



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Sunday 13th September 2020 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday, Ord Time (A)

Sunday, 13 Sep	10.30 am	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 13 Sep	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 14 Sep	12.35 pm	Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast)
Tuesday, 15 Sep	12.35 pm	Our Lady of Sorrows (Memorial)
Wednesday, 16 Sep	12.35 pm	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian, martyrs (Mem)
Thursday, 17 Sep	12.35 pm	St Robert Bellarmine, bishop (Optional)
Friday, 18 Sep	12.35 pm	Friday – Week 24, Ordinary Time
Saturday, 19 Sep	No Mass	St Januarius, bishop, martyr (Optional)



Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)

Mass at St James' Church, Forest Lodge:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



A VOCATION VIEW: 'Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.' *Dr Seuss*

[Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 6pm – Here is the link to this Sunday's Mass – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time \(13th September 2020\) – <https://youtu.be/9pYp5ULsiE>](#)

Priests' Retirement Foundation Annual Appeal – took place last Sunday – to raise much needed funds to provide accommodation, healthcare and living expenses for our elderly priests who have contributed so much to looking after the spiritual and pastoral needs of others. Envelopes are at the back of the church and can be posted directly to the Priests' Retirement Foundation or placed in the Sunday collection baskets in the church – thank you. *For online donations – www.ourfaithhourworks.org/prf

Good Friday, Holy Land Appeal – now this Sunday, 13th September – envelopes for the Good Friday Appeal are at the back of the church and can be placed in the Sunday collection baskets in the church. The Holy Land Commissariat has not provided a weblink for donations this year, but donations can also be made directly to the Holy Land Commissariat – 47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024 – thank you.

[Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Safeguarding Volunteer Online Induction Training, Working With Children Check & Code of Conduct](#) St Benedict's Parish, Chippendale (Broadway) requires all of our volunteers to complete the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer online training, obtain a Working With Children Check and sign a Code of Conduct. It is MANDATORY that volunteers in all parishes comply with the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office training. Please contact Julie in the parish office on 8204 4378 or email – enquiries@stbenedicts.org.au to obtain the link to the online training and required forms which will be sent to you via email. Thank you.

Entrance Antiphon:

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Communion Antiphon:

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek mercy in the shadows of your wings.

A thank you from Bishop Terry Brady

Bishop Brady has recently written to the parishioners of St Benedict's to say a warm thank you for our hospitality on the occasion of his pastoral visit to the parish in early July when he celebrated Sunday 6pm Mass. Bishop Brady always enjoys visiting St Benedict's. His letter is in the church noticeboard.

Exaltation of the Cross – the bronze serpent on a standard is a well-known symbol of the medical profession. Its origins go back to the time when God healed the repentant Israelites in the wilderness through a bronze serpent that Moses fashioned and placed on a standard. In the Gospel for this feast, Jesus applies this image to his own crucifixion. By being lifted up on the cross, he will bring healing and eternal life to all who believe in him.

Our Lady of Sorrows – the Gospels testify to the fulfillment of Simeon's prophecy to Mary that 'a sword will pierce your own heart' (Luke 2:35). With a mother's love, she accompanied her son through his passion, crucifixion and death. 'At the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful mother weeping, close to Jesus to the last.' [Stabat Mater] The 'Seven Sorrows' of Mary includes the moments when his body was taken down from the cross (portrayed eloquently in Michelangelo's 'Pieta') and when he was buried.

Saints Cornelius and Cyprian – Cornelius died in exile in Cevevecchia (Italy) in 253, two years after his election as bishop of Rome. Supported by Cyprian, he defended the power of the Church to reconcile those who had lapsed under persecution – Cyprian was born at the beginning of the third century. A lawyer, teacher and adult convert. Elected bishop of Carthage (Tunisia) in 249 and led this Church in times of persecution. Took a moderate position on the reconciliation of the lapsed, but like other African bishops, demanded the rebaptism of heretics, even though their baptism was recognised by the Church of Rome. Cyprian died in Carthage in 258 – both Cornelius and Cyprian are remembered as compassionate pastors who developed the Church's teaching and practice of reconciliation. Antagonists in theological debate, they were united in sharing the crown of martyrdom and are named together in Eucharistic prayer I (The Roman Canon).

Saint Robert Bellarmine – emphasises an important aspect of the Society of Jesus: intellectual service to the Church. Born in Italy in 1542, he entered the Jesuits at age eighteen. He taught theology at Louvain and Rome, developed the theological basis for the Reformation, and became a pastoral bishop and cardinal. His influence on Catholic intellectual life and the Gregorian University in Rome has been extensive. This great theologian also wrote catechisms that were widely used in Europe. He died in 1621.

Saint Januarius – in 305, this bishop of Benevento (near Naples in Italy) suffered martyrdom with three deacons, a lector and two lay people. He became invoked as the protector of Naples, especially in times of danger, as when Vesuvius was erupting. His relics are preserved at Naples. The celebrated 'liquefaction of the blood of Saint Januarius' has been reported since the thirteenth century.

Can you picture yourself becoming a foster carer? Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children for up to 6 months or longer. To learn more about becoming a carer, CatholicCare are offering individual online information sessions at a time that suits you. To book a one on one appointment, call the CCareline 13 18 19 – www.connect@familyspirit.org *Information sessions are also being held on Thursday 24th September, Wednesday 28th October and Wednesday 25th November – please be in touch with the CCareline for details.



‘And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master’s feet. “Give me time,” he said, “and I will pay the whole sum.” And the servant’s master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. “Pay what you owe me,” he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, “Give me time and I will pay you.” But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. “You wicked servant,” he said, “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?” And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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FORGIVENESS BEYOND CALCULATION

In the parable of the Unforgiving Debtor that Jesus tells in response to Peter’s question about forgiveness, the debt of ‘ten thousand talents’ is an utterly fantastic sum: in today’s terms, ‘billions of dollars’—something that the servant, despite his plea for time, could never hope to repay. He stands to lose absolutely everything—freedom, family, possessions—for his whole life long. The master’s generosity in cancelling the debt in effect restores his life.

In comparison, the debt that the servant himself is owed by a fellow servant and which he is violently unwilling to remit, is paltry. The equivalent of a few hundred days’ wages. Given time, it could easily be paid off. Hence the wickedness of the servant in not passing on to his fellow even a tiny portion of the immense generosity he had himself received.

The Lord would have Peter and all members of the community understand that they live as people who, through Christ’s costly love, have received remission of a debt (the debt of sin) that they could never repay. How inappropriate then an unwillingness to forgive fellow members of the community the ‘debts’ set up by injury on a much smaller scale.

That said, we know that forgiveness is not something to speak of lightly. For people who have been deeply wronged finding the capacity to forgive may be the task of a lifetime. It cannot simply be willed—still less prescribed, urged or imposed by others who have not shared the loss. It is a grace, an entrance into the mystery of God’s own generosity.

FIRST READING

Sir 27:30–28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Forgive your neighbour’s faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience

the vengeance of the Lord,

who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12. R. v. 8

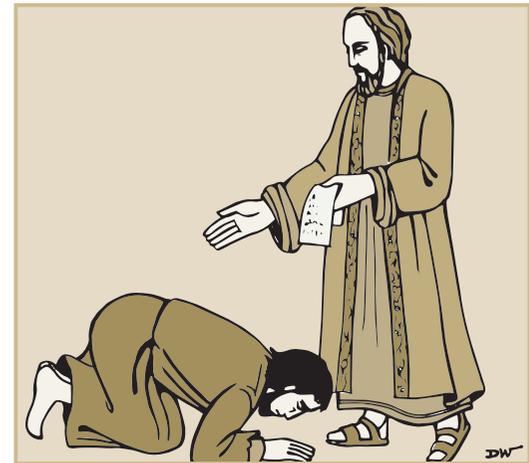
R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

3. His wrath will come to an end; / he will not be angry for ever. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth / so strong is his love for those who fear him. / As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. **R.**



SECOND READING

14: 7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia! / I give you a new commandment: / love one another as I have loved you. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18: 21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, ‘Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.’