

The Ascension of the  
Lord.  
Year B.  
12th May 2024.



# ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

North Lakes, Mango Hill & Griffin

## Parish Priest:

Fr Bryan Roe

Email: [roeb@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 2.30pm  
Friday Closed.

## Parish Safeguarding:

Email: [northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au)

STOPline: Ph - 1300 304 550

STOPline: Em - [A0B@stopline.com.au](mailto:A0B@stopline.com.au)

## Parish Website:

[www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au](http://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](mailto:stbenedictsjpe@gmail.com)

## **"Go out to the Whole World and Proclaim the Good News!" (Mark 16:15)**

Since it is Year B of the Liturgical Year, this coming Sunday we hear the account of the ascension from Mark's Gospel. We hear that after the risen Jesus had commissioned the disciples to go out to the whole world and spread the good news, "He was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place." (Mark 16:19).

To fulfil our mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus to the world, we need to convince people that it really is "Good News!" That it is the Good News that God loves us more than anything and wants the absolute best for us. That God is with us every second of everyday, loving us, and calling us to live good fruitful lives. Calling us to selflessly love, through a deep, personal, and intimate relationship with Jesus. Jesus, the glorified One, seated at the right hand of the Father, who always stands at the door of our hearts and minds, always calling us to love, to forgive, and to care for others. Who unburdens us of worries and leads us to peace and harmony in our lives. Who always calls us to speak out against injustices, and to do all we can to correct them. Our deep and intimate relationship with Jesus is the source from which all good things flow.

Jesus, therefore, calls us to be missionary disciples. To spread the gift of our faith to all people of all nations. Our previous Pope, Pope Benedict XVI, echoed this call of Jesus, when he said that our gift of faith "is not an exclusive prerogative of those who receive it, but is a gift to be shared, a piece of good news to be passed on." He added, "**this gift commitment is entrusted not just to a few, but it is entrusted to all baptised people.**" All of us are to share our gift of faith with all others. To spread our gift of faith not just through what we do and say, but how we are as human beings. By being loving, kind, and compassionate people who journey with Jesus, others will be attracted to God's loving embrace through us.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are drawn into an intimate relationship with the risen and ascended Jesus, who will always and everywhere lead us to the Father, who in turn gives us life in abundance. This is the "Joy of the Gospel" as Pope Francis assures us. A life of selfless love, which is always life-giving. Not just for the people we are loving, not just for ourselves, but for the whole world. This self-giving love of God, embodied in Jesus, will lead all people to experience an incredible joy, freedom, peace, and contentment. A joy, freedom, peace, and contentment that the world cannot give. A joy, freedom, peace, and contentment that only God can give.

## **The Ascension of the Lord (Elizabeth Harrington)**

Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. The Ascension is not a farewell or a time of sadness at Jesus' departure from this world. Like every Christian festival, the Ascension celebrates the on-going presence of the risen Christ in our midst. The Preface and the Solemn Blessing for the Ascension both make this clear.

"Christ the mediator between God and the human race, judge of the world and Lord of all, has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church; where he has gone, we hope to follow." (Preface)

"May you, who believe Christ is seated with the Father in his majesty, know with joy the fulfilment of his promise to stay with you until the end of time." (Solemn Blessing)

The first reading for the feast is from Luke's prologue to the book of Acts. Jesus travelled to Jerusalem to his passion and death; now the disciples will take the Good News of his resurrection out to the world, beginning in Jerusalem and reaching to the ends of the earth.

The account of the ascension that we hear this year from Mark occupies not even a full sentence in the gospel reading. The rest of the passage is about Jesus' final commissioning of the disciples to go out into the whole world and proclaim the Good News.

In Australia the Ascension marks the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme for this year is "You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself". (Luke 10:27). The love of Christ and neighbour is the driving force that moves us beyond our division toward acts of reconciliation.

## **Novena to the Holy Spirit - Friday May 10 to May 18**

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful. Kindle in them the fire of your love." Yes, we are once again, as a parish, going to pray a Novena to the Holy Spirit in the 9 days leading up to Pentecost. All parishioners are encouraged to pray this Novena asking the Holy Spirit for a **renewal of faith in the World.**

The Novena will be starting this Friday May 10 and concluding on Saturday May 18. Please join in praying the Novena via zoom each morning at 6:00am. These gatherings will be recorded, and the zoom link sent out later each day.

Please join us at 6am by clicking the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84696602561>

## **Happy Mother's Day!**

We wish all mothers a happy Mother's Day this coming Sunday. May your children show their thanks and appreciation for all you do for them, and may God bless you abundantly!

## **Readings for this week - 12th May, The Ascension of the Lord.**

1st Reading - Acts of the Apostles  
1: 1-11.  
Psalm - Ps 46: 2-3, 6-9.  
Response - God mounts his throne to  
shouts of joy: a blare of  
trumpets for the Lord.  
2nd Reading - St Paul to the Ephesians  
1:17-23 (alt. 4: 1-13).  
Gospel - Mark 16: 15-20..



## The Week Ahead...

### Thursday 16th May

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

### Friday 17th May

9am – St Benedict's Parish Mass,  
together with Year 12 Students.

### Saturday 18th May

4.00pm – St Benedict's Parish Mass.

### Sunday 19th May

#### **Pentecost**

8.30am – St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sacramental Information Session for First Holy  
Communion to follow

5.30pm – St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sacramental Information Session for First Holy  
Communion to follow

## Save the Date...

### **In May...**

**\*\* Sacramental Program for First Holy  
Communion to begin.**

10th-18th - Holy Spirit Novena via zoom.

12th - Ascension of the Lord

12th - Mother's Day

19th - Pentecost

19th - First Holy Communion Preparation  
and Information Session

### **In June...**

**\*\* Sacramental Program for First Holy  
Communion to continue.**

22nd / 23rd - Vinnies Winter Appeal  
Weekend

### **In July...**

**\*\* Sacramental Program for Confirmation  
to begin.**

11th - St Benedict's Feast Day.

## Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 3.

### Saturday 18th May, 4pm

**Commentator:** Oliver Morata

**Reader 1:** TBA

**Reader 2:** TBA

**Communion Minister:** Denise Rapkins

### Sunday 19th May, 8.30am

**Commentator:** Charles D'Rosario

**Reader 1:** Seema Masih

**Reader 2:** Aviva Coutinho

**Communion Minister:** Bobette Sindicic,  
Pierina Ziebarth and  
Juvenal

### Sunday 19th May, 5.30pm

**Commentator:** TBA

**Reader 1:** TBA

**Reader 2:** Shiela Pereira

**Communion Minister:** Theresa Saad

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.

## Mother's Day Prayer

Good and Gentle God, We pray in gratitude for all mothers who have joined with you in the wonder of giving life. Jesus, who became human through our Heavenly Mother, Mary, please give all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings. Give them the support they need to assist the spiritual and physical growth of their children. Give them wisdom to turn to you for help in bringing up their children, and may their children shower them with many blessings. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has invited the whole Church to celebrate a year of prayer to prepare for next year's Jubilee. We are being called by the successor of Peter to go deeper into the experience of listening to God, speaking to God, being with God in silence prayer.

Prayer is like breathing - it is as necessary for our spiritual life, as breathing is for our physical life. Christian prayer begins with listening to the God, who never ceases to communicate with us. If all we do is speak, we will "babble like the pagans", as Jesus says (Matthew 6:7). But true prayer is like charging an iPhone: without it, the device simply doesn't work. Nor do we.

As a way into a deepening experience of prayer, I offer the Archdiocese a prayer that comes from my own listening to God (see the pray below). I also recommend the "Year of Prayer" website, which can be accessed here: <http://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/year-of-prayer>  
Deeper prayer is the womb of more powerful mission, so there is more to this year of prayer than growth and piety. This is true for the pastors first of all, but for all the baptized as well. Since the whole Church is mission.

May the God of peace bless you in every way.

As always in the Lord,

Archbishop Mark Coleridge

Archbishop of Brisbane

## 2024 Year of Prayer

"I ask you to intensify your prayer to prepare us to live this event (The Synod) of grace well and to experience the power of God's hope. That is why today we begin a Year of Prayer."

Pope Francis

## Prayer

You speak, Lord God, even in silence and we listen with the ears of the heart.

We listen and our eyes are opened to see the things as they are.

We see with the eyes of Jesus and our mouths are opened

to speak of our joy and our sorrow to sing your praise and seek your help.

This is the grace of prayer you give, that opens heaven to earth,  
heart speaking to heart.

Give us that grace in this Year of Prayer, teach us to pray anew,  
lead us deeper into the heart of Jesus  
who is our prayer forever and ever.

Amen.

Archbishop mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane

## The Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday June 2

On the **Feast of Corpus Christi**, the Catholic Church honours the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, "For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink" (John 6:55). Processing with the Blessed Sacrament through the streets is a tradition that is embraced all over the world and continues today.

In the Archdiocese of Brisbane, we will bear witness to our faith on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2024, as we gather with over 5000 Catholics to walk with Jesus through the streets of Brisbane City, as we pray, sing, praise, and honour Him in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Corpus Christi Procession, presided by **Archbishop Mark Coleridge** will start at 2pm from the Cathedral of St Stephen, walk through the city streets and finish with Benediction at the Cathedral.

In addition to the procession, an exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles around the world will be on display in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre, from Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of June until Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. There will also be a vigil of Adoration in St Stephen's Chapel overnight from 7pm Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June.

All are welcome to participate in this procession. For transport and other information, please call 0412 802 122 or visit the Corpus Christi website: <https://www.corpuschristibrisbane.com>

## Justice, Peace, and Ecology Workshops – The Sign of our Times, Final week Postponed to 19/05/24.

The final Sign of Our Times workshop will **not** be on Sunday May 12, but will be **Sunday May 19 at 10am.**

## Welcoming our Sacramental Families

Our sacramental families will be joining us for our Masses from Pentecost Sunday (Sunday May 19). This is a great opportunity attract people to a deeper relationship with Jesus. All you need to do is continue to show the incredible joy that Jesus gives us as we celebrate Mass. Continuing to be a beautiful welcoming and caring community.

Cont.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION**

"HE WHO FOLLOWS ME WALKS NOT IN DARKNESS" - JOHN 8:12

**2PM SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024**

Starting and ending at the Cathedral of St Stephen and featuring prayers, rosary, hymns and Benediction with proceedings led by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

[corpuschristibrisbane.com](http://corpuschristibrisbane.com)



**RCIA**  
Formation Day  
**A NEW WAY**

Sunday 26 May | 1-4pm  
Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre  
Charlotte St, Brisbane City

In person and livestream options available  
Scan code to register or visit  
[www.tinyurl.com/RCIA-FD24](http://www.tinyurl.com/RCIA-FD24)




**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 for Ministry please.

*Please remember in your Prayers:*

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

**Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:**  
Colin Larter, Maricris David.


**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](mailto: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.



**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.stbenedictscollege.qld.edu.au](http://www.stbenedictscollege.qld.edu.au)

**Mary's Month (Elizabeth Harrington)**

Devotion to Mary and the saints is integral to Catholic faith.

We **venerate** the saints as human beings transformed by the grace of God. We give glory to God who has done marvelous things in the life of one of us.

We **imitate** them because they show us how to be followers of Christ. The saints in the liturgical calendar offer models of discipleship that are relevant for the Church in all ages and places.

We **invoke** the intercession of the saints in the sense that we ask them to pray for us through Christ who is our one and only mediator.

May has traditionally been the month of Mary in the Catholic Church. The feast of the Visitation on May 31 calls us to ponder Mary as the woman who believed and obediently accepted the will of God, enabling her to play a most significant role in the saving work of Christ.

"Far from being a timidly submissive woman, Mary was a woman who did not hesitate to proclaim that God vindicates the humble and the oppressed, and removes the powerful people of this world from their positions of privilege" (Pope Paul IV).


**The Season of Easter (Elizabeth Harrington)**

Just as there is a time of preparation leading up to Easter – the 40 days of Lent, there is a period after Easter when we continue the joy of the resurrection – the 50-day season of Easter, or Easter Time. Perhaps the best way to understand the Easter season, which runs from Easter Sunday until Pentecost, is to consider it as an overflow of the Vigil and a time for unfolding the Easter mysteries. For those who were baptised at Easter, it is the period of *mystagogy* when the "spiritual and heavenly mysteries of the Church are explained". The continuity between the Easter Vigil and Eastertide is seen in the worship environment. Banners, hangings and other decorations for the Vigil remain in place until Pentecost. The central symbols of water and light are used throughout the fifty days. The paschal candle is placed near the ambo or altar until Pentecost and is lit during all liturgical celebrations to remind us that Christ is indeed our light. The document on the liturgical year says that the fifty days of the Easter season are "the days for the singing of the *Alleluia*". In this "week of weeks" (Easter Time is seven weeks long) we sing our *Alleluias*, to the risen Christ and celebrate our new life in him.

Have a great week everyone, giving glory and praise to our God, **Fr Bryan.**

**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.



**Sacramental Programs for Children 2024/2025.**

**Enrolments are open.**

We wish to Congratulate and continue to pray for all of the children who took part in the Sacramental Programs in 2023 through our 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 2024/2025 Sacramental Programs, to please contact the Parish Office via email; [admin.northlakes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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. Preparation takes place through out the months of July and August, Sacrament received in August.

Then followed by,

**First Holy Communion (Eucharist) and Reconciliation** - children in Grade 4 and above, having already received the Sacrament of Confirmation are eligible. Preparation takes place through out the months of May and June, Sacrament received in June.

**Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 5th May 2024.**

**Plate Collection & Envelopes:-**

Building (Church) - \$245.00  
Parish (Running) - \$930.60

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

Building (Church) - \$1020.00  
Parish (Running) - \$1200.00

**Totals:-**

Building (Church) = \$1265.00  
Parish (Running) = \$2130.60

*'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.**

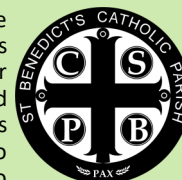
**Now, more than ever, your support is needed to help our Parish to continue valuable pastoral activities and to provide ongoing sustainability. To assist you in supporting the St Benedict's Parish, you can now give via the Planned Giving APP:**

<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](mailto: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.

