

Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time.
Year B.
28th January 2024.



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 - No Mass
Saturday - 4.00pm
Sunday - 8.30am and 5.30pm

Parish Secretary:

Renae Smyth-Scott
admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Office:

Address: Level 2/12 Endeavour Blvd
North Lakes, Qld 4509
Postal: PO Box 1602
North Lakes, Qld 4509
Phone: 34901768 or 0401550638
admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au

Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 2.30pm
Friday Closed.

Parish 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)

The Good News—Life is Wonderful with Jesus

In last Sunday's Gospel Jesus began his public ministry by proclaiming: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom (reign) of God has come near, repent (metanoia) and believe the good news." (Mark 1:15). "Metanoia" is the Greek word translated into English as "repent". Metanoia means to see things differently as we live our lives, to have a change of heart. So, Jesus is saying that its time to have a change of heart, to see things differently. To see that God is with us, available always to reign in our hearts and minds as we live our lives. Jesus loves us and wants to live in relationship with us, which is indeed very good news.

In Mark's gospel Jesus makes it very clear that Satan, who wants to destroy us, is the enemy of humanity occupying the world, reigning in many peoples hearts and minds. Jesus is assuring us that He is here to displace Satan from the centre of our lives with Himself. Jesus who loves us and wants the absolute best for us. This is why Jesus' first miracle in Mark's gospel is an exorcism, which is the gospel we have for this coming Sunday.

In this gospel, a man is freed from forces trying to tear his life apart. Crippling him from living in the freedom of God. These are the same forces trying to cripple our brothers and sisters in the world today. False prophets that God condemn in this coming Sunday's first reading from the Book of Deuteronomy. False prophets who contradict Jesus' message of love and life lived in relationship with God. A false message that such a life is miserable. If you question how life-giving life devoted to God is, than I suggest you visit the nuns in the Carmelite Monastery at Ormiston to see how joyful and life-giving life lived in relationship with Jesus can be.

When I encounter Jesus in prayer it always leads to joy and contentment. I love my relationship with Jesus, and I could not imagine life without it. This is one of the reasons, I believe, that God has called me to be a priest. To share this Good News in the hope that others will embrace Jesus in life-giving ways.

Pope Francis observes that "those who turn away from the Lord are never happy, even though they have an abundance of possessions and possibilities at their disposal. Jesus never forces you to follow Him, never. **Jesus lets you know His will, with all His heart He lets you know things, but He leaves you free.** And this is the most beautiful thing about prayer with Jesus: the freedom that He allows you. On the other hand, when we distance ourselves from the Lord, we are left with something sad, something ugly in our heart" ([Why Jesus starts off Mark's Gospel kicking out Satan: Pope explains \(aleteia.org\)](http://www.aleteia.org)).

So let us open our hearts and minds to Jesus reigning in our lives, enabling us to overpower the one who seeks to destroy us, so we can live lives filled with love, hope, peace joy, and utter contentment.

St Benedict's Primary School and College Staff Commissioning Mass

Sunday February 4 at 8:30am

Let us come together as one to celebrate our St Benedict's community with a Commissioning Mass for the leadership and staff of the St Benedict's Primary School and College. This Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am on Sunday February 4. Following Mass, we will be having a morning tea.

We would love for everyone to come along to support the staff of both of our schools, and we 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 on admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au in the Parish Office to advise if you are able to help with the morning's celebrations. All are Welcome!

Is God Calling You to Serve our St Benedict's Parish?

To fulfill our vocation as a parish we need groups to meet and support each other in becoming better disciples of Jesus. These groups need leaders. Now, to be fair, it would be great if parishioners volunteer to lead these groups for a one-year term. Once the year is completed, it would be charitable to step aside to allow others to lead too.

The groups that would be beneficial in making better disciples for our parish include, but are not restricted to, the following:

Readings for this week - 28th January, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading - Dt 18:15-20.
Psalm - Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9.
2nd Reading - 1 Cor 7:32-35.
Gospel - Mark 1: 21-28.



The Week Ahead...

Thursday 18th January

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

Saturday 20th January

4pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 21st January

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

**** Parish Office closed from Christmas until 8.30am Monday 29th January.**

Save the Date...

In February...

4th - 8.30am, Commissioning Mass, Morning Tea for St Benedict's Schools Staff.

(Please Note:- there will be no 4pm or 5.30pm Mass on the weekend of this celebration).

7th - RCIA Meetings to resume.

11th - Baptism Celebration and Preparation Morning.

14th - 7am, Ash Wednesday Mass

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14th - Caritas, Project Compassion to begin.

16th - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

18th - RCIA -Rite of Elect at St Stephens Cathedral.

23rd - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

Mass Ministry Roster - Week 1.

Saturday ** DATE, 4pm

Commentator: Jim Kearney
Reader 1: Sharon Hickey
Reader 2: Nancy D'Souza
Communion Minister: Joseph D'Souza

Sunday ** DATE, 8.30am

Commentator: Thessa Ikitau
Reader 1: Andrea Thomas
Reader 2: Chrislyn Shaji
Communion Minister: Daisy Kurian & Shaji George

Sunday ** DATE, 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.

Young Adults Group (18-30 Years of Age)

Throughout our six years as a parish, we have paid over \$120 000 for leaders of our Youth and Young Adult's Group. Paying over \$24 000 per year is not sustainable given the limited funds we receive in our planned giving (our main source of parish income). Therefore, we need parishioners to step forward and answer God's call for them to lead our St Benedict's Young Adult's Group. If you do feel that God is calling you to be part of this ministry leadership team of four parishioners, please contact me on roeb@bne.catholic.net.au

Youth Group (13-17 Years of Age)

Like the Young Adult's Group, it would be great to have a healthy Youth Group (children from 13-17 years old) to eventually feed into the Young Adult's Group. So, once again, if you do feel that God is calling you to be part of this ministry leadership team of four parishioners, please contact me on roeb@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Group (7-12 Years of Age) and Children's Liturgy of the Word

Success!! We have three volunteers to lead our Children's Group, which will include coordinating a Children's Liturgy of the Word at our Sunday 8:30am Mass once a month. It would be good to get one more parishioner to lead this important ministry, and if you feel called to do so, please contact me on roeb@bne.catholic.net.au

Three Major Celebrations for 2024 – One Sunday Mass

In consultation with the St Benedict's Pastoral Council, we have decided to have three big parish celebrations throughout 2024. We aim to bring all three Mass communities together at our Sunday 8:30am Mass followed by food and friendship. These celebrations will include:

- St Benedict's Primary School and St Benedict's College Staff Commissioning Mass at 8:30am on Sunday February 4.
- St Benedict's Feast Day Mass at 8:30am on Sunday July 7.
- St Benedict's Parish Anniversary Mass at 8:30am on Sunday December 1.

Ash Wednesday (February 14)

The best way to begin our Lenten journey is by celebrating Mass on Ash Wednesday.

Our St Benedict's Parish Masses for Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at **7am and 7pm** in our usual worship space. All are welcome.

St Benedict's Parish Office

The St Benedict's Parish Office will be reopening on Monday 29th January 2024 at 8.30am. Let us be mindful, however, that Renae has a great amount of administration work to do to get up to speed, so if your request for assistance is not overly major, please wait until the week February 5.

Wishing you all abundant blessings in Christ, listening wholeheartedly His voice,

Fr Bryan.

Subscribe - The Catholic Leader



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: Sang Yeoul Choi, Chris Beck, Scholastica Korihio, Lynette Kelleher, Paul Kraus, Sue Kraus, Bonni Vestorp, Joy Gibbs, Kay Corcoran.

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 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.



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

Baptism at St Benedict's in 2024.

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 2024.

admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au or 34901768



Congratulations and Welcome into the CATHOLIC FAMILY

Last Sunday, 7th January 2024, we will welcome into the Catholic Family,

Tahlia

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

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



ATTENTION ATTENTION, CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

REGIUM YOUTH
St Benedict's Parish
PRESENTS IN 2024:

JESUS, NO ORDINARY MAN

- *Jesus, No Ordinary Man*
Week One, Term One: 28/1/24
- *Jesus, No Ordinary Teacher*
Week Three, Term One: 11/2/24
- *No Ordinary Teacher Pt. II*
Week Five, Term One: 25/2/24
- *Jesus, No Ordinary Relationship*
Week Seven, Term One: 10/3/24
- *Jesus, No Ordinary Crucifixion*
Week Nine, Term One: 24/3/24

ALL SESSIONS AFTER SUNDAY 5:30PM MASS UNTIL 7:45PM DINNER PROVIDED

- 📍 St Benedict's Parish, North Lakes
- 📱 @regiumyouth
- 📧 sbparishyouth@outlook.com

A youth group for young people, by young people.



Thank You

Dear parishioners, thank you for your well wishes, acts of kindness and prayers during my recent illness. Your support has been overwhelming and very much appreciated as my rehabilitation has definitely been enhanced through our St Benedict's community.

God bless, Kay.

Thank you for supporting the St Benedict's Parish Christmas Fundraising Raffle

Thank you to all those wonderful people who purchased Raffle tickets for the Christmas Raffle, in Support of raising Funds for the building of the St Benedict's Church.

Congratulations to all our lucky winners!



Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 17th December 2023.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$325.00
Parish (Running) - \$1067.25

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

Building (Church) - \$686.00
Parish (Running) - \$1140.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$1011.00
Parish (Running) = \$2207.25

*'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.

