

Twenty Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time.
Year A.
17th 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 - 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)

Readings for this week - 17th September, Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading - Ecclesiasticus 27: 30 - 28: 7.
Psalm - Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12.
2nd Reading - St Paul to the Romans
14: 7-9.
Gospel - Matthew 18: 21-35.

Counter Roster -

Sunday 17th September - Peter and Brian
Sunday 24th September - Brian and Gary.

The Power of Forgiveness!

In the first reading for this coming Sunday, the Wisdom of God says, "Resentment and anger, these are foul things...Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you...Stop hating...do not bear your neighbour ill-will...and overlook the offence." (Sirach 27:30-28:7) Nelson Mandella, a man of faith, who bravely spoke out against Apartheid in his beloved South Africa, lived out this wisdom of God brilliantly.

Apartheid was a system of institutionalised racial segregation that existed in South Africa from 1948 to the early 1990s. Apartheid was characterised by an authoritarian political culture, which ensured that South Africa was dominated politically, socially, and economically by the nation's dominant minority white population. According to this system, white citizens had much higher status than Black Africans. In fact, the Black Africans were treated terribly.

Nelson Mandela bravely spoke out against this grossly racist system of government and, as is often the case when people dissent against an authoritarian government, was banished to a very cruel and uncomfortable prison for many years. Eventually international pressure dismantled the Apartheid system of government in South Africa, and Mandela was released from prison and continued to be a great leader.

I can remember watching Nelson Mandela in a press conference not long after he was released from prison (it seems like yesterday). A journalist asked him, "How do you feel about the people who unjustly put you in that miserable prison for so many years?" To which Mandela serenely replied, "I forgive them." The journalist then asked, "How can you forgive the people who treated you and your people so terribly for so many years?" Mandela calmly answered the journalist again by saying, "If I don't forgive them, then I would still be in prison."

Mandela was clearly referring to the prison of resentment and anger, the prison of hatred, the prison of ill-will towards one's neighbour, the terrible prison that depletes us of life and peace, and in which the power of forgiveness frees us.

We welcome once again at our Masses this weekend Fr Joe Duffy, who is a wonderful gift to our St Benedict's Parish. Thank you Father Joe for supporting and connecting so beautifully with our Parish.

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!

The Week Ahead...

Thursday 21st September

Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 22nd September

**** No Friday Mass ****

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

Ignite Conference 2023 runs 22-24 September

Saturday 23rd September

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

Sunday 24th September

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Baptism Celebration and Preparation Morning

10am - ALPHA, in the College Staffroom.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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.**

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 4.

Saturday 23rd September, 4pm

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

Sunday 24th September, 8.30am

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

Sunday 24th September, 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.**

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.

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>

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 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 thanks to God, who is kind and rich in compassion ,

Fr Bryan.

Ignite Conference 2023, with St Benedict's Youth and Young Adults Groups

Hey there all! St Benedict's Youth are taking a group to Ignite Conference this year for the Friday Night Rally on the **22nd of September**. We will be carpooling from the carpark here at St Benedicts, time TBC. Anyone is welcome to come along; youth, young adults, or adults. Full Conference tickets (21st-24th) or single day tickets are available to purchase.

If you're interested or even have any questions please reach out! Any expressions of interest are welcome!

Email: sbparishyouth@outlook.com

Insta: @regiumyouth

Text: 0481740871 (Youth Coordinator, Kali)

For more info: <https://igniteconference.com.au/brisbane>



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:



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.

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.

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.



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 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 and assist our Parish.



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 10th September 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$380.00
 Parish (Running) - \$1196.10

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$900.00
 Parish (Running) = \$1671.10

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

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

Building (Church) - \$520.00
 Parish (Running) - \$475.00

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

St Benedict's Parish Youth and Young Adults Group

Come and join the Fun!

Friday Evening's 6.30pm—8pm in the St Benedict's Primary School Hall.



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: toddd@bnc.catholic.net.au
 telephone: 3324 3030
 by 1st September 2023