

Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time.
Year B.
8th September 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:

Renaë Smyth-Scott
Ph: 07 34901768
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

Baptism at St Benedict's.



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.

Readings for this week - 8th September, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary.

1st Reading - Isaiah 35: 4-7.
Psalm - Ps 145: 7-10.
Response - Praise the Lord, my soul!
2nd Reading - Letter of St James
2: 1-5.
Gospel - Mark 7: 31-37.

Mass Times while Father Bryan is on Holidays

The St Benedict's Mass schedule for the next three week.

September 7/8: Saturday 4pm Mass and Sunday 8:30am Mass (**No Sunday 5:30pm Mass**).

September 14/15: Saturday 4pm Mass and Sunday 8:30am Mass (**No Sunday 5:30pm Mass**).

September 21/22: Saturday 4pm Mass and Sunday 8:30am Mass (**No Sunday 5:30pm Mass**).

Please join us to celebrate Mass at our Saturday 4pm or our Sunday 8:30am for the next three weeks. **The Sunday 5:30pm Mass will resume on Sunday September 29.**

Safeguarding Sunday—8th September 2024

The St Benedict's Parish and the Diocese of Brisbane are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community.

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk, and empowers and listens to all people, especially those who are vulnerable.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>



There is a New Ruler in Town – Jesus!

The Sunday Gospel for the next two weeks, I believe, describe the two main themes in Mark's Gospel. This coming Sunday's Gospel describes the theme that a new Ruler has come into the world, by the name of Jesus, who will conquer the previous ruler – the Devil! Then the Gospel for Sunday September 8 makes it perfectly clear that Jesus has come into the world to save us through His suffering, death, and resurrection – the Paschal Mystery.

The first part of Mark's Gospel has Jesus performing many exorcisms of demons. Add to that, it is only the demons who seem to know that Jesus is God. These exorcisms, together with the demons identifying Jesus as God, is a key theme of the whole Gospel. That is, there is a new Ruler (Jesus) in town (the world), and the old Ruler's (the Devil's) days are numbered. Jesus conquers demons (or unclean spirits) at least fourteen times in Mark's Gospel. These demons are frightened of Jesus, and Jesus has total power over them. So, if one is frightened of evil spirits, then Mark's Gospel makes it very clear that if one turns to Jesus when threatened by an evil spirit, they will be one hundred percent safe.

By the way, it is helpful to know that the Greek word for the Devil in the Gospels is "Diabolos". Diabolos literally means to "throw apart". This is exactly what the Devil tries to do, seeking to throw apart our relationships and our integrity. Jesus, on the other hand, seeks to do the opposite. Jesus seeks to make us whole – to make our relationships with others to thrive, and for us to be people of integrity.

In this coming Sunday's Gospel Jesus performs His second miracle in Gentile (non-Jewish) territory. Both this miracle and the preceding miracle in Mark's Gospel, in which Jesus liberates the daughter of a Syrophenician woman who was possessed by a demon, are exorcisms.

The exorcism in this Sunday is more subtle than Jesus freeing the Syrophenician woman's daughter from the grips of a demon. When Jesus heals the deaf and mute man in this coming Sunday's Gospel, the Gospel tells us, Jesus put "his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly." (Mark 7:33-35). The loosening of the man's tongue implies the loosening of the man from the grip of the Devil.

Jesus, through his touch and word, brings the man into the hearing and speaking world, which would unequivocally enable to thrive more in his relationships with others. From a spiritual perspective, the man may well represent all believers. Apart from God, we are 'deaf' to the Word of life spoken to us by God. By opening our ears, Jesus gives us the capacity to be transformed by His life-giving word, and by loosening our tongue, enables us to join the community of faith in proclaiming that Jesus "has done all things well!" (Mark 7:37).

The Week Ahead...

Thursday 12th September

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Day.

Friday 13th September

**** No Parish Mass at 9am.**

Saturday 14th September

4.00pm - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

Sunday 15th September

8.30am - St Benedict's Parish Mass.

**** No 5.30pm** Parish Mass.

****Parish Office Closed 14th -22nd
September ****

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

1 - 7 September 2024



Save the Date...

In September...

6th & 7th - Synod24. (Session 1)

8th, 15th & 22nd - No Sunday 5.30pm Mass

In October...

6th & 20th - Baptism Preparation and Celebration.

11th & 12th - Synod24. (Session 2)

19th & 20th - World Mission Sunday.

In November...

10th/17th/24th - Baptism Preparation and Celebration.

16th & 17th - Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

19th - RCIA Program 2024/2025 to commence.

In December...

1st - St Benedict's Parish Anniversary Celebration at 8.30am Mass.

24th - 6pm St Benedict's Parish Family Mass (Nativity), 9pm St Benedict's Parish Christmas Eve Mass.

25th - 8.30am, St Benedict's Parish Christmas

Mass Ministry Roster - Ministry Roster - Week 3.

Saturday 14th September, 4pm

Commentator: Oliver Morata

Reader 1: Rosemary Franzidis

Reader 2: John-Paul Franzidis

Communion Minister: Denise Rapkins

Sunday 15th September, 8.30am

Commentator: Charles D'Rosario

Reader 1: Morton Howes

Reader 2: Aviva Coutinho

Communion Minister: Bobette Sindicic,
Pierina Ziebarth and
Juvenal

**** No 5.30pm Mass held on Sunday 8th, 15th
or 22nd September.**

Should you not be able to attend your Ministry Roster, please let the Sacristans know asap. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Friday Mass changes in coming weeks.

Please note there will be no Friday 9am Mass over the coming weeks. We shall resume Friday morning Mass on the 4th October.

New T&G Terminals at the Mass Centre.

We have recently had to upgrade our Tap & Go Terminals at the Mass Centre. They are still very easy to use, but simply offer you the option of different donation amounts. Please simply hit the amount your wish to donate and tap your card for the transaction to take place.

Thank you so very much to all those who kindly contribute financially to our Parish, your generosity is very much appreciated.

Good News about Our Church

Father Peter Dillon, the Vicar of Administration for the Archdiocese of Brisbane, has given us the go ahead to build our church. We have been weighing up the pros and cons of building it on the 10 000m² of land owned by the Archdiocese of Brisbane, which is where the current Kindergarten is located. There seems to be a lot more challenges than advantages in building the church in this location. So, we are trying to swap this block of land with a parcel of land located on the right of the main gates as we drive into the St Benedict's precinct.

Once we have secured this parcel of land, we will contact the Architect to undertake an initial 'feasibility' report which will cost \$5000. This will provide for Consultation, Concept Development, and the sketching of the concept to allow our builders to price-up the construction.

Please know that the \$100 Raffles that we are having will be contributing directly to the above architect fees.

Also, now that we are moving towards building a church, **please contribute to our Building Fund if you are not already doing so. We have Direct Debit and Credit Card forms for the Building Fund available on the welcome desk at our Mass Centre.**

SYNOD24: I Am Making All Things New



Synod24 is a gathering of 150 people who represent the broad diversity of the Brisbane Archdiocese and will take place over two sessions, one in September and one in October. Synod Membership will include parish representatives from each Deanery, laity who work with social justice organisations, young people, leaders and members of multicultural communities, representatives from church agencies and organisations, religious and Clergy. A full list of Synod Members will be published in the lead up to SYNOD24.

This gathering (synod) is a little different to an ordinary meeting or conference, as it pays particular attention to the movement of the Holy Spirit. Often when a group of people come together only some voices are heard.

This is often due to many things such as time constraints, confidence, some people having lots of things to say and some people preferring to focus on listening rather than responding. In SYNOD24, discussions will take place around a round table and designed to give **equal time** to each group member to speak **without** interruption. Time is then given for each member of the group to share what they heard others say. This gives the Holy Spirit the opportunity to speak through each person at the table. It means that space is provided for many different stories, perspectives, experiences, ideas, questions, and challenges to be heard. Most importantly, it requires each person to actively listen with an open heart, so that they are able to reflect back what they heard the Holy Spirit say through other people.

It is from this place of openness to the perspectives of others, and to the Holy Spirit, that the Synod Members are able to genuinely discuss, debate and then vote on actions related to eight areas of church faith, life and mission. These areas, that have come out of the Australian Plenary Council, are called "Decrees", and focus on the following topics:

Reconciliation Healing Wounds Receiving Gifts.

Choosing Repentance Seeking Healing

Called by Christ Sent Forth As Missionary Disciples

Witnessing to the Equal Dignity of Women and Men

Communion in Grace Sacrament to the World

Formation and Leadership for Mission and Ministry

At the Service of Communion, Participation and Mission: Governance

Integral Ecology and Conversion for the Sake of Our Common Home.

Bishop Tim Norton

A Synod is a gathering of God's people. So, it can be a gathering that includes bishops and pastors and people who run parish groups and people who just sit in the pews. But it is actually all of God's people or representatives of all of God's people, who can gather and talk about the church and the mission.

I know a lot of people want to be involved. We go back and say that there has already been this consultation process prior to the Plenary Council. But, with only 150 people participating in the Synod24 assemblies, many people are asking: What about us?

Fr Bryan

I have an answer to this question put forward by Bishop Tim. Everyone in our St Benedict's Parish has the opportunity to participate in our Archdiocesan Synod. Gary Smyth (Chair of

**Parish Fundraising -
\$5 Lucky Numbers.**



Please Support our Parish Fundraising by purchasing a \$5.00 Lucky Number.

Numbers are available at the Mass Centre.

\$5.00 per number, the lucky winner will collect \$100 cash.

All funds raised will go directly towards the costs of Building our Church.

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.



If you or anyone you know is struggling and needs a 'hand up', please contact St Vinnies on 1800Vinnie.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE —Changes to Blue Card Requirements
for Safeguarding Parish Ministry Roles.**

We've been advised that there've been some updates once again to the Archdiocese Safeguarding Requirement Matrix. Please be advised that Parishioners who may've required a Blue Card previously for their Volunteer Role, no longer require one. If this is the case you may receive an email from 'Blue Card' to say that your details have now been 'parked'. Should you have any questions please contact our Office. Thank you so much. 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 the you are required to hold or renew your Blue Card/Police Check, our Parish Office will contact you directly. Thank you.



Enrolments for Sacramental Programs 2024 are now Closed.

We welcome families wishing to enroll children to receive their Sacraments or seeking to obtain information about our 2025/2026 Sacramental Programs, to please contact the Parish Office via email.

To receive the Sacraments of:-

Confirmation - children in Grade 3 and above having already received the Sacrament of Baptism are eligible. Takes place through out the months of July and August.

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



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.



Please remember in your Prayers:

Those who are Unwell: Gail TARRIER, Lynette Kelleher, Joy Gibbs, Thomas Cafferty.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Our Dear Recently Departed:



our Pastoral Council) and I are invited to participate in the Synod assemblies in September and October. So, each week in the newsletter I will be sharing a Decree from the Plenary Council. I invite all parishioners to read the decree, pray about it, and offer Gary and I suggestions that come to light. Please email your input to roeb@bne.catholic.net.au I thank you all in advance for participating in Synod24.

SYNOD24 PRAYER

Creator Spirit, whose breath of life makes all things new.

We gather around Your table of communion,
as many parts of one body,
grounded in the hope, joy and mission of the Risen Christ.

We open our minds and hearts,
so we can be nourished and enlivened by Your presence,
ready to be the hope, joy and mission of the Risen Christ.

We make space for the many stories of hurt,
exclusion and silence of those within,
and on the very edges of our communities,
so we may be in service of the hope, joy and mission of
the Risen Christ.

As your breath of life flows in us and through us,
may we be a vessel for Your bold creativity
so we may be the hands and feet

of the hope, joy and mission of the Risen Christ.

We ask this in the name of the Risen Christ, Amen.

Parish Office Closed – Friday 13th September to 22nd September.

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday 13th September, re-opening on Monday 23rd September. Please feel free to email or leave a voicemail while the office is closed, Renae will get back to you as soon as she is able upon her return.

Have a great week everyone, listening to Jesus' word and proclaiming His faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father. **Fr Bryan.**

*Golden Wedding
Anniversary Mass*

To be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge
Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary or more are invited to attend, together with family and friends

**Saturday 28th September 2024
11:30am**

RSVP: Wednesday 25 September
Email: cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au | Phone: 3324 3030
The Cathedral car park will be available



Thank you for your generous support of the **Annual Catholic Campaign!** Your gift helps educate our future priests, care for unwell priests, ensures children from families in hardship have access to Catholic education, and reaches out to our neighbours in vulnerable circumstances.

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.*

Parish Giving & Donations:- Week ending Sunday 1st September 2024.

Plate Collection & Envelopes:-

Building (Church) - \$1650.35
Parish (Running) - \$683.90

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

Building (Church) - \$830.00
Parish (Running) - \$820.00

Totals:-

Building (Church) = \$2480.35
Parish (Running) = \$1503.90

*'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.

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.



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>



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.

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GET IN TOUCH

1800 657 566
admin@robinsncads.com.au
robinsncads.com.au
Brisbane

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