

Fifth Sunday in
Lent.
Year B.
17th March 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 - 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)

St Benedict's Justice & Peace Group:

stbenedictsjpe@gmail.com

The
Season
of
Lent



Jesus Giving Us All Life though His Death

In this coming Sunday's Gospel Jesus says, "the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified" (John 12:23). Leading up to this, Jesus has said several times in John's Gospel that His hour has not come. For instance, when the wine ran out at the wedding feast of Cana, the mother of Jesus said to Jesus that they have no wine. Jesus replied, "woman what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." (John 2:4). Right up to this point the hour has always been in the future. But here in chapter 12, Jesus' hour has come, and the hour is, of course, the hour of his death and glorification.

Jesus likens his death to sowing a seed into the ground. "I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain. But if it dies, it yields a rich harvest." (John 12:24). Jesus has already spoken of His death in life giving terms. Last Sunday's gospel, for example, which came from chapter 3 of John's gospel, Jesus alluded to an incident in the Book of Numbers. During the Exodus, the people were saved from poisonous serpents by looking upon the effigy of the bronze serpent raised up by Moses. Likewise, humanity has been smitten with a deadly disease, and the only cure is to look at the Son of Man dying on the cross and find life through believing in Him.

In this coming Sunday's Gospel, the image is not of Jesus being "lifted up", but of Him falling into the ground like a seed and dying. The seed is Jesus Himself, who by dying will give life to humanity. Just as the seed must die to its life as a single seed before it can yield an abundant harvest, Jesus will bring life in abundance through his death on the cross.

Jesus then returns to the image of being "lifted up". He says, "now sentence has been passed on this world. Now the Prince of this world is to be overthrown and when I am lifted up from the earth I shall draw all people to myself." (John 12:31-32). Here we have the answer that Jesus gives to the Greeks who want to see Him at the beginning of this coming Sunday's Gospel. These gentile Greeks will truly see Jesus, but only when he is "lifted up". The Greek word that John uses for "lifted up" is deliberately ambiguous. It can refer to a crucifixion, to a person being "lifted up" on the cross. But it can also refer to an enthronement to a person being "lifted up" to a position of king and ruler. The Gospel of John is using the word in both senses. The Cross, which is an excruciating instrument of torture and death is also a throne from which Jesus reigns triumphantly. Giving life in the Kingdom of God to all who look upon it through the eyes of faith.

Our 2024 Stewardship Program – Thank You

We are continuing to see Ministry (Time and Talent) and Pledge (Treasure) cards come through to the office, Thank you! Thank you to all our parishioners who have offered their gifts and talents to the life of our St Benedict's Parish during our recent Stewardship Program. Your generosity is very much appreciated, for your offers of Time, Talent and Treasure.

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 Suffering, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which is the foundation 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 s 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.

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Readings for this week - 17th March, Fifth Sunday in Lent.

1st Reading - Jeremiah 31: 31-34.
Psalm - Ps 50: 3-4, 12-15.
Response - Create a clean heart in me,
O God.
2nd Reading - Hebrews 5: 7-9.
Gospel - John 12: 20-33.

The Week Ahead...

Wednesday 20th March

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

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

Thursday 21st March

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 22nd March

9.00am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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

Saturday 23rd March

9am to 3pm - Lenten Retreat, Holy Cross Church

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 24th March

Palm Sunday.

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

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.

Friday Stations of the Cross

We come together to pray and reflect on The Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 6pm. Stations of the Cross on Good Friday are at 10am

Please Help - Palm Leaf Crosses for Palm Sunday

All are invited to join us in making Palm Leaf Crosses for Palm Sunday. This will be taking place after the Stations of the Cross on Friday the 22nd of March.

Friday 9am Mass

There will be **no** 9am Friday Mass on March 22.

Our 2024 Lenten Retreat – Saturday March 23

Are you craving some quiet time and space to take a breather and reflect? St Benedict's Parish may have the answer for you. Everyone is invited to a Holy Week Retreat. For more information please see the advertisement on Page 3 of this newsletter.

To register; Please email Fr Bryan on roeb@bne.catholic.net.au



PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

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.

The Way of the Cross by Elizabeth Harrington

Stations of the Cross is a popular practice in parishes during Lent. This form of devotion arose after pilgrims began to visit the Holy Land from the end of the 4th century to follow the path that Jesus trod in his last week of life. Christians who were unable to travel to Palestine themselves reproduced a parallel devotion at home.

The Franciscans popularised the practice during the Middle Ages, but the number and subject of the stations was not settled until the 18th century. The fourteen stations that were established were a blend of biblical and legendary material.

There is no set way of praying the Stations and the Church has never provided an official ritual for the celebration. In 1975 the Congregation for Sacred Rites suggested a list of Stations of the Cross that is more in keeping with the gospel accounts than the traditional form. It begins with the Last Supper and concludes with Christ's resurrection. Recent popes have used yet another set of Stations when celebrating the Way of Cross at the Colosseum during Holy Week.

The terms "Stations of the Cross" and "Way of the Cross" refer to the same devotional practice. The latter may be better as it emphasises the spiritual journey aspect of the prayer.

Official guidelines for celebrating the Way of the Cross suggest that it is always preferable to choose texts written in a clear simple style and to end the celebration with a commemoration of the Lord's resurrection "to leave the faithful with a sense of expectation of the resurrection in faith and hope".

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

Save the Date...

In March...

15th - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

22nd - 6pm, Stations of the Cross

23rd - Lenten Retreat at Holy Cross Church
9am-3pm

24th - Palm Sunday

8.30am & 5.30pm Mass

28th - Holy Thursday -

7pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

29th - Good Friday -

10am - Stations of the Cross

3pm - The Passion of the Lord

30th - Easter Saturday -

7pm - Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

31st - Easter Sunday -

8.30am - Mass for the Resurrection of the Lord (**NO 5.30pm Mass**)

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 4.

Saturday 23rd March, 4pm

Commentator: Hugh Shannon

Reader 1: Andrea Shannon

Reader 2: Evie Shannon

Communion Minister: Oliver Morata

Sunday 24th March, 8.30am

Commentator: Werner Mascarenhas

Reader 1: Andre Mascarenhas

Reader 2: Erika Mascarenhas

Communion Minister: Joseph and Nancy D'Souza

Sunday 24th March, 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.

Year 7 2026 Enrolments

Have you lodged your Enrolment?
Applications close 30 June 2024



Please go to our website and complete the online Application for Enrolment Form, email us the supporting documentation and pay the Enrolment Application Fee to be considered for enrolment.

www.stbenedictcollege.qld.edu.au

Please remember in your Prayers:

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

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 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.

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.



2024 Lenten Retreat, 23rd March.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11: 28

Are you craving some quiet time and space to take a breather and reflect? Saint Benedict's Parish may have the answer for you. Everyone is invited to a Holy Week Retreat.

When: Saturday March the 23rd, commencing at 9 am and finishing at 3 pm after the celebration of Mass.

Where: Holy Cross Church, 68 Nottingham Street, Kippa Ring.

Facilitated by: Sister Denise Brosnan, a Josephite Sister, an experienced Retreat Director, who will focus on preparation for Easter and looking at questions such as "Where am I today?"

What should I bring: A water bottle and lunch. Morning Tea will be provided.

Registration: Please email roeb@bne.catholic.net.au



Let us join together for Easter at St Benedict's in 2024...

Palm Sunday, Sunday 24th March—8.30am and 5.30pm Mass
Holy Thursday, 28th March – 7pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday, 29th March – 10am, Stations of the Cross
Good Friday, 29th March – 3pm, The Passion of the Lord
Easter Saturday, 30th March – 7pm, Easter Vigil – The Resurrection of the Lord
Easter Sunday, 31st March – 8.30am, The Resurrection of the Lord.
(No 5.30pm Mass on Easter Sunday)



ST BENEDICTS CATHOLIC PARISH
MANGO HILL/GRIFFIN/NORTH LAKES

JUSTICE, PEACE & ECOLOGY
LEADERSHIP TEAM

Micah: 6:8 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God'.

Join us for an enriching 5 day SOOT (Signs of Our Times) workshop.

Deepen Your Faith . Building Bridges

HOW TO STAY CONNECTED WITH GOD IN VERY SIMPLE DEEDS EVERY DAY AND BECOMING MISSIONARY DISCIPLES OF JESUS, TRANSFORMING OURSELVES, OUR PARISH, OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR WORLD

Time: 10am – 11:30am

Venue: St Benedict's College Staff Room

SUNDAYS:

APRIL 14 - THE LOVE OF CHRIST

APRIL 21 - ENCOUNTER


APRIL 28 - ACCOMPANIMENT

MAY 5 - INCLUSION

MAY 12 - DIALOGUE

Hope you can join us .

For Registration and Further Information:

 stbenedictsje@gmail.com

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PRAYERS AND MORE!



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FOR CHILDREN



Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 10th March 2024.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$299.20
Parish (Running) - \$986.95

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

Building (Church) - \$665.00
Parish (Running) - \$760.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$964.20
Parish (Running) = \$1746.95

*'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.

