

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Year B.

4th 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/](https://www.facebook.com/StBenedictsCatholicParish/)

StBenedictsCatholicParish/

St Vincent de Paul:

1800 Vinnie (1800 846 643)

Jesus went to a Deserted Place to Pray

In this coming Sunday's Gospel, after a hard day of work, healing people and exorcising demons, Jesus goes off to a deserted place to pray. When Jesus' disciples find him, Jesus seems to have a clear idea of where His Father is calling Him. He says, "Let us go to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." (Mark 1:38). Jesus knows His purpose through prayer. For me, this is the most important part of this passage.

Through prayer, taking time out to talk and listen to God, we too will come to understand God's call for us, which unequivocally will give us a sense of purpose too. So, prayer is by far the most important part of our lives as people of faith. This is why we endeavour to celebrate our Masses (our greatest prayer) well. This is also why we have a **Prayer Network** (Prayer Leadership Team) aimed at assisting all parishioners in their prayer life.

With our journey of Lent commencing on Wednesday February 14, we have once again purchased an excellent Lenten prayer resource to enrich us as we journey to Holy Week. See below for more details, and let us, like Jesus in this coming Sunday's Gospel, prioritise prayer in our lives, so that our lives may have purpose and meaning.

Our 2024 Lent Resource, A Resurrected Life

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 s and for the world.

I read through the whole resource the other night 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.

What will make this resource even more beneficial, will be our weekly gatherings on zoom throughout Lent. I will be including the link to these gatherings in next week's newsletter.

We have purchased 100 copies of **A Resurrected Life**, and we will be selling them for **\$6 each** at our Masses over the next two weekends. Please purchase this terrific resource, for it will undoubtedly enhance our faith as we journey together towards the Font of Life.

Ash Wednesday by Elizabeth Harrington

Wednesday 14th February is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. It is designated by the Church as days of fast and abstinence, as is Good Friday.

In current Catholic practice, fasting means having only one full meal a day. Smaller quantities of food may be eaten at two other meals but no food should be consumed at any other time during the day. The law of fasting applies to people from 18 to 59 years old.

Abstinence is the practice of abstaining from the use of certain kinds of food. Everyone aged 14 years and older is bound by the law of abstinence from meat.

The practice of fasting and abstinence aims at leading us to interior conversion by making us more disciplined and more charitable. We fast in order to share our time and our treasure with an attitude of love towards God and others. In addition, the practice helps us imitate the example of Jesus who fasted for 40 days in the desert.

The ashes that are marked on our foreheads on the first day of Lent are a symbol of humility, purification and sorrow and remind us of the need to repent our failings.

Ash Wednesday Masses - Wednesday February 14, 7am and 7pm.

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 Primary School and College Staff Commissioning Mass -

8:30am Mass on Sunday February 4, Morning Tea to follow.

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 Renaë on

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Readings for this week - 4th February, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary.

1st Reading - Job 7: 1-4, 6-7.

Psalms - Ps 146: 1-6.

Response - Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

2nd Reading - St Paul to the Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23.

Gospel - Mark 1: 29-39.

The Week Ahead...

Thursday 8th February

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 9th February

9.00am - St Benedict's Parish Mass ,
joining with the St Benedict's Primary School
for the beginning of the Year.

Saturday 10th February

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass..

Sunday 11th February

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass
Baptism Celebration and Preparation Morning
5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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:

- * **Young Adults Group (18-30 Years of Age).**
- * **Youth Group (13-17 Years of Age).**
- * **Children's Group (7-12 Years of Age) and Children's Liturgy of the Word.**
- * **Members of the Sacramental Team.**

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.

Friday Masses will Resume on February the 9th at 9am.

We will come together to recommence our Friday morning Masses next week, Friday February 9th at 9am. This will be a wonderful way to come together to celebrate Mass with the Primary Schools first Mass of the Year.

All are Welcome.

Have a great week everyone, embracing Jesus, who heals the broken-hearted,

Fr Bryan.

Save the Date...

In February...

4th - 8.30am, Commissioning Mass, Morning Tea for St Benedict's Schools Staff.
(Please Note:- there will be no 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

14th - 7pm, Ash Wednesday Mass

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

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

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 2.

Saturday 10th February, 4pm

Commentator: Sharon Hickey

Reader 1: Joy Darby

Reader 2: Kay Corcoran

Communion Minister: Susana Karim

Sunday 11th February, 8.30am

Commentator: Ronnie Vaipuna

Reader 1: Brandon D'Silva

Reader 2: Aaron D'Silva

Communion Minister: John Vaipuna &
Juvenal Ndayishimye

Sunday 11th February, 5.30pm

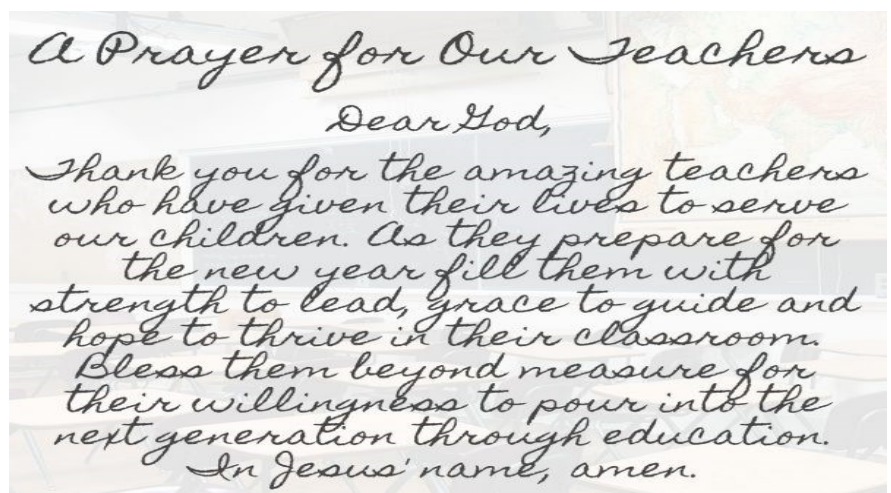
Commentator: Tim Campbell

Reader 1: Xanthe Campbell

Reader 2: Geni Campbell

Communion Minister: Sheeja Alphonse

** 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.
Thank you.



Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: 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 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

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.



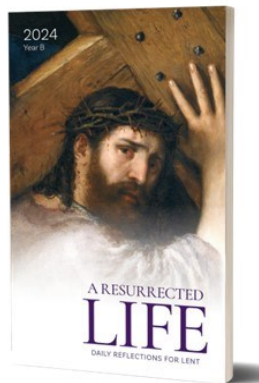
discere

10 FEBRUARY 2024
9:00AM – 3:00PM | MARIAN VALLEY

A VOCATIONAL
DISCERNMENT RETREAT

vocation
BRISBANE.com

Discere is a free, one-day retreat for young single Catholic men and women (18–35 years) to intentionally pause and ask the question "where is God calling me?" in a peaceful, supportive and safe environment. Scan the QR code to register for this event!



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.

Beneficially, **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.

"This Resource A Resurrected Life is subversive. It challenges our conventional way of thinking and invites us to believe in the extraordinary hope that the Gospel bears. This is a hope ground not on vapid promises, but on the fact of a God who takes flesh, entering even our woundedness and brokenness, so that life may come from death and strength from weakness. This is a God who transfigures our wounds, even the cosmic wound of death, which become fountains of healing and life for those around us and for the world" - Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane

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



Xavier School of Mission

One Word, emerging voices: Is mission the key to a synodal Church?

The Xavier School of Mission aims to equip and form leaders in evangelisation at the service of the Dioceses of Queensland and beyond. It is a dynamic and flexible resource that places the Church's mission to evangelise at the heart of Holy Spirit Seminary's formation.

The 2024 theme is 'One Word, emerging voices: Is mission the key to a synodal Church?' Pope Francis is guiding us on the journey of becoming what he calls "a synodal Church", a Church that listens, dialogues, walks and grows together. But what does that look like? In Australia, our Church is rich and diverse in cultures and generations.

- How do we listen to all the voices in the body of Christ? How do we have respectful conversations with people with diverse opinions?
- How do we understand our own 'call to mission' and that of other people and groups?
- How can looking outward help us to face the challenges we face within our groups and communities?

These and other questions will frame the experience of our week together.

EVENT DATES

Sunday 9 June – Friday 14 June 2024

The event begins with a light dinner at 6pm and concludes with lunch at 11am on Friday.

KEY SPEAKERS

Bishop Shane Mackinlay
Dr Sandie Cornish
Ms Kelly Paget
Mr Huw Warmenhoven
Ms Justine Hughes
A/Prof Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

This formation takes place at Holy Spirit Seminary Queensland, within a rhythm of life which includes prayer and reflection, lectures and small group experiences, daily Eucharist, and opportunities for one-to-one mentoring.

WHAT CAN YOU ACHIEVE?

Come for the experience of seminary life or apply for accreditation as single units. To learn more about accreditation, visit the Holy Spirit Seminary Qld website seminary.catholic.net.au

The Xavier School of Mission may also contribute towards an undergraduate or postgraduate theology award program. To discuss this option further, please email xaviercentre@acu.edu.au

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Four themes underpin the focus of the School of Mission. Each year one of the following themes is the focal point of the event:

Theology of Mission
Faith, Culture and Context
Speaking and Preaching
Spirituality for Mission

PRICING

A total cost of \$650 includes 12 meals at \$25 and an administration surcharge. Concession rates are available on a case-by-case basis.

For further information, please email xaviercentre@acu.edu.au

Please note, this cost does not include accommodation. This will need to be arranged independently.

CONTACT INFORMATION

E: xaviercentre@acu.edu.au
W: seminary.catholic.net.au
Facebook: @XavierSchoolOfMission

"Go and make disciples of all nations" Matthew 28:19

Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 28th January 2024.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$541.25
Parish (Running) - \$1131.45

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

Building (Church) - \$453.00
Parish (Running) - \$812.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$994.25
Parish (Running) = \$1943.45

*'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.

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.



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.*