WELCOME

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC PARISH — 16 AUGUST 2026

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

Reconciliation:
Sat: **4.30PM - 5PM**

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

Rosary Groups:
Tue: 9.30am, Wed/Fri: 7.30am, Sat: 8am
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**

St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Applecross
Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
Clare Farr 0406 973 595

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 (Thu & Fri)
E (office): office.applecross@perthcatholic.org.au
Administrator: Fr Joseph Laundy
E (Fr Joseph): joseph.laundy@perthcatholic.org.au

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

PARISH INCLUSIVITY COORDINATOR:
Bev Piche — 0467 054 168

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

20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY Greg Sunter

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.

The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

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PREP COORDINATOR: Maureen Bright
Email: office.applecross@perthcatholic.org.au
SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR: Rosa Ranieri
Email: stbenedicts.sacraments@gmail.com

Build My Life Bible Study/Prayer Group:
Meet second Tuesday @7pm in St Benedict's School staff room. Steve Clay — 0421 207 750

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS:
Marina Ciccarelli,
Phil Trueman &
Meagan Xanthis.

Email contact:
applecross.safeguarding@gmail.com

PARISH NOTICES

EVENTS

- 18-19 AUG — SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL @9.30AM TO 3PM AT THE CHURCH
- 20 AUG — ALPHA COURSE, EVERY THURSDAY @6.30PM -8.30PM AT ALBERT LYNCH ROOM FOR 11 WEEKS TO 1 OCTOBER 2026
- 22 & 30 AUG — CONFIRMATION MASSES BY BISHOP NELSON PO, SAT 22/8 @2PM & SUN 30/8 @2PM
- 28 AUG — SENIOR LUNCH @11AM
- 29-30 AUG — CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL WEEK (ALL MASSES)
- 30 AUG — PARISH MORNING TEA AFTER 9.30AM MASS
- 4 SEP — ANOINTING OF THE SICK SERVICE @8.15AM AFTER BENEDICTION

An INVITE TO ALL SENIOR PARISHIONERS to the Annual St Benedict's Seniors Lunch

DATE: FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST 2026

TIME: 11AM TO 2PM

Numbers will be limited so please RSVP by 21/8/25 — RSVP list is at the back of the church. Please write any special dietary requirements on the RSVP list.

Thank you.

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, Judith Chan, Grisel Noronha and all others who are not included in this list. *Thank you.*

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Mass — 12 September 2026 @6pm

The church will be used for the **Performing Arts Festival** on **18 & 19 August @9:30 am to 3 pm**. Please do not park in the parking bays outside the church doors and on the street in front of the church. *Thank you.*

Fr Joseph will be away on annual leave for the next two weeks. Please welcome our visiting priests to our parish community.

Parish Albert Lynch Room Extension Works

A reminder that the **two ACROD bays near the flagpole** are fenced off for builder access and deliveries from **Monday to Friday** as construction materials will be delivered to the front of the church.

If you would like to make a contribution to this project:

Account Name: **Applecross Parish**
BSB: **086 006**
Account No: **450 486 124**
Ref: **Extension AL/Name**

Thank you for your generosity and to all who have donated so far. *- Parish Council & Finance Committee*

Welcome ***Charlotte Ann Sandford*** and ***Zoe Serpesedes*** who were baptised last weekend into our parish community of Saint Benedict.

PLEASE PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED: -

ANNIVERSARIES:

Rosa Orifici, John Carroll, Michael Donovan, Gerald Clifford, Rita Murray, Kathleen O'Leary, Marjorie West, Frank Humphris, Marie De Bissy, Lloyd Ferguson, Nita Henderson and Valerie Smith and all deceased benefactors of the parish and all departed family and friends. *Thank you.*

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

29 - 30 AUG | PATER NOSTER MASSIVE BOOK SALE

The Pater Noster Catholic Church community invites you to their Massive Book Sale. All books are only $2.00! In addition to the books you'll find CDs, DVDs, jigsaw puzzles, a Cake and Craft Stall, bric-a-brac, vintage collectibles and a giant raffle. Tea, coffee and snacks are available for a gold coin donation. **9.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday 29 August** and **9.00am to 3.00pm on Sunday 30 August on the corner of Marmion and Evershed Streets in Myaree.**

12 SEP|UNDERSTANDING CHANGE, LOSS AND GRIEF SEMINAR

'Understanding Change, Loss and Grief' is a 3-hour seminar for people with an interest in learning about what grief is, its potential triggers and impacts, as well as strategies to manage it and move forward. **Starts 9:30 am to 1pm**, with morning tea provided. **Cost: $ 16** for the *Seasons of Growth: Understanding Change, Loss and Grief* workbook. For more information contact Catholic Outreach on (08) 9422 7920 or outreach@perthcatholic.org.au. Register by 10 September.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

Caritas Australia is urging Australians not to forget the people of Ukraine. In 2026, more than 12 million Ukrainian people will require humanitarian assistance including emergency shelter, water, food, money and psychosocial support. To learn more or to make a Donation, visit Donate to Ukraine | Support Ukraine Charity.

SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION TRAINING (in person)

At St Vincent's, 114 Parmelia Ave, Kwinana

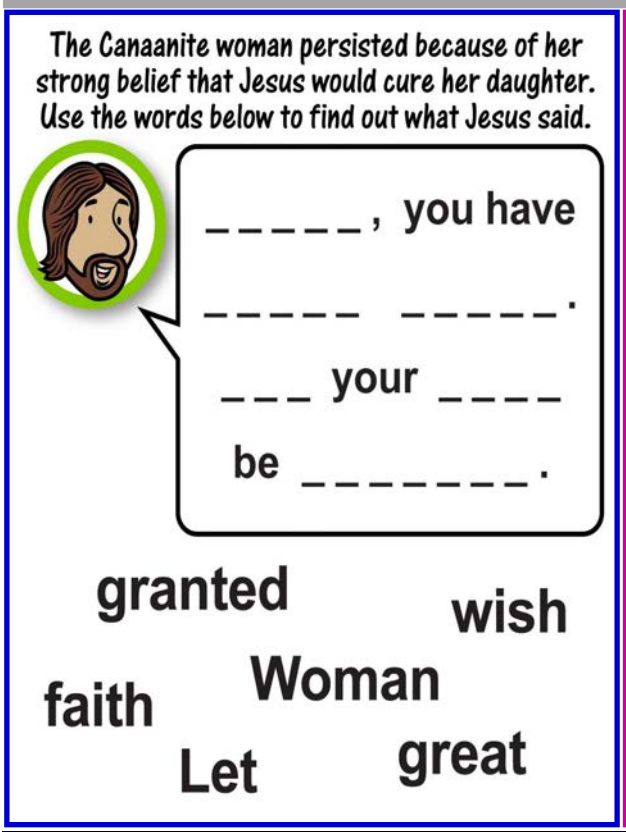
- **Tuesday, 29 September 2026 @5.30pm-6.30pm,**
- **Tuesday, 13 October 2026 @10.30am-11.30am,**

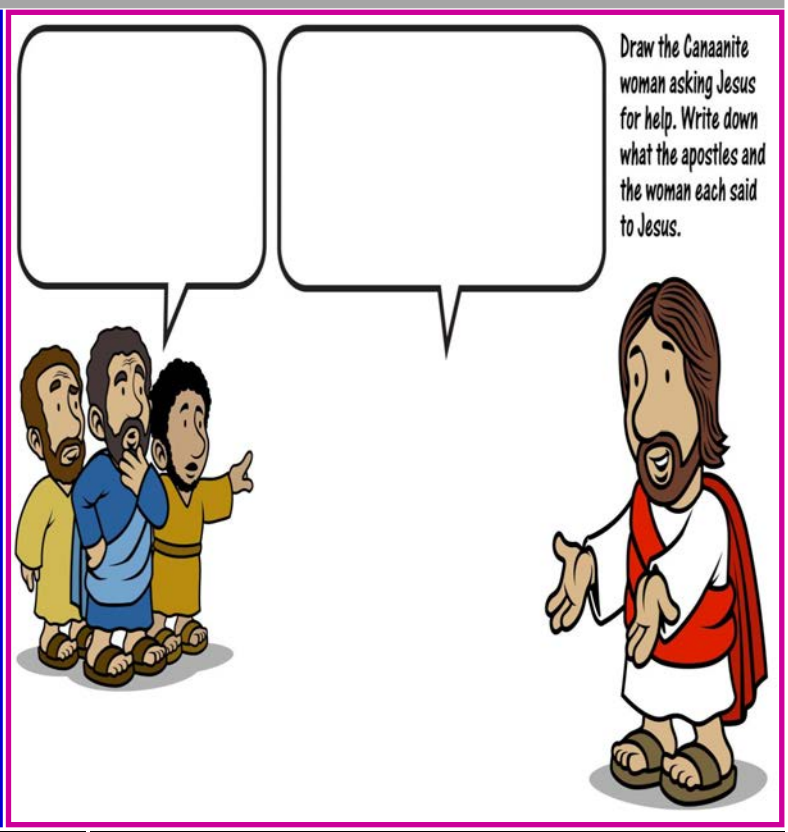
To register **https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/#induction**. *Further info:* **safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au** or 08 9221 7762.

You may have noticed three new visitors among us: Fr Pier, Br Michael and Br Nicholas, members of the Somascan Congregation. They are currently residing at 119 Ardross Street, and you will easily recognise them by their distinctive religious habit. The Somascans, formally known as the Order of Clerics Regular of Somasca, were founded in Italy by St Jerome Emiliani in the sixteenth century. Their charism is centred on caring for the poor, the young, the vulnerable, and those in need of spiritual direction. The congregation has a long tradition of pastoral ministry, education, and outreach, especially to disadvantaged children and families. Many parishioners will already know that the Somascans have been serving in the Archdiocese of Perth for a number of years. They currently provide pastoral care in the parishes of St Jerome, Spearwood, and Our Lady of Lourdes, Rockingham, where they are much appreciated for their faithful ministry and warm presence. Fr Pier, Br Michael and Br Nicholas are with us as part of their continuing formation and pastoral experience. They will be living within our parish until October, after which they will move to Hammond Park to continue their formation and ministry. All three are very personable, approachable and friendly. If you see them at Mass or around the parish, please take the opportunity to make them welcome.

Fr Joseph

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: 21th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1st: Is 22: 19-23 **Ps:** 137: 1-3, 6, 8

2nd: Rom 11: 33-36 **Gospel:** Mt 16: 13-20

READINGS FOR THE DAY

Entrance Antiphon *Psalm 83:10-11*

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading *Isaiah 56:1.6-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4*

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
   and let your face shed its light upon us.
   So will your ways be known upon earth
   and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
   for you rule the world with justice.
   With fairness you rule the peoples,
   you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
   let all the peoples praise you.
   May God still give us his blessing
   till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading *Romans 11:13-15. 29-32*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 15:21-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Communion Antiphon *Psalm 129:7*

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE — 22 & 23 AUGUST 2026

	SAT 6PM	SUN 7.30AM	SUN 9.30AM	SUN 6PM
ACOLYTE	MIKE TARANTO	MIKE KILROE	PRAVIN PAUL SUPPIAH	PETER MOORE
ALTAR SERVERS	DOMENICO, LEONARDO & ALESSANDRO DE FELICE	IHINOSEN & ESEOSE ITOTOH	GRACE STEWART JOEY VILLEGAS JACKSON HANDCOCK	TAYAHNA PRETORIUS ALEX RIJKS KATHERIN WIBAWA
COMMENTATORS	ROSA WEST	LORNA D'SOUZA	PAUL CICCARELLI	MAUREEN BRIGHT
COLLECTORS	ANTONIO VARNAKULASINGHAM	ADRIAN DARGIE	TERRY BOLAND ROGER BUNN	JOE CINANNI MARIA NARDONE PAUL BELVISO
READERS	EILEEN SELVARATNAM ANTONIO VARNAKULASINGHAM	ANGELA SCOTT RITA ILICH	GERARD DE SOUZA PAUL SEARSON	GLENDA BEUKES ANDREA D'SOUZA
EMOHC	MICHELLE CARRICK ROSA WEST YVONNE GARBIN MILDRED REGO	MONICA ANDERSON CORNELIUS ITOTOH FRANCA ITOTOH	CARMEL RECHICHI JUDY PHILLIPS LILI ORICIFI MARGARET HANDYSIDE	OSBORNE D'SOUZA JILL NORTON JOE CINANNI MAISIE CINANNI

ALTAR SOCIETY: JOSEPHINE YUSTIRA	**PILGRIM STATUE:** RUTH THORN
COUNTERS: PIERRE SEQUEIRA, LILI ORIFICI. JENNY COWIE, LUCY & BRIAN LIU	**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** —