WELCOME

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC PARISH — 22 MARCH 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

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY Dianne Bergant CSA

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness. Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God.

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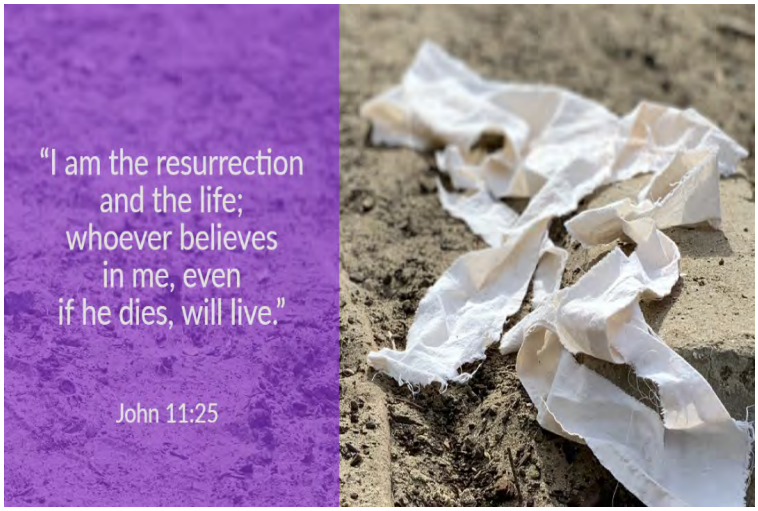

PREP COORDINATOR: Maureen Bright
Email: office.applecross@perthcatholic.org.au

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

- 23 & 30 MAR, 6, 13 & 20 APR, 4 MAY — ALPHA AT ALBERT LYNCH ROOM, EVERY MONDAY @9AM-10.30AM
- 24 MAR — UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AGED SACRAMENTS, COMMENCING WITH HOSPITALITY @5.30PM AND FOLLOW BY THE PRESENTATION
- 27 MAR — STATIONS OF THE CROSS @7PM
- 29 MAR — PARISH MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS (PLEASE BRING A PLATE)
- **2-5 APRIL — HOLY WEEK TIME TABLE (SEE BELOW)**

HOLY WEEK (EASTER) TIMETABLE 2026:

Holy Thursday 2 April: Mass @7pm

Good Friday 3 April:
Stations of the Cross @10.30am
Passion of the Lord @3pm

Easter Vigil 4 April: Mass @7pm
(Followed by Adoration until 10.30pm)

Easter Sunday 5 April:
Masses @7.30am, @9.30am & @6pm

Easter Monday 6 April:
Communion Service @7.30am (**no Mass**)

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AGED SACRAMENTS

There is an opportunity to refresh your understanding of sacraments for school aged children on **Tuesday 24 March** commencing with hospitality at 5.30pm in the church foyer followed by the presentation in the church. The evening will conclude at 7pm. Bishop-Elect Nelson Po, Mildred Rego and Steve Miranda will facilitate the session.

Sacraments are the life of the Church and in each sacrament we encounter the person of Jesus who is our source of spiritual nourishment. The sacramental journey is about growing in love, understanding and connection with God and the worshipping community

All parishioners are welcome

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Mass — 11 April 2026 @6pm

Good Friday:

Stations of the Cross — 3 April @10.30am

The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for **LifeLink 2025** raised a total of **$770,204**. Our parish contributed **$75,978** towards this amount. Well Done. The Archbishop personally thanks all parishioners for supporting this appeal.

HOW ABOUT IT?? Applecross **VINNIES** is always on the lookout for new members who have a passion for helping others. Anyone from 18 upwards can become a member. Why not join us?! For a small input of time, the reward will be great. Whether you work full or part time, or not at all – we want you! Don't question if you have anything to offer – of course you have!! Ring Clare to discuss possibilities on 0406 973 595 – don't hesitate – just do it!

The Applecross conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society

NEW COLLETION BAGS – WILL START THIS WEEKEND

We now have 20 brand new collection bags with a stick at both ends, 10 red ones for the first collection and 10 blue ones for the second collection. The new bags will be put at the end of the designated pews by the collectors at the start of the mass, the same as the previous collection baskets, not on the floor.

At the offering time, the bags will be passed on as usual. The collectors then will collect them. They will not pour the money but will fold each of the bags and put into the big baskets, designated for either first or second collection.

Fifth Sunday of Lent: 21-22 March 2026

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.

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

Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION

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.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED:

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ANNIVERSARIES:

Len Smith, Kathleen Hossen, Kevin Hodge, Vincenzo Cinanni, Judith Osmetti, Ernest Gardner, Johannes Merks 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)

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.

PLAN YOUR PILGRIMAGE TODAY

Catholic parishes, parishioners and communities across Western Australia are invited to participate in **The Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross** ahead of its arrival in Perth. Deeply symbolic and sacred, the Migrant Jubilee Cross will be in the Archdiocese between **Saturday 18 April and Sunday 3 May**, providing a unique opportunity for spontaneous pilgrimage. Following its time in the Archdiocese, the cross will travel to the Bunbury, Geraldton and Broome Dioceses.

For further information, see St Benedict's notice board**.**

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Presence

I remind myself that, as I sit here now, God is gazing on me with love and holding me in being. I pause for a moment and think of this.

Freedom

"There are very few people who realise what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves into his hands, and let themselves be formed by his grace." (Saint Ignatius) I ask for the grace to trust myself totally to God's love.

Consciousness

Lord You have called me the "light of the world". Let me be always conscious of those You want me to serve: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the destitute, the stranger and the refugee.

Inspiration

We have one of the great stories about Jesus and his great friend, Lazarus, in today's passage. We know that losses are never an enjoyable part of life, and to find yourself away when the unexpected death happens is even worse. Added to the whole business is that the deceased's sister, Martha, took Jesus' absence and his lack of response very personally. We stay with the event and note that even the hopelessness of the situation did not deter Jesus. We observe that he can bring good even out of matters of life and death, so might it be possible that we learn to place our trust in him in smaller matters?

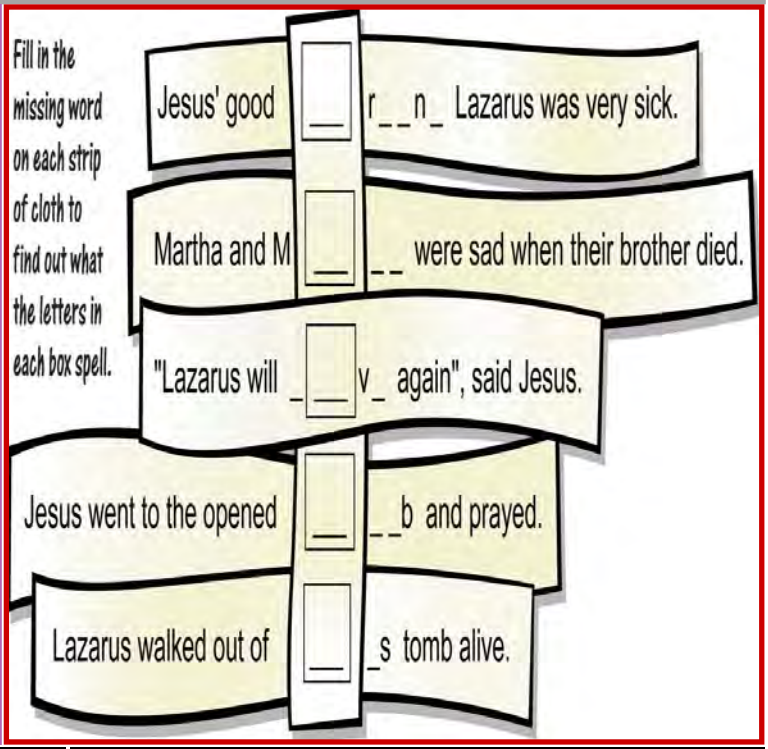
Conversation

Dear Jesus, I can open up my heart to You. I can tell You everything that troubles me. I know You care about all the concerns in my life. Teach me to live in the knowledge that You who care for me today, will care for me tomorrow and all the days of my life.

Conclusion

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. ***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: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

Entrance: Mt 21: 1-11
1st: Is 50: 4-7
2nd: Phil 2: 6-11
Ps: 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Gospel: Mt 26: 14 - 27: 66

READINGS FOR THE DAY

Entrance Antiphon *Cf Psalm 42:1-2*

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading *Ezekiel 37:12-14*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 129. R. v.7*

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading *Romans 8:8-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation *See John 11:25. 26*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel *(Shorter form)* *John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.'

Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone.

Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Communion Antiphon *Cf John 11:26*

Everyone who lives and believes in me
will not die for ever, says the Lord.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE — 28 & 29 MARCH 2026

	SAT 6PM	SUN 7.30AM	SUN 9.30AM	SUN 6PM
ACOLYTE	CHARLES CARDOSO	MIKE KILROE	TERRY MEO	WILFRED DORAY
ALTAR SERVERS	ETHAN GATCHALIAN JAKE & LUKE GOLDING	MATTEO REDOLATTI	GRACE STEWART CHRISTOPHER XANTHIS XAVIER SIA	SOPHIE GABRIEL TYLER MORRIS GAVRIEL WIBAWANTA
COMMENTATORS	EILEEN SELVARATNAM	MARIA ARANDA	MARGARET HANDYSIDE	MAISIE CINANNI
COLLECTORS	STEFANI CHEN STEPHEN DONOVAN	ANTHONY LIM	PATRICK LEECH	OSBORNE D'SOUZA ROSS FRANCHINA GRAHAM KNIGHT
READERS	STEFANI CHEN LEO REGO	RITA ILICH JACQUIE HERON	GERARD DE SOUZA ANUSHIA SUPPIAH	KELVIN GRACE MAUREEN BRIGHT
EMOHC	CARLA CARDOSO MICHELLE CARRICK MEGAN DOWLING MILDRED REGO	MONICA ANDERSON TINA CAMMARANO VOLUNTEER NEEDED	MARGARET SANDFORD MARINA CICCARELLI CARMEL RECHICHI JUDY PHILLIPS	COLLEEN MORRIS DONNA ARTINGSTALL KEVIN AUTON OSBORNE D'SOUZA

ALTAR SOCIETY: VERONICA SOEGANDHI	**PILGRIM STATUE:** SUSI SUSANTO
COUNTERS: MEGAN DOWLING, LYNLEY BIANCUZZO, ANTONELLA HENDERSON & CHRISTIE STIPINOVIC	**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** —