

First Sunday in
Lent.
Year B.
18th February 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 - 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 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)

Our Lenten Journey

Lent is a time where we prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter. The Paschal Mystery being the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which is the core of our faith.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday and will conclude before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. During this time neither the Gloria nor the Alleluia are sung or said.

Purple is the liturgical colour for Lent and has a twofold significance. Purple is widely recognised as the colour of mourning, alluding to the impending suffering of Jesus' crucifixion, yet it is also associated with royalty and heralds Christ resurrection and sovereignty.

During Lent we make a concerted effort to deepen our relationship with Jesus. We do this through Prayer, Fasting and Acts of Charity.

Below is what we are doing as a parish as we journey together during Lent to the Paschal celebrations at Easter.

Our 2024 Lenten Prayer Group

Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Archbishop of Brisbane) writes: A Resurrected Life will invite you to believe in the extraordinary hope that the Gospel bears – a hope grounded in a God who transfigures our wounds, which become fountains of healing and life for those around and for the world.

I read through the whole resource and have become much richer in faith and spiritually from doing so. So, I too strongly recommend our Lenten resource for 2024. Shane Dwyer, the author, is a very well qualified spiritual writer, educated in the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and who has the gift of being able to speak to and enhance the faith of all people at different levels on their faith journey.

We will be gathering **each Wednesday during Lent at 7pm on zoom** to pray for the following Sunday's gospel and reflection from the resource. The link for this prayer group is:

[St Benedict's Lenten Prayer Group 2024 \(Wed's 7pm\)](#)

Please join us.

Our 2024 Stewardship Program – Time and Talent

Always striving to become an even better parish here at St Benedict's, let us all answer God's call for us to be good **Stewards**.

STEWARDSHIP is a spirituality for life that challenges the Christian disciple to foster a sense of gratitude, responsibility, and generosity through the better use of **time, talent and treasure**. The practice of Stewardship is an intentional living of the biblical call to be stewards.

The Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them generously in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to God.

The origins of stewardship are deeply embedded in the Scriptures and in a specific sense in the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel. Stewardship is a means of showing gratitude for all that we have in our lives. Each of us has something that we can be grateful for. As a way of life stewardship calls all of us to action.

To be Stewards we back to God our TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE. In return, God gives us salvation.

Time

Stewardship ought to find expression in all aspects of our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ and as members of his Church. It is fundamentally spiritual: the first response Jesus asks of us is love in return for love: we are impelled to make a faith-filled response to the gift of faith that we have received from God through Jesus.

We do well to give time to God in personal prayer.

We do well to give time to God in family prayer, which builds up family life and forms us as families whose bonds are established not only by blood or genes but also by Jesus Christ.

We do well to give time to God as members of the Church, celebrating the Sunday Eucharist and taking the opportunity offered for other moments of communal prayer as well, such as the Stations of the Cross in Lent.

Without prayer, without giving time to just be with God, whether it is alone or as families or as the gathered Church, all our other efforts and endeavours in our discipleship are diminished. Without prayer it is easy to lose our way and become disillusioned.

The
Season
of
Lent



Readings for this week - 18th February, First Sunday in Lent.

1st Reading - Genesis 9: 8-15.
Psalm - Ps 24: 4-9.
Response - Your ways, O Lord, are love
and truth to those who keep
your covenant.
2nd Reading - St Peter 3: 18-22.
Gospel - Mark 1: 12-15.

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 21st February

7.00pm - St Benedict's Parish, Lenten Prayer Group via Zoom.

[St Benedict's Lenten Prayer Group 2024](#)
(Wed's 7pm)

Thursday 22nd February

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 23rd February

9.00am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

6.00pm - St Benedict's Parish, Stations of the Cross.

Saturday 24th February

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 25th February

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

With prayer our sight remains more wholly fixed on Christ, and our way then becomes clearer.

With prayer we learn that we are not alone when trials come.

Talent

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." St Catherine of Siena
God has blessed us with gifts and talents to set this world a light with his love. It is not due to our own cleverness that we become successful people; success comes from the fruits of the talents we have received from God.

How do you use your talents to build up the Kingdom of God?

St. Peter in his first epistle tells us, "Each one of you has received a special grace, so like good stewards responsible for all these different graces of God, put yourselves at the service of others."

Parishioner Ministry forms will be distributed at this coming Sunday's Masses. Please discern what talents you can offer Christ's mission in our parish, you may wish to consider if you could:

- * Nursing Home ministry;
- * Lead a ministry at Mass, such as, the Children's Liturgy, or helping Sue construct the PowerPoint for each Mass, or be a Reader or Communion Minister at our Saturday 4pm or Sunday 5:30pm Masses;
- * Become a member of our Prayer Network (leading the parish in prayer initiatives);
- * Join the Justice and Peace leadership Group;
- * Lead a Youth Group (13-17 years of age; and/or
- * Facilitate Faith Education;

You can have significant influence on our community, please begin to prayerfully discern where you can become more involved in your parish, so that we can answer Jesus' call to building up God's Kingdom with God's love..

Project Compassion 2024

Each year, Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in schools, parishes and the community to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project Compassion is **For All Future Generations**. It reminds us that what we do today can have an impact for all future generations. This message invites us to step up for those who do not have the essential resources they need for their survival, and those whose needs at this time are far beyond our own. By putting compassion into action, we can make a difference today, for all future generations.

Our Justice and Peace group will be helping with the promotion of Project Compassion again this year. Members will be handing out the Project Compassion envelopes at the beginning of each Mass, and will be playing the videos of each project before each Mass during Lent. They hope to bring Project Compassion to life in the St Benedict's Parish, making it an inspiring and rewarding experience for everyone.

Catholic Revival in Our Time

It is not a coincidence that our last two popes have chosen the names of saints, who were responsible for reviving the Christian faith in their time.

St Benedict of Nursia (480-547), our patron saint, brought back Christianity to Europe at a time when, after the fall of Rome, the Barbarians took over causing Europe to become uncivilised. Especially, when it came to looking after the more vulnerable members of society, such as the poor, the sick, and the elderly. St Francis of Assisi did the same, answering God's call for him to rebuild God's Church by caring for the vulnerable of his time.

Inspired by these saints, our **Justice and Peace Group** would like to lead us in training us to assist in reviving Christianity in society today. Using a resource developed by the Archdiocese of Brisbane called the Sign of Our Times, the members of our Justice and Peace Group are keen to educate us and form us to bring Christianity back to the forefront of our society.

Starting after our 8:30am Mass on Sunday the 14th of April, and running for 5 consecutive Sundays, our Justice and Peace Group will be leading us in the Sign of Our Times sessions. These sessions will start with Morning Tea and run from 10-11:30am each Sunday, and they consist of the following.

- April 14 – The Love of Christ.
- April 21 – Encounter.
- April 28 – Accompaniment.
- May 5 – Inclusion.
- May 12 – Dialogue.

Please come along and join this journey aimed at equipping us in becoming Missionary Disciples of Jesus, transforming the world with His love.

Have a wonderful Lent with many blessings, *Fr Bryan.*

Save the Date...

In February...

16th - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

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

23rd - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

In March...

1st - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

8th - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

15th - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

22nd - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

24th - Palm Sunday

28th - Holy Thursday

29th - Good Friday

30th - Easter Saturday

30st - Easter Sunday

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 24th February, 4pm

Commentator: Hugh Shannon

Reader 1: Andreena Shannon

Reader 2: Evie Shannon

Communion Minister: Oliver Morata

Sunday 25th February, 8.30am

Commentator: Werner Mascarenhas

Reader 1: Andre Mascarenhas

Reader 2: Erika Mascarenhas

Communion Minister: Joseph and Nancy
D'Souza

Sunday 25th February, 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 other Ministers.

Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Di Wilson, Gail Tarrier, Lynette Kelleher, Paul Kraus, Sue Kraus, Joy Gibbs.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Efren Mationg, John Kyono.

Our Dear Recently Departed:



St Benedict's Prayer Network - Prayer Requests

Prayer requests are always welcomed, please fill in your details and email to:

stbenedictsprayernetwork@gmail.com 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.

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Men's Shelter South Brisbane

The St Benedict's Parish community have been proud to support the Men's Shelter in South Brisbane for many years by donating shirts and socks for those in need.

The St Benedict's Justice and Peace group will be collecting donated items at all Masses in our worship centre. There will be a washing basket available for all donated goods.

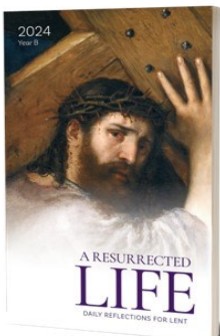
It is with the greatest of hope that we can improve on last year's donations of clothing. The donated goods will be presented at the preparation of gifts during Holy Thursday Mass, 28th March.

The donated clothing items will be then given to the Men's Shelter after Easter. Thank you for your support of this important initiative.

Lenten Resource 2024 - A Resurrected Life.

Evangelisation Brisbane has again produced a wonderful Lenten Resource for 2024; Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day includes a scripture reading and a reflection upon it, some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes from Pope Francis.

A Resurrected Life has been written by a single author. This allows for continuity and development within the resource, taking the reader on a meaningful journey. The author, Shane Dwyer, is the former Associate Director of the Adult Formation at Evangelisation Brisbane and has recently taken up a role as General Manager, Mission Integration with Mercy Community. He is an experienced speaker, faith resource write and qualified spiritual director. He is currently completing his PHD thesis on the relevance of John of the Cross to the contemporary quest for authenticity.



Copies are available to purchase, for \$6.00 each from the Mass Centre.

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 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.



LENT IDEAS for KIDS

CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, VIDEOS, PRAYERS AND MORE!



SCAN HERE TO ACCESS FREE LENT RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN



ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE
Evangelisation Brisbane

Children and Families



Project Compassion 2024

This weekend, please consider taking home a Caritas Project Compassion set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the Mass Centre, by calling 1800 024 413, or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion



Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 11th February 2024.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$215.00
Parish (Running) - \$972.15

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

Building (Church) - \$520.00
Parish (Running) - \$640.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$735.00
Parish (Running) = \$1612.15

*'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.

