WELCOME

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC PARISH — 15 FEBRUARY 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:
Temporarily closed.

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

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY Greg Sunter

Today's First Reading, Psalm and Gospel all relate to the way in which we are called to live in right relationship with God and with one another. What is referred to as the 'Law' is generally used as shorthand for the Torah – the first five books of the Bible – which first of all establishes the history of relationship between God and humanity through the books of Genesis and Exodus and then provides detailed instructions about how that relationship should be honoured and observed. When Jesus speaks about the Law and the Prophets, he is deliberately including the extensive collection of prophetic writings that interpret the Law in terms of justice and right relationships with others as being a reflection of the right relationship with God.

By declaring that he has come not to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to complete – or fulfil – them, Jesus is making it perfectly clear that his ministry and teaching is in alignment with and in accordance with the historical tradition and he is not setting out to overthrow the Jewish tradition. Rather, throughout his ministry, Jesus repeatedly calls the people to be true to the teachings of old and to live them with integrity and dedication. His constant complaint is against those who live by the letter of the Law and ignore what we would call the spirit or intention of the Law. This is the root of his swipe at the shallow virtue of the scribes and Pharisees in today's gospel. The criticism that Jesus levelled at these two groups was that their adherence to the Law made no room for the compassionate heart that the writings of the Prophets demanded.

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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

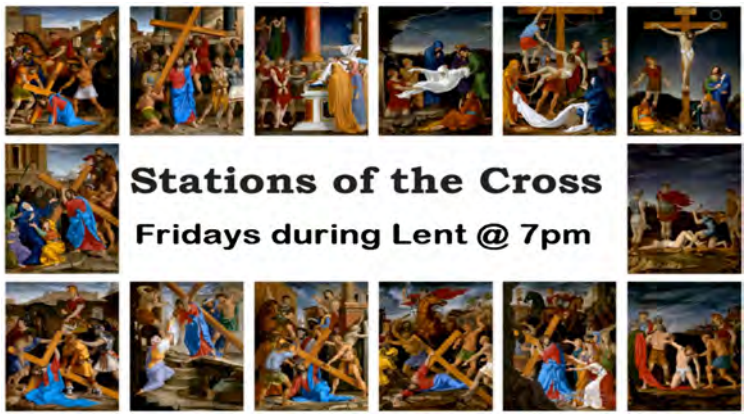
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS:
Marina Ciccarelli &
Phil Trueman.

Email contact:
applecross.safeguarding@gmail.com

PARISH NOTICES

EVENTS

- 16 & 23 FEB — ALPHA AT ALBERT LYNCH ROOM, EVERY MONDAY @9AM-10.30AM FOR REMAINING 9-10 WEEKS
- 18 FEB — ASH WEDNESDAY MASS @7AM, 9AM & 7PM
- 20 & 27 FEB — STATIONS OF THE CROSS @7PM
- 21 FEB — BUSY BEE @8AM-11AM
- 22 FEB — PARISH MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS (PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE)
- 6 MAR — WORLD DAY OF PRAYER @10AM, FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA



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 March 2026 @6pm

SACRAMENT PROGRAMME 2026

If you wish your child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation this year, the enrolment forms are now available on the parish website. Please read the important information for parents, download the relevant form and return to the parish office. Payment is via direct debit, details are all on the enrolment form. Applications for all Sacraments **close on Friday, 13 March 2026**.

The Sacrament Programme is parish-based, family-focused and school-supported and the Sacrament team looks forward to working with and welcoming new families to the program.

For further information contact Rosa Ranieri, Sacrament Coordinator at stbenedicts.sacraments@gmail.com

Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday
14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.
You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.
Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us,
as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

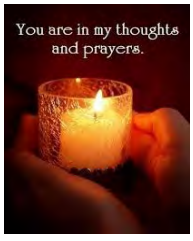
ONLY ONE ENVELOPE FOR THE SIX WEEK LENT PERIOD

PLEASE PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Audrey Celine Milne

ANNIVERSARIES:

Charlie Egleston, David Phillips, Patricia Andrew, Giuseppe Argese, Arthur, Corbett, Eric Lange, Aenid McKenzie, Percival Pitts, Valerie Walsh, and all deceased benefactors of the parish and all departed family and friends.
Thank you.



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)
Saturday 7 Mar 2026 @10am at St John & St Paul, Willeton Parish
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.

Pilgrimage of Mission & Hope!
800yrs Death Anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi Italy

Join **Mon Michael Keating** to deepen your faith as we travel to Italy from **13th May to 22nd May 2026 (See Notice Board).**

For the itinerary and booking form, please **call us Anawim Journeys on 0402 290 827 (Veronica) or 0433 771 979 (Sheila).** You can also email us at **mail@anawimjourneys.com**

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Presence
The more we call on the Lord, the more we can feel His presence. Day by day, He draws us closer to His loving heart.

Freedom
Lord God, I thank you for the gift of freedom. Help me to use this gift with integrity. I am free to make choices. Help me to choose to follow You, to live in a Christian way by caring for others. Remind me to consider always those less fortunate than myself: the oppressed, the prisoner, those who are not free to worship in public. Guide me always to seek Your holy will in all the events of my life.

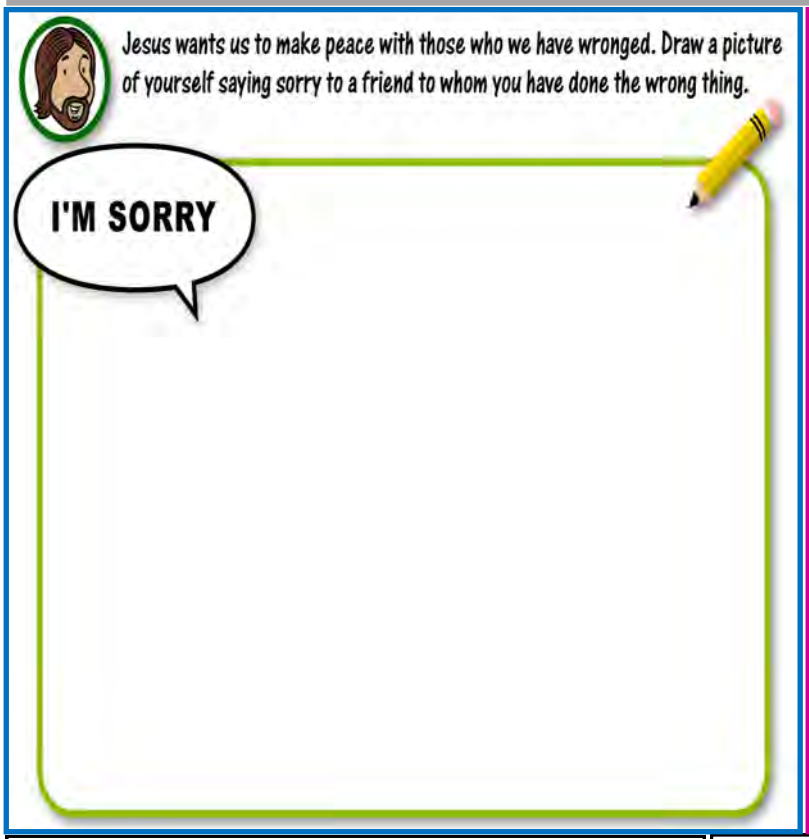
Consciousness
Heavenly Father, may I grow in virtue as I take time out of my day to listen to You and spend time with You. May Your goodness overflow into my life, and from my life into the lives of all those I meet.

Inspiration
The Jewish law outlined various suggestions and rules that might help us to live as God intended. Jesus, when he addressed this area, laid out a more radical set of guidelines to keep us on the straight and narrow. The bar was set high, and some of those who came to listen to Jesus decided the renewed directives were not for them. Help us stay on the roadmap in our own lives and encourage others to do the same.

Conversation
The gift of speech is a wonderful gift. May I use this gift with kindness. May I be slow to utter harsh words, hurtful words, and words spoken in anger.

Conclusion
I thank God for these few moments we have spent alone together and for any insights I may have been given concerning the text. ***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: 1st Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st: Gen 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 **Ps:** 50: 3-6, 12-14, 17
2nd: Rom 5: 12-19 **Gospel:** Mt 4: 1-11

READINGS FOR THE DAY

Entrance Antiphon *Cf Psalm 30:3-4*

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading *Sirach 15:15-20*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1*

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. (R.)

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 2:6-10*

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

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation *See Matthew 11:25*

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel *(Shorter form)*

Matthew 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Communion Antiphon *Cf Psalm 77:29-30*

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE — 21 & 22 FEBRUARY 2026

	SAT 6PM	SUN 7.30AM	SUN 9.30AM	SUN 6PM
ACOLYTE	ADRI SUDJANA	MIKE KILROE	TERRY MEO	WILFRED DORAY
ALTAR SERVERS	ETHAN GATCHALIAN JAKE & LUKE GOLDING	ESEOSE ITOTOH	CHRISTOPHER XANTHIS DANIEL & CHRISTIAN VINCI	TAYAHNA PRETORIUS ALEX & OLAF RIJKS
COMMENTATORS	ROSA WEST	LORNA D'SOUZA	PAUL CICCARELLI	MAISIE CINANNI
COLLECTORS	ANTONIO VARNAKULASINGHAM ELIZABETH YUSTIRA	ADRIAN DARGIE	TERRY BOLAND ROGER BUNN	JOE CINANNI MARIA NARDONE GRAHAM KNIGHT
READERS	AYLMYR SEQUEIRA GERRI CLAY	ANGELA SCOTT ADELE PARSONS	JUDY PHILLIPS PAUL VINCI	GLENDA BEUKES ANDREA D'SOUZA
EMOHC	MEGAN DOWLING YVONNE GARBIN KELLY DWYER EILEEN SELVARATNAM	JACQUIE HERON MONICA ANDERSON TINA CAMMARANO	RUTH THORN JUDY PHILLIPS TERESA LEECH MARGARET HANDYSIDE	JILL NORTON DONNA ARTINGSTALL KEVIN AUTON OSBORNE D'SOUZA

ALTAR SOCIETY: NO FLOWERS	**PILGRIM STATUE:** PAUL BELVISO
COUNTERS: MARGARETH ALBUQUERQUE, YULIANA VAN DER BURG, ELIZABETH NORONHA & SUCHITA RATHAKRISHNAN	**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** —