

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe.
Sunday,
26th November 2023.



ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

Christ the King

On the last Sunday of the liturgical year (26th November this year) the Church celebrates the solemnity of Christ the King, or "Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe", as it is now called in the Roman calendar. The feast was instituted by Pius IX in 1925 as a way of countering the increasing atheism and secularisation of society. It was an assertion of Christ's sovereignty over all human societies and institutions.

Some people might have problems with the language and imagery used in the texts for this celebration, believing that words like 'king' and 'kingdom' carry patriarchal and authoritarian connotations that are incompatible with Christianity and would prefer an image that speaks less of power and authority.

The kingship of Christ is not about the power or splendor often associated with royalty. The Preface for the Feast describes Christ's Kingdom as "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace".

With so much conflict across the world at present, the Prayer over the Offerings is very appropriate: "As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice by which the human race is reconciled to you, we humbly pray that your Son himself may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace".

In the Prayer after Communion we look forward to eternal life with Christ our King: "Having received the food of immortality, we ask, O Lord, that we may live with him eternally in his heavenly Kingdom." (Elizabeth Harrington).

Our Last Sunday with the Gospel of Matthew

Year A of the Liturgical Year comes to an end this coming Sunday, which also means that we hear from Matthew's Gospel for the last time for a while. So, this is a good time to reflect on the spiritual nourishment we received from Matthew's Gospel this year to enhance our relationship with God.

In introducing the Penitential Rite at many of our Masses this year, I would say, "To prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us turn to our wonderful God, who is a God of mercy, a God who saves." The God of mercy, the God who saves, is very much the God of Matthew's Gospel. It is only in Matthew's gospel that we hear Jesus gently invite us with the words, "Come to me all you who labor and are overburdened..." (Matthew 11:28-30).

In Matthew's gospel, as disciples of Jesus, we are clearly called by Jesus to join Jesus in these works of mercy and salvation for the world. Jesus' Great Commission at the end of Matthew's Gospel calls us to go out to the whole world and spread the Good News of Jesus to others, while at the same time Jesus assures us that He is with us, helping us to live the gospel and spread it!

Now to live the gospel, according to Jesus in Matthew's Gospel, we need to be people of mercy. Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6 twice in Matthew's Gospel, "What I want is mercy not sacrifice." (Matthew 9:13; 12:7). Then, in this coming Sunday's Gospel, Jesus goes as far as to identify Himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and those in prison. And calls us to do all we can to help these people in communion with Him, that is, to live the gospel.

On Sunday December 3, the First Sunday of Advent Year B, we will begin to be nourished by Mark's Gospel. I have a Clergy In-Service on Mark's Gospel this coming Friday, so I look forward to setting the scene for Mark's Gospel next week.

Our Advent Resource – With Expectant Hearts

I have read this year's Advent resource, **With Expectant Hearts**, and it is excellent!

The book covers personal prayer for the four weeks of Advent. Week 1 **starting on Sunday December 3**, and Week 4 **finishing on Sunday December 24**.

It is very important for us to come together every now and again to support each other in the faith. Our St Benedict's Prayer Network is always providing us with opportunities to this. This Advent they have organised an Advent Group to gather at 7pm for the four weeks of Advent on Wednesday evenings on zoom.

In preparation for our Advent Group gatherings, we need to read and reflect on the Advent resource for the upcoming Sunday. Then we will gather for an Opening Prayer, to read the whole Gospel for the coming Sunday, and read the reflection. Then we will discuss insights or questions that the respective readings raise. And we conclude with a Closing Prayer and blessing.

To join our Advent Group for 2023 please click the following link: Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83842211376>

I wish you all abundant blessings this Advent as we journey together in raising our hearts and minds to God in praying **With Expectant Hearts**.

Friday Mass Changes in coming weeks.

There will be no Friday Mass this week (24th Nov) or next Friday (1st Dec).

St Benedict's Primary School will have their end of year Mass at 9am on Thursday 30th November.

We will join together for an **Anointing Mass on Friday 8th December at 9am**.

As Holiday Care will be in full swing in the hall during the school holidays for our St

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 - 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 - 26th November.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

1st Reading - Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17.

Psalm - Ps 22: 1-3, 5-6.

2nd Reading - St Paul to the Corinthians
15: 20-26, 28.

Gospel - Matthew 25: 31-46.

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 29th November

6pm - RCIA Session #2 , via Zoom.

7pm - Advent Group, via Zoom

Thursday 30th November

Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 1st December

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

Saturday 2nd December

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 3rd December

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Parish 6th Anniversary Celebration Morning

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Benedict's OSCH, *we won't be celebrating our usually Friday 9am Mass during the school holidays.* We will resume Friday Mass in 2024 once school recommences.

New Year's Day Mass – Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Our Parish will be celebrating the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God on Monday 1st January 2024 – 8:30am Mass.

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.

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.

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 began this week, but alas it is not too late to join before next weeks session.

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!*

THANK YOU—from St Vincent de Paul .

Our friends at Vinnies wish to thank all those who were in a position to help and support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal., that took place last weekend.

Our Community was able to offer a total donation of (Cash and Eftpos) **\$1733.50** in addition to some Gift Cards. 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...

29th - 6pm, RCIA Session #2

In December...

3rd - St Benedict's Parish Anniversary

3rd - RCIA Rite of Enrolment

6th - 6pm, RCIA Session #3

8th - 9am, Anointing Mass

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 1.

Saturday 2nd December, 4pm

Commentator: Jim Kearney

Reader 1: Sharon Hickey

Reader 2: Nancy D'Souza

Communion Minister: Joseph D'Souza

Sunday 3rd December, 8.30am

Commentator: Thessa Ikitau

Reader 1: Andrea Thomas

Reader 2: Chrislyn Shaji

Communion Minister: Daisy Kurian & Shaji George

Sunday 3rd December, 5.30pm

Commentator: Raymond Anthony

Reader 1: Claire Goss

Reader 2: Erwin Perez

Communion Minister: Dorothy Anthony

** 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.

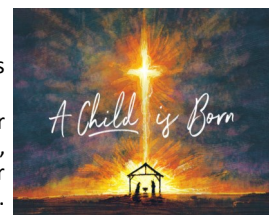
6pm - Christmas Eve Mass 24/12 (Family/Children's Mass)

9pm - Christmas Eve Mass 24/12 (Midnight Mass)

8.30am - Christmas Morning Mass 25/12

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.



St Benedict's Parish Office, Closure for Christmas & 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.

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.

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.

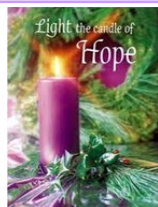
Hosted and Facilitated by: Grace Harwood of Dragonfly Ministries

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



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

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.

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.



Evangelisation Brisbane's Children and Families team has created a collection of free resources to help engage children and parents in your parish during the upcoming liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. Resources can be accessed at:- [Advent and Christmas with Kids - Evangelisation Brisbane](#)

including a printable Advent Calendar, craft activities, a weekly Advent video series and animated Nativity story video. We hope that you and your Children's Ministry staff and volunteers will find these resources useful in the lead up to Christmas



St Benedict's Primary and College Latest Newsletters:-

<https://stbenedictscollege.schoolzineplus.com/news?nid=83>



SBCPST4-W8and9 BelInformed.pdf



St Benedict's Christmas Fundraising Raffle

Please support the Fundraising efforts to Build our St Benedict's Church

Over 10 Prizes on offer to be won!

Hampers, Yard Care Products, Childrens Games. Gift Baskets.

\$5.00 per Ticket, available at the Mass Centre

Prizes Drawn at the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass.

Good Luck!

Proceeds go towards fundraising for our St Benedict's Church.



Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 19th November 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$300.00
Parish (Running) - \$1452.80

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

Building (Church) - \$510.00
Parish (Running) - \$720.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$810.00
Parish (Running) = \$2172.80

*'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.

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 gobbledygook email address from bigpond, yahoo or gmail (e.g. churchcare0147@gmail.com), but always spouting a similar urgent message.

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



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

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.

