

Thirty Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time.
Year A.
19th November 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@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)

Called to Spread the Good News of Jesus to All

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus teaches us through the Parable of the Talents. A talent, in the context of this Gospel parable, is our ability to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to others. For this is our number one vocation as Christians.

Obviously, some people have more talent in this area than others. St Benedict, for example, converted many, many people during his life. Whereas others, like myself, has converted considerably less (although I'm still trying). But both St Benedict and I are doing our best with the gifts that we have. This is all that Jesus is asking of us in this Sunday's Gospel. Jesus is asking us to do our best with what we have in spreading the Good News of God's incredible love to others, and to encourage people to live their lives in relationship with God.

The best way to do this, is by taking up the well-known quote that has been attributed to St Francis of Assisi, "Preach the Gospel at all times and only when necessary use words!" In other words, spread the Gospel primarily by living it. Living it first and foremost as a person of prayer, from which flows peace, compassion, love, hope, forgiveness, joy, contentment, and all the other good things that living our life in God gives us.

So, to get people coming back to Mass, building up the Church as we are called to do, we need to help people see that life is much better when lived in Christ. That is, in a deep, intimate personal friendship with the risen Jesus, who is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Jesus will always lead us and give us the power to:

- *selflessly love God and all others, just like Jesus did,
- * to always seek and speak out against injustices, just like Jesus did, and
- * to always set time aside in our lives to pray, just like Jesus did.

When we live this life of faith, hope, and love in Jesus, with Jesus in us, then Jesus' incredible joy will be in us, and our joy will be complete (John 15:11).

The St Benedict's College Award Ceremony

I was blessed to attend the St Benedict's College Awards Ceremony for 2023 on Wednesday evening. It was great evening as students were acknowledged for excelling in Pastoral Care, Culture (embracing and encouraging others to embrace the cultural events of the College), Sports, Service, Balance, Community, and Academic awards. Congratulations to those who received awards! Now, for those who did not receive an award, as long as you grew and developed in the areas above through your education at St Benedict's College in 2023, then you are champions too, not only in my eyes, but in the eyes of God.

Increase in Our Tap N Go Machines

Responding to many requests, and consistent with most of the parishes in the Archdiocese of Brisbane, we have increased our **Tap N Go** machines from \$5 to **\$10** a tap.

"Take this, all of you, and drink from it." (Elizabeth Harrington)

During the early centuries, everybody received Communion under both kinds, that is, in the form of both bread and of wine. This was the way Christ instituted the Eucharist. For various unfortunate reasons, the practice grew during the middle-ages of lay people not receiving from the cup.

Although the Church teaches that Christ is truly present in either the consecrated bread or the wine, it also teaches that Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds.

When we take the cup, we take up the cross. Jesus asked James and John, "Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?" Drinking from a common cup also signifies our life together in Christ and our commitment both to God and to one another, our commitment to being a community of justice, peace and love.

How then can we pass by the cup of the covenant and ignore Christ's invitation to "Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood"?

For those concerned about hygiene, the transmission of a disease has never been traced to the shared communion cup. Chalices are firmly wiped with a clean purifier and rotated after each communicant and washed in hot water and detergent after each Mass. As a matter of common courtesy and hygiene, individuals with any illness or infection that might be contagious should not take the cup.

Praying for Our Departed Loved Ones in November

As we all know, November is the month designated by the Catholic Church to pray for the souls of our departed loved ones. Starting this coming Sunday, our Memorial book will be at the entrance of our Mass centre. Please feel free to put the names of your departed loved ones in this book. We will pray for their souls at each Mass during November.

November Mass offering envelopes are also available on our welcome table.

Adults wanting to Become Catholics - RCIA Program 2023/2024—Begins next Wednesday 22nd November

Calling adults wanting to become Catholics; please contact the St Benedict's Parish Office for information, timelines & outlines on the RCIA Program 2023/2024, which begins next Wednesday 22/11.



Readings for this week - 19th November, Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading - Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20,
30-31.

Psalms - Ps 127: 1-5.

2nd Reading - St Paul to the Thessalonians
5: 1-6.

Gospel - Matthew 25: 14-30.

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 22nd November

6pm - RCIA Information Session for 2023/2024, in the College Staffroom.

Thursday 23rd November

Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 24th November

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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

Saturday 25th November

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 26th November

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

10am - Season's Aged Care Mass

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.



Let us Celebrate as a Parish our 6th Anniversary - Sunday 3rd December.

We will be coming together after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 3rd December for a sausage sizzle and morning tea, to celebrate our 6th Anniversary as a Parish.

We would love for everyone to witness the wonderful diversity and inclusiveness that our Parish has to offer, and invite everyone to come along and bring a plate to share.

We will also be looking for a team that are able to assist with the setup, serving and clean up for this wonderful celebration.

So that we have an indication of food and assistance, please email Renae in the Parish Office to advise if you are able to help with the mornings celebrations. *All are Welcome!*

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023, this weekend, 18th & 19th November.

Our friends at Vinnies are asking for our assistance with the annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Are you in a position to help?

Many of us are truly blessed to be able to make Christmas arrangements, St Vincent de Paul are here to assist and support families in our community, who can't think beyond where their next meal will come from, before thinking about Christmas arrangements.

The Vinnie's Christmas Appeal will be held over the weekend of **18th & 19th November**, and it will be a time to reach out to help make a difference in lives this Christmas.

A team of Vinnie's volunteers will be ready to accept your donations via eftpos, cash or bank transfer. There is also the option to donate Department Store/supermarket gift cards in amounts of up to \$30.

If you wish, you may donate now. Account Name: SVDP St Benedict's North Lakes; BSB: 064 786; Account Number 100027061.

God bless you and thank you for giving a hand up to those in times of need.

Altar Servers for our Weekend Masses

We are looking at reintroducing Altar Servers at our St Benedict Parish Masses. This is a very important ministry that adds to the reverence of the Mass.

We have been fortunate to have some of our younger Parishioners attend training and volunteered to assist us with this important ministry.

If you (or your child or your grandchild) have received their First Holy Communion and are interested in being an Altar Server, please contact our Parish Office to let us know of your interest. It would be great if we could get this very important ministry at each of our Masses.

Receiving from the Chalice

We are now encouraged 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.

It would be great if we get parishioners to volunteer as Ministers of the Cup for our Sunday Masses. If you would like to volunteer as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion of the Chalice, please contact our parish office on admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au

Have a peaceful week everyone, glorifying the Lord by your life, **Fr Bryan.**

Save the Date...

In November...

18th & 19th - Vinnies Christmas Appeal

22nd - ** Date change** 6pm RCIA Information Session

In December...

3rd - St Benedict's Parish Anniversary

3rd - RCIA Rite of Enrolment

Christmas Mass Times 2023:-

23rd - 4pm, 4th Sunday of Advent Mass.

24th - 8.30am, 4th Sunday of Advent Mass.

24th - 6pm, Christmas Eve Family Mass.

24th - 9pm, Christmas Vigil Mass.

25th - 8.30am Christmas Mass.

Mass Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 25th November, 4pm

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

Sunday 26th November, 8.30am

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

Sunday 26th November, 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.

Planning Ahead... St Benedict's Christmas Celebrations

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

The St Benedict's Catholic Parish and Community, will be joining together to celebrate the following Masses for Christmas 2023.

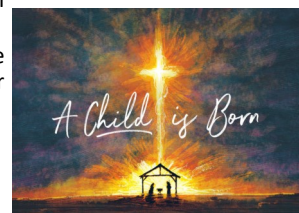
6pm - Christmas Eve Mass (Family/Children's Mass)

9pm - Christmas Eve Mass

8.30am - Christmas Morning Mass

There is no need to book in to attend any of our Christmas Masses.

Please note: Fr Bryan requests; Families that wish for their children to take part in the Children's Mass, 6pm Christmas Eve, to please attend the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 17th December for rehearsals, fittings, allocation of roles and preparations. Thank you.



Retreat Opportunity - Communing with the God who Comes to Us

This quiet weekend is an opportunity to reflect upon the God who constantly chooses to come to us in loving relationship.

Hosted and Facilitated by: Grace Harwood of Dragonfly Ministries

When: Friday 15 December 2023 at 6pm – Sunday 17 December 2023 at 3pm **OR** Friday 12 January 2024 at 6pm – Sunday 14 January 2024 at 3pm

Where: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston

Cost: \$400 (\$380 for concessions) includes all accommodation, meals (an additional fee for complex special diets), resources, spiritual direction, and facilitation.

To register or enquire: grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or 0409524283

Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Sophie Allen, Sang Yeoul Choi, Chris Beck, Scholastica Korihio, Margaret Kennelley, Paul Kraus, Sue Kraus, Bonni Vestorp, Joy Gibbs, Kay Corcoran.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Our Dear Recently Departed: John Maynard.



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.



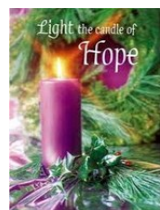
Communion Ministers—Face Mask Reminder

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.

St Benedict's Parish Office - Closure for Christmas and New Year.

The St Benedict's Parish Office will be closed for a Christmas and New Year break from 3pm Friday 22nd December 2023, reopening on Monday 29th January 2024 at 8.30am.

Please feel free to email the office with any questions or queries during this time, the emails will be responded to after the 30th January 2024.



Petrie Catholic Parish Faith Night

Friday 24th November 2023 at 7pm

Speaker: Bishop Tim Norton SVD

Topic: Keep Hope Alive

Venue: Our Lady of the Way Church

All are welcome, Refreshments to follow
RSVP to 20/11/2023 - Phone 32856759 or email petrie@bne.catholic.net.au



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023, 18th and 19th November.

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A team of Vinnie's volunteers will be ready to accept your donations via eftpos, cash or bank transfer. There is also the option to donate Department Store/supermarket gift cards in amounts of up to \$30.

If you wish, you may donate now. Account Name: SVPD St Benedict's North Lakes; BSB: 064 786; Account Number 100027061.

God bless you and thank you for giving a hand up to those in times of need.

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.



Sacramental Programs for Children 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.



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.



Congratulations and Welcome into the CATHOLIC FAMILY

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

Sienna

as she receives the Sacrament of Baptism, with us at St Benedict's Parish.

May we pray that Sienna, together with her family and friends, experience God's happiness, joy and love, now and always.



Job Advertisement: Housekeeper Position – St Eugene Parish

are seeking a reliable and detail-oriented individual for the position of Housekeeper at St Eugene de Mazonod Parish, 72 A Dunbeath Drive, Burpengary - 4505.

Tasks such the following are required; Cooking. Cleaning, Vacuum and sweeping floors, in the Office and Presbytery. Making beds and changing linens, Laundry – Washing & Ironing. Grocery shopping. Cleaning & sanitizing bathrooms, showers, and toilets. Replenishing toiletries and towels. Emptying trash receptacles.

Work Hours: 3 days a week (Tuesday to Thursday) 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Please email your application including a resume to steugene@bne.catholic.net.au or call the Parish on 38883973.

Please be aware, not alarmed—Spamming Continues!

Archdiocesan priests continue to be a target for spammers. The messages are generated as an SMS or sent from a gobbedygoon 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.



Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 12th November 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$515.00
Parish (Running) - \$871.30

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

Building (Church) - \$500.00
Parish (Running) - \$595.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$1015.00
Parish (Running) = \$1466.30

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

*We offer heartfelt thanks to our Parishioners who have ever so generously donated in support of the life and mission of the St Benedict’s Parish.
We thank you for your continued support.*

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.

Our faith sustains us through challenging times.

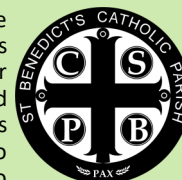
Now, more than ever, your support is needed to help our Parish to continue valuable pastoral activities and to provide ongoing sustainability. To assist you in supporting the St Benedict’s Parish, you can now give via the Planned Giving APP:

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>



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.



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.

With Expectant Hearts - Advent Resource during the 2023-2024 liturgical year.



This year’s Advent resource invites us to explore more deeply what it means to allow God to come to birth in us. **“With Expectant Hearts”** is a new 22-day reflection resource that can be used during Advent by individuals and groups. Its main purpose is to help us to find a few minutes each day to practice what it means to sit with God and to trust God to lead us forward. Each day’s reflection is inspired by a short text of scripture, and concludes with a thought or two to take away and with a prayer.

Available to purchase from the Mass Centre this Sunday, and are \$6 each or 2 copies for \$10. Cash is preferred.

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 if you wish, and please maintain good hand hygiene, sanitizer is provided.

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

*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.*

St Benedict’s Parish Safeguarding.

Safeguarding requirements for Volunteers in Parishes are constantly under review from the Archdiocese. A number of our Volunteer roles are no longer in need of Blue Cards or Police Checks. Blue Card and/or Police Checks are to be held by those that are working directly with children or vulnerable adults for our Parish or hold particular roles in accordance with Archdiocese guidelines. If you are required to hold or renew your Blue Card/Police Check, our Parish Office will contact you directly. Thank you. *If you wish to become a volunteer for St Benedict’s please email the Parish Office.* We thank you for your time given to supporting our Parish.

