WELCOME

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC PARISH — 18 JANUARY 2026

"The Love of Christ must come before all else." (Rule of St Benedict)

WEEKLY SERVICES

Mass Times:
Mon: Communion - Service @7am **(after the service, the church will be closed)**
Wed/Fri: 7am
Tues/Thurs: 9am
Sat: 7.30am & Vigil 6pm
Sun: 7.30am, 9.30am & 6pm

HOLY HOUR (STARTS WITH MASS)
FRIDAYS @7AM

Reconciliation:
Sat: **4.30PM - 5.30PM**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Thursday: 9.30am—5pm
Friday: 8am—5pm

Rosary Groups:
Tue: 9.30am, Wed/Fri: 7.30am
Cenacle: Thurs: 9.30am

Prayer Group:
Mary Mother of Sorrows: Meetings on Thursdays @1pm **(except school holidays)**

Catholic Women's League (CWL)
Meet the 2nd Tuesday of the Month in the Fr Albert Lynch Room **@10am, gathering @9.45am**

Baptisms: By appointment

Marriages: By appointment

Parish Office:
115 Ardross Street, Ardross WA 6153
PO Box 1831, Applecross WA 6953
Tel: 08 9364 1120
Website: www.stbenedicts.net.au
Office Hours: 10am—4pm (Tue-Fri)
Admin Officer: Stefani Chen
E (main): applecross@perthcatholic.org.au
Admin Assistant: Maribel Villegas (Thur: 9am-3pm)
E (office): office.applecross@perthcatholic.org.au
Parish Priest: Fr Nelson Po
E (Fr Nelson): nelson.po@perthcatholic.org.au

BENEDICTCARE COORDINATORS:
Head Coordinator: Carmel Tick - 0488 100 928
New Parishioners: Ruth Thorn
Home Help: Carmel Tick
Handyman/Gardening: Louis Bove
Visiting: Meagan Xanthis
Transport: Carmel Tick
Emergency Meals: Meagan Xanthis

PARISH INCLUSIVITY COORDINATOR:
Bev Piche — 0467 054 168

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY Dianne Bergant CSA

Ours is an historical religion. It not only unfolds within the joys and disappointments of time and place, but it is rooted in actual events that took place in the lives of real people. The Christ to whom we commit ourselves is not a mythic character, a figment of communal religious imagination. He is someone who was born into history, at a specific period of time, in a particular place. He was known by real people like John the Baptist; he submitted himself to historical rituals like baptism. He had followers who testified to the truth of both his existence and his life. Jesus was a man of history.

Like Paul, we too have been called to be apostles. We received this call when we were baptised. The beginning of the year, with its custom of making new resolutions, is a wonderful time to remember to what we have committed ourselves. At times it seems that our own apostleship is no less daunting than was Paul's. However, it is no less immediate either. Whether the period of history is the first half of the first century, as was the time of Jesus, or the second half, as was the time of Paul, or the twenty-first century, as is our time, salvation unfolds within the events of time. Furthermore, the followers of Jesus always return to the events of his life in order to discover the meaning of the events in their lives. These past events are reinterpreted in the ongoing present. Discipleship is never otherworldly.

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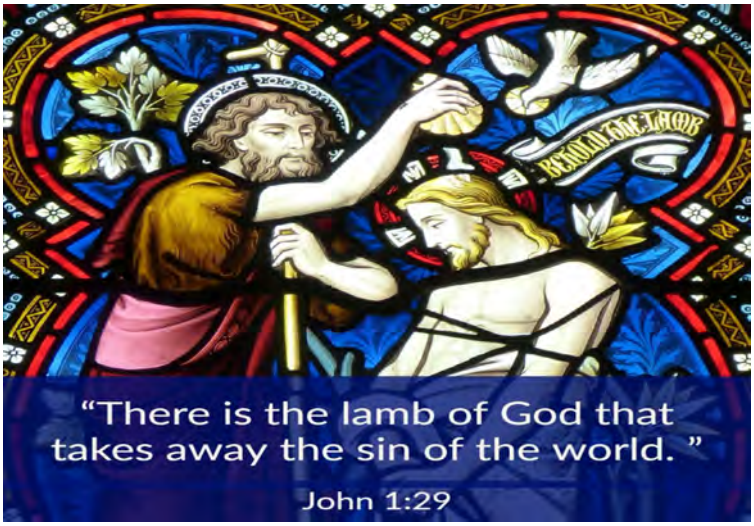


PREP COORDINATOR: Maureen Bright
Email: office.applecross@perthcatholic.org.au

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR: Rosa Ranieri
Email: stbenedicts.sacraments@gmail.com

Pastoral Care: Yunita Lay
Email: stbenedicts.pastoral@gmail.com

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS:
Marina Ciccarelli &
Phil Trueman.

Email contact:
applecross.safeguarding@gmail.com

PARISH NOTICES

EVENTS

- 6 FEB — FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS @11AM
- 7 FEB — YOUTH MASS @6PM
- 8 FEB — PARISH MORNING TEA AFTER 7.30AM MASS, ROSTER: ADELE PARSONS & MEGAN DOWLING (PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE)
- 22 FEB — PARISH MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS (PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE)

PARISH VISION/MISSION STATEMENT
(2023-2028)

PARISH VISION:

"We, the parishioners of St Benedict's Applecross, are committed to live faithfully in the words and examples of Jesus Christ, to develop and foster at all times a vibrant and welcoming Christian community based on His life of love, compassion, hospitality and service."

PARISH MISSION:

"We aim to inspire and nurture our parishioners and others of all ages and cultures to develop faith in Jesus Christ, cultivate strong Christian values and engage with the community actively and positively."

Albert Lynch Room Extension – Coming Soon!

In 2008, we honoured Fr Albert Lynch by naming our activity hall after him. This space has served as Mass overflow and hosted many parish activities, including Alpha, RCIA, Youth Groups, and Bible Study.

With our growing community, we're excited to announce an 80% expansion of the Albert Lynch Room, with construction starting January 2026. Plans are on display in the foyer.

The project cost is $260,000, fully funded by the parish. We invite your support — every donation helps make this vision a reality. The church's bank account details are on the board.

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Council & Finance Committee

PARISH OUTREACH

The parish wishes to reach out to isolated Parishioners who would appreciate being contacted.

If you know of someone who is isolated, you can encourage that person to contact the parish office on 08 9364 1120, or if appropriate you can let the parish office know.

The parish will then aim to respond respectfully and sensitively.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Myrtle Nimmo, Helen Overman, Shalini Saldanha, Ng Choon Bee, Liesel Beukes, Helen Teo, Thomas McGuire Marris, Lorraine Healey, Kamani Jayaratne, Sue Miguel, Harsono Setiawan, Steven Robertson, Lisa Bailey, Lenna Hosseini, Frank Ranieri, Judith Chan, Grisel Noronha and all others who are not included in this list. *Thank you.*

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Mass — 7 February 2026 @6pm

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMME (PREP)

Our parish runs an intensive after school Religious Education programme for children in Years 2 to 6 who are not attending Catholic schools. The programme **also** prepares children for the Sacraments of **First Reconciliation (Year 3), First Communion (Year 4) and Confirmation (Year 6)**. Students should attend at least one full year of instruction prior to the Sacrament year and complete the full year of instruction in the year they receive the Sacrament. Students who enrol late may not be able to receive the Sacrament that year.

Classes run each Wednesday during term starting at 4pm in the church. The programme will be starting on **Wednesday 11 February from 4pm-5pm**, everyone to meet in the foyer of the Church. You can download the enrolment form online at any time.

We are currently looking for **assistants/helpers to catechists** for the coming year starting in February. Commitment would be on a Wednesday afternoon from 4pm to 5pm and if you feel this is for you, please contact Maureen Bright on 0413 831 357 or call the parish office on 08 9364 1120. Please give some thought to this very rewarding service to the parish and our children.

The Applecross conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is so grateful for all the help given by the parish in donating food and money to help those we server in our region.

If you could have been a fly on the walls of the home we visited to deliver Christmas hampers - you would have been in tears. People were truly overjoyed with the help we gave them to make their Christmas a happy time - most especially the grandparents caring for grandkids. So thankyou all for your generosity.
On another note, we have been helping an Afghan family recently extracted from Iran by the Red Cross. They all love the life of freedom, having access to higher education and not being forced to wear the veil. They exude hope and they totally embrace Australian values. The eldest girl is 28, wants to study pharmacy. She is learning to drive. The family need a car to get around and we were wondering if anyone from the parish has a reliable car they could donate or sell cheaply to them.
If you do - please call Clare on 0406 973 595.

PLANNED GIVING (2ND COLLECTION):

Parish income for the 6 months ended 31/12/25 was 104% of the budgeted income for the same period and 56% of the annual budgeted income. *Thank you for your generosity and commitment to the Parish.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED:

David James Clement:
Funeral: Wednesday, 21 January 2026 @9.45am

ANNIVERSARIES:

Julie Walton, Ann Williams, Corrado Di Giovanni, Kevin Phillips, Frances Ryan, Margaret Cashmore, Candida Crispino-Nardone and all deceased benefactors of the parish and all departed family and friends. *Thank you.*

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

SAFEGUARDING INDUCTION TRAINING for ALL Parishes and Church Workers paid or unpaid — LEVEL 1 (New requirements & Personal Declaration Form is to be completed)

The Safeguarding Level 1 Induction is now available as **a Self-Paced Online Learning Module**. This format offers greater flexibility and an easier, user-friendly experience. To complete the Safeguarding Level 1 Induction, please follow these steps:

- Visit our **safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/** to check out the Induction.
- Click on "Safeguarding Level 1 – Induction ONLINE Training".
- Watch the Presentation Video.
- Proceed to Step 2 to register personal details and complete the quiz.

The Safeguarding Office will notify the Parish/Agency/Organisation of the attendance record.

SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION TRAINING (in person)

2026 Dates coming soon. *To register* **https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/#induction**.

Further info: **safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au** or 08 9221 7762.

Thank you to all who have already completed the course and submitted their personal declaration forms to comply with the new Archdiocese Directives regarding Safeguarding.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Presence

"The world is charged with the grandeur of God" (Gerard Manley Hopkins). I dwell for a moment on the presence of God around me, in every part of my body, and deep within my being.

Freedom

Heavenly Father, make me conscious of whatever burden I am carrying today and give me the grace to place it at the foot of Your Cross and so enter freely into this time of prayer.

Consciousness

Lord, You are present in all things and when I take time to simply sit and be with You, my mind rests and I feel Your peace.

Inspiration

Even though many people turned to John the Baptist for leadership and inspiration, he made it his business constantly to point the way forward for others, but not in way that made them dependent on him or that cast him in a particularly favourable light. He was like a good teacher who opens up new areas of growth for us and brings our talents to their very highest level.

Conversation

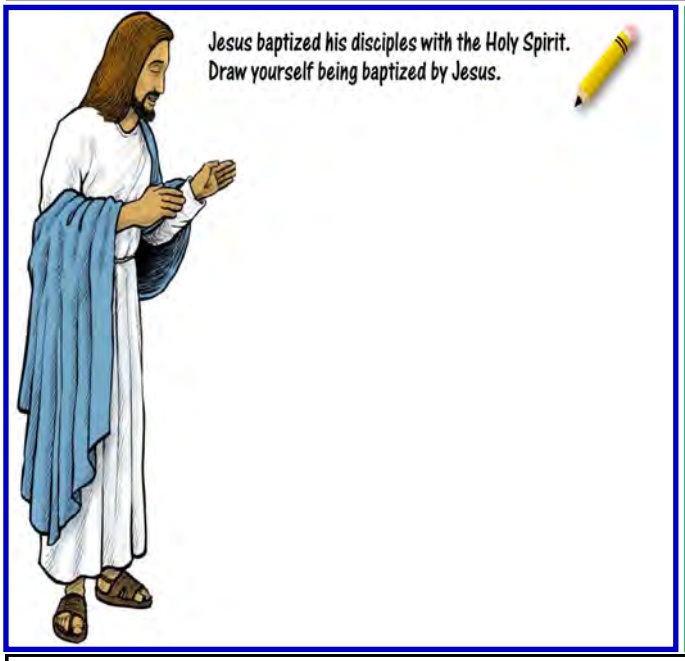
Conversation requires talking and listening. As I talk to Jesus may I also learn to be still and listen. I picture the gentleness in His eyes and the smile full of love as He gazes on me. I can be totally honest with Jesus as I tell Him of my worries and my cares. I will open up my heart to Him as I tell Him of my fears and my doubts. I will ask Him to help me to place myself fully in His care, to abandon myself to Him, knowing that He always wants what is best for me.

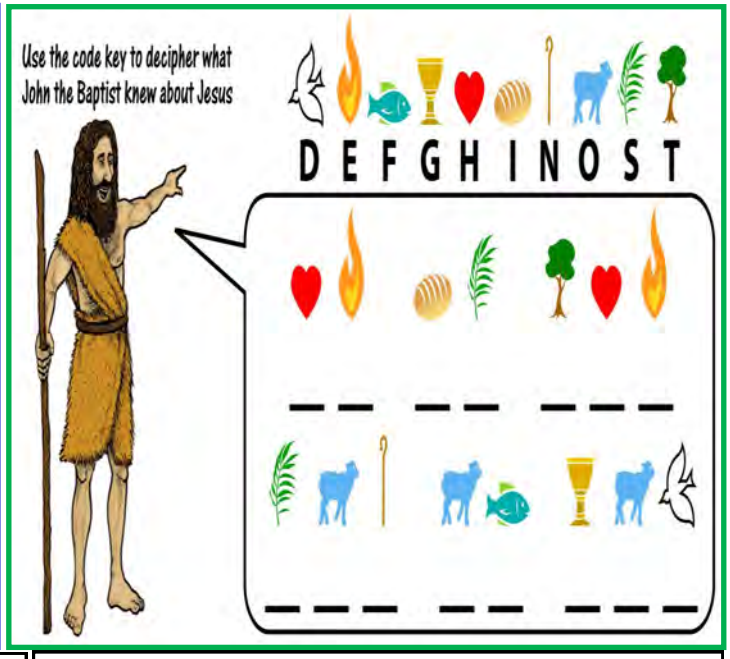
Conclusion

Filled with the loving presence of God, I ask Him to bless me and guide my steps as I go to do His work in my daily life.

Amen

CHILDREN'S CORNER





Church/School Parking – Reminder

Please park on the allotted bays in the church carpark and in the school carpark at Alness Street. **Do not park on the neighbouring residents' lawns across the road from the church & the church's lawns.** *Thank you.*

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr A

1st: Is 8: 23 - 9: 3 **Ps:** 26: 1, 4, 13-14

2nd: 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17 **Gospel:** Mt 4: 12-23

READINGS FOR THE DAY

Entrance Antiphon *Psalm 65:4*

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading *Isaiah 49:3. 5-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.*

(R.) Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation *John 1:14. 12*

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel *John 1:29-34*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon *Cf Psalm 22:5*

You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE — 24 & 25 JANUARY 2026

	SAT 6PM	SUN 7.30AM	SUN 9.30AM	SUN 6PM
ACOLYTE	PIERRE SEQUEIRA	STEVEN ROBERTSON	DOMINIC LONGO	MARK WELSH
ALTAR SERVERS	JACKSON HANDCOCK JORDAN TRUEMAN HAILEY CORREIA	IHINOSEN & ESEOSE ITOTOH	GRACE STEWART JOEY VILLEGAS MATTHEW PRANATA	VALERIE, RAPHAEL & GAVRIEL WIBAWANTA
COMMENTATORS	ELIAS SANTIMANO	JACQUIE HERON	TERRY BOLAND	MAUREEN BRIGHT
COLLECTORS	LOUIS BOVE MATTHEW TLOCZEC	GERRY DOYLE	MARGARET SANDFORD	JOE CINANNI PAUL BELVISO GRAHAM KNIGHT
READERS	YVONNE GARBIN EILEEN SELVARATNAM	GAY PULKER ANGELA SCOTT	MARINA CICCARELLI PAUL CICCARELLI	JACKIE WONG KATRINA MCINNES
EMOHC	AYLMYR SEQUEIRA STEVEN CLAY GERRI CLAY STEFANI CHEN	TINA CAMMARANO MONICA ANDERSON BRYAN LILLIS	RUTH THORN LILI ORIFICI CARMEL RECHICHI MARGARET SANDFORD	JOE CINANNI MAISIE CINANNI LINDA ROBERTSON YULIANA VAN DER BURG

ALTAR SOCIETY: JENNIFER DI GIOVANNI	**PILGRIM STATUE:** ROBERT & JACQUIE HERON
COUNTERS: PIERRE SEQUEIRA, LILI ORIFICI, JENNY COWIE, LUCY & BRIAN LIU	**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** —