Brisbane over two days), we were brainstorming ways to be more effective in nourishing practicing Catholics, and ways to draw more people into the beautiful life-giving relationship with God. A recurrent theme during this brainstorming was the inclusion of God in this, in our thoughts and conversations through prayer.

I have said time and time again, Jesus in all the Gospels was clearly a person of prayer. Often going off by Himself to pray to the Father to not only debrief and unwind, but to also work out what the Father wanted Him to do. So, we notice Jesus always prayed before the big decisions of His life – before choosing His disciples, before conflicts with the Scribes and Pharisees, before revealing His divinity, before teaching, before performing miracles, before His suffering, death, and resurrection etc. Jesus was first and foremost a person who lived His life in a deep and intimate relationship with the Father through prayer. So, its hardly surprising that Jesus, in this coming Sunday's Gospel, encourages us to include Him in our lives, especially when important decisions are to be made.

Jesus says, "where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them" (Matthew 18:20). Add to this Jesus' awesome assurance at the end of Matthew's Gospel, "I will be with you always until the end of time" (Matthew 28:20), then it's clear that Jesus wants us to have a deep and intimate relationship with Him. And for us to include Jesus as much as possible as we live our lives, but crucially, to include Jesus in all important decision to be made, for Jesus is indeed God, the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6).

Once again we welcome Fr Joe Duffy, who will be presiding at our parish Masses over the next two weekends. We are so lucky to have Father Joe connecting with our Parish Community, Thank you Father Joe!

Friday Mass changes in coming weeks .

We will not be celebrating Friday 9am Mass on the Fridays of the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th September and 6th October. Friday 9am Masses will begin again on the 13th October.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: NO SATURDAY MASSES ON OCTOBER 7 AND 14

There will be **no 4pm Saturday Masses on October 7 and October 14**. St Benedict's College will be using the School Hall for their Musical on Saturday October 7, and St Benedict's Primary School will be using the hall for a school function on Saturday October 14.

Please join us for one of our other Masses (Sunday 8:30am or 5:30pm), and enliven these communities with your presence. We will resume our Saturday evening Masses on October 21.

The Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4)

The Season of Creation from 1st September to 4th October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, calls the planet's 2.2 billion Christians to pray and care for God's creation. It's a time to reflect on our relationship with the environment and how our lifestyles and decisions as a society can endanger both the natural world and those inhabiting it, both human and other creatures.

This year's Season of Creation theme is: "Let Justice and Peace Flow." And the symbol is a river. God says through the Prophet Isaiah, "Listen carefully, I am about to do a new thing, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even put a road in the wilderness, rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:19)

According to the Season of Creation website:

Biodiversity is being lost at a rate not seen since the last mass extinction. The futures of young people are threatened by the cascading impacts of the loss of biodiversity and changing climate.

The urgency grows and we must make visible peace with Earth and on Earth, at the same time that justice calls us to metanoia and a change of attitude and actions. As we join the river of justice and peace with others then hope is created instead of despair.

Pope Francis' message for the Season of Creation can be accessed via the following link. I encourage us all to read the Pope's message.

[Message of Pope Francis for Creation Day 2023 - Season of Creation](#)

Let justice and peace flow!

Season of
Creation Mass
LET JUSTICE & PEACE FLOW

SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

The Week Ahead...

Tuesday 12th September

Office Closed for Archdiocese Training.

Thursday 14th September

Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 15th September

**** No Friday Mass ****

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

Saturday 16th September

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass, celebrated with Fr Joe Duffy

Sunday 17th September

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass, celebrated with Fr Joe Duffy.

10am - ALPHA, in the College Staffroom.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass, celebrated with Fr Joe Duffy.

Save the Date...

August to November - ALPHA Series to run, 10am Sundays from 27th August.

In September...

**** No Friday Masses in September.**

**** Fr Joe Duffy to join us for Weekend Masses in September.**

12th - Parish Office Closed - Archdiocese Training.

24th - Baptism Sunday Celebration.

27-29th - Parish Office Closed.

In October...

1st - Baptism Sunday, Preparation and Celebration.

7th & 14th - No Saturday 4pm Mass.

21st/22nd - World Mission Sunday.

In November...

18th/19th - Vinnies Winter Appeal Collection

25th - 9am Memorial Mass, All Souls.

Mass Ministry Roster - Week 3.

Saturday 16th September, 4pm

Commentator: Oliver Morata

Reader 1: Jean-Paul Franzidis

Reader 2: Rosemary Franzidis

Communion Minister: Denise Rapkins

Sunday 17th September, 8.30am

Commentator: Charles D'Rosario

Reader 1: Seema Masih

Reader 2: Angel Vaipuna

Communion Minister: Bobette Sindicic and Michael Campbell

Sunday 17th September, 5.30pm

Commentator: Mark D'Silva

Reader 1: Karen Manganti

Reader 2: Shiela Pereira

Communion Minister: Theresa Saad

**** 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.**

Season of Creation Vigil Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral on September 9 at 6pm

Archbishop Mark Coleridge will be leading the Season of Creation Vigil Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral at 6pm on Saturday the 9th of September. Members of our Justice and Peace team will be participating in this Mass. If you would like to participate in this Mass, the members of the Justice and Peace Team will be offering lifts and leaving the St Benedict's carpark at 4:45pm. For more information on this Mass please read the following Catholic Leader article: <https://catholicleader.com.au/news/season-of-creation-a-time-to-respond-to-the-call-of-laudato-si/>.

Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2023-2024

Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Australia's Catholic bishops have called on the nation to seek "a new engagement" with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in their annual Social Justice Statement being launched today. Since the 1940s, the bishops have published annual statements that urge the Catholic community to reflect and act on social, economic and ecological issues. The statements are published as a focal point for Social Justice Sunday, which will be marked on August 27 this year. This year's statement, Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, will be launched in Western Sydney on Thursday morning by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service. "One of the objectives of this statement is that we want Catholics to understand that Catholic social teaching and Catholic social action are not simply theoretical and academic exercises," he will say. "We hear what God is saying to us about justice by being with our sisters and brothers on the peripheries of society." While the Social Justice Statement is a teaching document of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, a large part of this year's statement was written by members of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council. It is part of the message's exhortation to "listen". "Listening is hard. Hearing about young people taking their lives, about so many people ending up in jail, of children still being taken away from their parents and grandparents and about the ongoing racism is tough," Bishop Long will say. "It must be so much more difficult for these people to tell us about their painful experiences. We are deeply grateful to those who shared their stories of pain with us." The theme for this year's statement was chosen in May 2022, well before the Voice to Parliament referendum was mooted and before the timing of a vote was proposed. While the bishops don't suggest how people should vote, Bishop Long says "whatever the outcome of this year's referendum, we ask the Church in Australia to make efforts to lead the way for our fellow Australians" in pursuing reconciliation. "Our attitudes and actions towards First Nations Peoples need to be grounded in justice, love and humility," he will say. "We need to listen with deep respect and learn from them about what needs to be done to improve their situations. We need to walk with them, day by day, and work with them to bring about change for the better – for their people and for all of us. "Strengthening our relationship with our First Peoples is integral and indeed critical to the strengthening of the whole nation." Access the statement at: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Supporting Safe Communities - Safeguarding Sunday 10th September

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [Safeguarding Sunday 2023 \(catholic.au\)](https://catholic.au)

Alpha - Building Friendships and Faith - Sunday's at 10am.

Our Alpha team have begun the latest Alpha series, which started on Sunday August 27. Alpha both builds friendships and helps participants explore life, faith, and God in a very supportive environment. If you would like to join this year's Alpha journey, please see the advertisement in this newsletter (look for the big red tilting question mark for more details). All are welcome to come along.

Receiving from the Chalice

We are now allowed to receive Holy Communion from the Chalice at our Masses. However, we need volunteers to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion of the Chalice specifically.

This role will involve:

- distributing the Chalice at our Masses,
- consuming the Blood of Christ remaining, and
- purifying the vessels.

We are still waiting for volunteers at both of our Sunday Masses. If you would like to volunteer as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion of the Chalice, please contact our parish office.

Have a great week everyone, giving joyful thanks to God, **Fr Bryan.**

Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Sophie Allen, Sang Yeoul Choi, John Maynard, Stephen Graham, Chris Beck, Scholastica Koriho, Margaret Kennelley.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Our Dear Recently Departed: Neville Williams



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.



Sacramental Programs for Children 2023/2024

We wish to Congratulate all of the children who have taken part in the Sacramental Programs for 2023 through St Benedict's Parish. Please keep all of the children who have participated, along with their families, in your prayers as we offer them our best wishes.

We welcome families wishing to enroll children to receive their Sacraments or seeking to obtain information about our 2024 Sacramental Programs, to please contact the Parish Office at admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au

To receive the Sacraments of:-

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

Then followed by,

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



Join with the St Benedict's ALPHA Group

WEEKLY from 27 August 2023

TIME: 10.00am – 11.30am (includes Morning Tea)

VENUE: St Benedict's College Staff Room

ENQUIRIES: sbparishalpha@gmail.com

REGISTRATION: [Alpha Registration Form 2023](#)

Holy Cross Dementia Support Group.

Where: Holy Cross Church

When: 1st Wednesday of each Month, 1pm-2.30pm. (Next Meeting will be Wednesday 6th September)

For more information reach out to Elaine Dare through the Holy Cross Parish office on 32930800.

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.

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.



Women of The Way Retreat 2023.

13-15th October

Ladies would you like to take time out to Reflect and Recharge?

Treat yourself to some quality time with God.

BOOK NOW for The Women of The Way Retreat.

Theme: Open the eyes of My Heart, Lord

Retreat Facilitators: Sr Therese Mills, Leader of The Missionaries of Gods Love Sisters and Sr Judy Bowe, are inspirational speakers, with a passion for sharing Gods love.

Where: Watson Park Convention Ctr, 337 Old Gympie Rd, Dakabin. Weekend includes Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, Praise and Worship, inspirational teachings, prayer ministry and time for fellowship.

For brochure or info phone Rosa Montegrando - 0400755516 or email wowqld@gmail.com



Covid-19 Awareness—Thank you for your commitment.

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. Where we are unable to socially distance Masks are recommended to be worn.
- ** Maintain good hand hygiene, sanitizer is provided.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

3 - 9 September 2023



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 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 and assist our Parish.



Please be aware, not alarmed—Spamming Continues!

Archdiocesan priests are the flavour of the month lately for spammers. Northside and Southside clergy have all been picked upon. The messages are generated as an SMS or sent from a gobbedylook email address (e.g. churchcare0147@gmail.com, bigpond, yahoo etc), but always spouting a similar urgent message:

" Dear XXXX

Can you set aside a minute? I'm trapped in a meeting and need you to perform a task for me. Cannot speak, need to meet now, so just write back here.

Sincerely,

Fr XXXX XXXX Parish Priest

The follow up messages attempt to persuade you that the priests' urgent need can only be solved by the purchase of iTunes or Amazon cards or similar.

Please be assured that the Archbishop or any clergy operating within the Archdiocese of Brisbane would never have need to approach you in this way or be seeking monetary help via the purchase of gift or store retail cards.

Hitting the delete button is the best way to deal with these pests and scam artists. Should you be concerned, or should you receive this type of message, please contact your Parish Office.



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 & Donations:- Sunday 3rd September 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$590.00
 Parish (Running) - \$1224.20

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$2531.00
 Parish (Running) = \$2229.20

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

Direct Deposits, Credit Cards, APP & Tap N Go:-

Building (Church) - \$1941.00
 Parish (Running) - \$1005.00

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.

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.

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.



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.

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



NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

STARTING FIRST SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
www.napcan.org.au



In this 150th year of the Cathedral of St Stephen Archbishop Mark Coleridge invites couples together with family and friends

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday, 30th September 2023

Mass at 11:30am

followed by refreshments on the Cathedral grounds.

Other couples married at the Cathedral or Chapel, are also invited to attend with family and friends to celebrate 150 years of weddings at the Cathedral.



To register to attend the Mass and for catering purposes please
 RSVP: Friday 22nd September 2023
cathedral@bnc.catholic.net.au
 3324 3030

If you have photos or stories to share of your wedding at the Cathedral, please contact David Todd.
 email: todd@bnc.catholic.net.au
 telephone: 3324 3030
 by 1st September 2023