

Sixth Sunday of Easter.  
Year B.  
5th 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 - [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au)

## Parish Website:

[www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au](http://www.stbenedictscatholicparish.com.au)

## Parish Facebook Page:

<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)

## **What is Love?**

A young man, who phones his beloved saying, "my dearest sweetest most adorable Annabelle. To be with you, I would scale the highest mountain 1000 times. I would willingly trek across desert wastelands in the scorching heat. I would swim through shark infested waters. Wild beasts could not keep me away from you, so great is my love. I'll pick you up at 7pm this evening for dinner at your favorite restaurant. But only if it's not raining."

Love, in the New Testament, is much more than mere words. The Greek word used for 'love' is 'agape'. Used over 300 hundred times in the New Testament, 'agape' means sacrificial love.

In this coming Sunday's second reading (1 John 4:11-16) and Gospel (John 15:9-17), 'agape' is used at least twenty times. Jesus tells us to love one another as Jesus has loved us. Jesus then says that a person can have no greater love than to lay down their life for their friends.

In the second reading from the 1 John, we are told that the very nature of God can be defined as love. God is love (1 John 4:8). In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that they are to love each other as He has loved them. But how has Jesus loved them?

Well, John's account of the Last Supper begins with the washing of feet. In Jesus' time and culture, the washing of guests' feet was a menial task undertaken by a servant or a slave. When Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, He was teaching them an important lesson. "So, if I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14). Jesus makes it clear that our love for each other must manifest itself in humble service.

There is no parallel in ancient literature for a person of superior status voluntarily washing the feet of someone of inferior status. The disciples' love for each other must be reflected in humble service. But the greatest manifestation of Jesus' love for us occurs the following day on the cross. "A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). This is the ultimate test of love, and that test is sacrifice. Jesus makes the ultimate sacrifice. He lays down his life for us.

In his book, "The Four Loves", CS Lewis writes, "Agape is the love that, unlike the others, has no hunger that needs to be filled, only the plenteousness that desires to give...it is wholly disinterested and desires simply what is best for the beloved...it enables a person to love what is not naturally lovable: lepers, criminals, enemies, the sulky, the superior, and the sneering."

True love, is not about finding the person whom you find lovable, but about being able to love whoever has been put in your path each day.

"Love is not love which alters when its alteration finds, or bends with the remover to remove. O no! It is an ever-fixed mark that looks on tempests and is never shaken" (Shakespeare Sonnet 116).

St Jerome tells us that when St John the Evangelist was an old man, and could no longer compose a sermon, he would say over and over again, "little children, love one another." When people kept asking him why he always repeated the same words, he answered, "If you do that, you do enough."

## **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

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## Readings for this week - 5th May, Sixth Sunday of Easter.

1st Reading - Acts of the Apostles  
10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48.  
Psalm - Ps 97: 1-4.  
Response - The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.  
2nd Reading - St John 4: 7-10.  
Gospel - John 15: 9-17.

## The Week Ahead...

### Thursday 9th May

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

### Friday 10th May

9am - St Benedict's Parish Mass,  
together with Year 8 Students.

### Saturday 11th May

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

### Sunday 12th May

#### Mother's Day

#### The Ascension of the Lord

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

5.30pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

## Save the Date...

### In May...

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

5th - Baptism Celebration and Preparation  
Morning

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

## Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 2.

### Saturday 11th May, 4pm

Commentator: Sharon Hickey

Reader 1: TBC

Reader 2: Kay Corcoran

Communion Minister: Susana Karim

### Sunday 12th May, 8.30am

Commentator: Ronnie Vaipuna

Reader 1: Zepher Vaipuna

Reader 2: Angel Vaipuna

Communion Minister: John Vaipuna,  
Gabby and Sa Ikitau

### Sunday 12th May, 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 very much for your assistance.

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.

### 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>

### Caritas Receipts for 2024 Project Compassion

Thank you once again to those who were able to contribute towards Project Compassion throughout Lent 2024. For those who gave by cash and asked for a receipt, they are available from the Mass Centre from this weekend.

Those that contributed via Credit Card or Cheque, your receipts will be sent to you directly from Caritas once they have completed their processing.

### Planned Giving Envelopes 2024/2025

For our Parishioners who currently contribute to our Parish Planned Giving via Parish Envelopes, the new allocation for 2024/2025 have now been received and will be available for collection from next weekend 11/12 May, at the Mass Centre.

Envelope are also available for those who generously nominated this method as their preferred way of giving in the recent Pledge drive.

Please see the Welcome Table at the front of the Mass Centre and search for your name on the front of the box. Thank you so much.

Have a great week everyone, experiencing God's saving power, *Fr Bryan.*

*Please remember in your Prayers:*

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

**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.



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  
2024/2025.**

**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.

**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.



**Congratulations and Welcome  
into the CATHOLIC FAMILY**

This Sunday, 5th May 2024 , we will welcome into the Catholic Family, **Jude, Tanah and Brianna**

As they received the Sacrament of Baptism, with us at St Benedict's Parish.

May we pray that Jude, Tanah and Brianna, together with their family and friends, experience God's happiness, joy and love, now and always.



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:

 [stbenedictsjpe@gmail.com](mailto:stbenedictsjpe@gmail.com)

**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)

**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)

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

### Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$564.00  
Parish (Running) - \$857.85

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

Building (Church) - \$713.00  
Parish (Running) - \$732.00

### Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$1277.00  
Parish (Running) = \$1589.85

*'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.

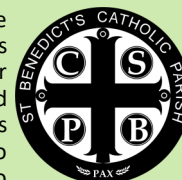
Now, more than ever, your support is needed to help our Parish to continue valuable pastoral activities and to provide ongoing sustainability. To assist you in supporting the St Benedict's Parish, you can now give via the **Planned Giving APP:**

<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](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.*