

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Masses ~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 7 am & 9.30 am

Masses ~ Monday to Friday 12.10 pm

Masses Saturdays & Public Holidays 9 am

Reconciliation ~ Saturday 9.30am

Parish Priest ~ Father Chris Denham ~ Presbytery: (09) 300 6372 ~ Email: frchrisd@gmail.com

Parish Secretary ~ Felina Soldevilla: phone (09) 373 3132 ~ Email: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

Parish Pastoral Council: Steve Mascarenhas ~ Email: hoover@xtra.co.nz

Olivia Gaston ~ Email: oliviagaston@gmail.com

www.parnellcatholic.org.nz

Parking in St John's Car Park

Those attending Sunday or weekday Masses do not need to pay if using the St John's car park. On a Sunday, you may leave your car in the car park for one hour after Mass (that is, till 11.30am) without payment. Cars left beyond that time could be towed away.

On weekdays, you have fifteen minutes after Mass only.

CATHEDRAL OF ST PATRICK & ST JOSEPH

43 Wyndham St, Auckland CBD

Sunday Mass

8am, 11am, 4.30pm, 7pm

Children's Liturgy at 8.00 am, 11.00 am & 4.30 pm

Diocesan Youth Mass last Sunday of month 7 pm

Weekdays

Mass Monday-Friday: 7.00 am & 12.15 pm

Saturdays & public holidays: 8.30 am

Exposition Holy Hour - Working weekdays 11 am

Reconciliation

Mondays to Fridays 11.30—12.10pm
(except Public Holidays)

Cathedral Parish Secretary

Rebecca Knibb

info@stpatricks.org.nz

Tel 09 3034509

www.stpatricks.org.nz

St Vincent de Paul & Foodbank: Tel 815 6122

ST BENEDICT'S NEWTON

1 St Benedict's Street (off Upper Queen St)

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6 pm & Sunday 9.30 am,
5.30 pm in the crypt

Mass in Spanish: 12.00 pm the second & fourth
Sundays of the month.

Weekdays

Mass Monday - Friday: 7 am

Monday: 12.10 pm Liturgy of the Word
with Holy Communion

Tuesday - Friday: Mass 12.10 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm

St Benedict's Parish Secretary

Catherine van Veen

stbenedicts@xtra.co.nz

Tel 09 3790624

www.newtoncatholic.org.nz

The Square Gift Shop: Tel 365 1693

AUCKLAND INNER CITY PASTORAL AREA



ST BENEDICT'S
1 ST BENEDICT'S ST
NEWTON



CATHEDRAL OF
ST PATRICK & ST JOSEPH
43 WYNDHAM ST, AUCKLAND 1010



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
244 PARNELL ROAD
AUCKLAND 1052



ST PETER'S
ONEROA
WAIHEKE ISLAND

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ GAUDETE SUNDAY ~ 15 DECEMBER 2019

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday.

Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." Rose vestments are worn on this Sunday, to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath. Only 10 days until Christmas. Less than two weeks is another way of saying it. Either way, it's not long to wait. That's why this Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes on the 'joy' which should be in our hearts because the birth of our Saviour is close at hand.

The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing close when the Lord comes again to human souls as once he came to Bethlehem. We are the spiritual Bethlehem's, where Jesus is born anew, again and again, he Journeys once more over the rugged road from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he encounters on His way souls that are lost to earthly vanities, and souls that have strayed away from him.

We see the practical reason for the Church crying out to our soul: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord: make straight in the wilderness His paths, then shall you see the salvation of God!" Despite our self-praised progress in our world, it's evident that real joy is missing from our modern life. In such a desert we look to Christ. Only He can bring light to the darkness of our minds, deliver and forgive us and say to us who lose hope, 'Take courage.'

The truth is that there has always been a wide variety of opinions about how God acts in and through creation, about, who he is. In today's Gospel we find John the Baptist shut in a prison - full of shadows and forebodings. The Messiah whom he believed he recognized, does not behave like a sovereign judge. Nor does he act as the unrelenting executor of God's judgement against sinners.

Confused and helpless, John sends to Jesus to enquire: "Are you really the Messiah whom we await - you who are non-violent, forbearing and forgiving?"

This question echoes down the centuries and challenges us today more than ever, faced as we are with God's silence and passivity before our own de-Christianised society. We expect answers from the gospel, but instead the gospel seems to pose us further questions!

Where we expected to find ready-made solutions, we find instead an invitation to formulate our own. We expect to find miracles only to find the gospel following nature's process of slow germination.

We find it difficult to admit that Christianity is a matter of liberty and love - hence a matter of faith and risk.

Like John, we need to enter into our spirit and recognize the real face of God in the countenance of Jesus Christ - "the humble and merciful deliverer."

Blessings ~ Fr George Carlos SDB

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Christmas Timetable

at St John the Baptist

Tuesday, 24th December -

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 8pm

Wednesday, 25 December -

Christmas Day, Masses at 7am & 9.30am

Thursday, 26 December

Feast of St Stephen, Mass at 9am

Wednesday, 1 January 2020

New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary

Mother of God, Mass at 9am.

Weekday Masses from 27 December to 3 January will be at 9am only.

The regular weekday Mass at 12.10pm will resume on **Monday, 6th January 2020.**

3RD Sunday
of
ADVENT



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 35:1-6.10** God is the hope of his people who are crushed by misfortune.

~ **Psalm 145** Lord, come and save us.

~ **James 5:7-10** St James urges us to be patient with one another, and patient regarding the Lord's final coming.

~ **Gospel Matthew 11:2-11** We see Jesus at work, and hear his words of praise for his imprisoned cousin, John.

Next Week's readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 23; Romans 1:1-7; Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

For Sunday and weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com AND www.livingtheword.org.nz

Presiding Priests this Sunday

Saturday Vigil at 5pm Fr Chris Denham
7 am Fr Chris Denham
9.30 am Fr Chris Denham

Masses this Week at St John the Baptist

Monday to Friday 12.10pm
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am
Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am

Ministers of the Word

A few people have come forward as prospective readers, but we could still use some more. Please consider sharing your talents for the benefit of the parish at the cost of committing yourself about twice every month. To find out more and to arrange training please contact Felina on 09 3733132 or email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

Rosary Prayer Group— Monday to Friday after the 12.10pm midday Mass here in church. All are welcome to attend.

Columban Calendar 2020—are available for purchase after Mass this weekend at the Church foyer and in the Church office on weekdays for \$12 each.

Auckland Charismatic Renewal

Opening Mass 2020

All members of Charismatic realities are invited to come for the opening Mass of 2020 at Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont St, Ponsonby on 1st February at 10.30am followed by shared lunch in the hall. Contact Deidre 021 022 51103 or Anil 022 364 9306.

125th Anniversary Celebration

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, DUNEDIN 2020

All Ex-pupils and former Teachers are advised that at Labour Weekend 2020, the School will celebrate the 125th anniversary of its opening in North East Valley, Dunedin. Everyone interested in attending these celebrations should email: reunion125@sacredheartdn.school.nz

Rite II Reconciliation—In preparation for Christmas we encourage everyone to participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Tuesday 17 December, 7pm - here at St John the Baptist. All welcome.

Feed a Family Christmas Appeal 2019

Every year Vinnies Kingsland give out 3500+ food packs to support families. The "Feed A Family" Christmas Appeal is an opportunity for you to help people in need. Help spread the joy and love of Christmas by sponsoring a food pack today. A representative from St Vincent de Paul will speak at Mass this weekend. Any support will make a huge difference. See the noticeboard for more details or visit www.svdpak.org.nz.

Christmas in the Car Park - At St Mary's Avondale, 2134 Great North Road, 21 December, 7pm – 9:30pm after mass at 6pm. With live entertainment, food stalls, carols and choirs.

Christmas Blessings from the Catholic Caring Foundation

The Caring Foundation wishes all parishioners a blessed and holy Christmas. Our sincere thanks for your support of families and communities in need throughout this year. Please remember the work of the Foundation this Christmas and make a gift to our Christmas Appeal.

To make a gift, please visit their website www.caringfoundation.org.nz.

Santo Nino 2020 at the Cathedral

Nine Days of Novena Masses in devotion to the Holy Child Jesus (Senor Santo Nino). 10th -18th January 2020 from 6.45 pm at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph. Validated parking will be available at the Wilson's car parks on Hobson Street and Durham Lane. 19 January 2020, Santo Nino concludes at the North Shore Events Centre 9.30 am with the procession and 10.30 am for Mass. All are welcome! For information phone Oscar 027 5701139 or Miriam 027 4875 428.

Totara Point Mass—an invitation to the 182nd anniversary of the First Mass celebrated at Totara Point in the Hokianga on 13th January 1838. January 12th 2020 at 11am Mass at Totara Point, followed by a shared picnic lunch. Please email tamatea.motuti@extra.co.nz for more information.

St Valentine's Day Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral
Celebration of Marriage and Family. Friday 14th February at 7.30 pm. (Wilson parking \$4 please validate your ticket at Cathedral). All welcome: Engaged, Married, Singles, Families, Children. For further information email Gerry at gerrys@cda.org.nz, ph 360-3025.

Lift up Their Voices

February 15th, 2020, the Diocesan Liturgy Centre will be hosting a formation day for musicians, choirs, cantors, liturgy committees and all people with an interest in music in the Mass. Michael Mangan, a composer of music from Brisbane, and Fr John O'Connor, Director of the National liturgy Office will be presenting various sessions. The day will also include a sing-a-long of Waiata and Māori music to include in Sunday Masses. The day will begin at 9.30 with prayer (9.15 for coffee) and finish at 3.15pm. The venue is Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Onehunga. Please bring your own lunch. Register liturgy@cda.org.nz.

NZ Catholic Newspaper

Available in the main foyer for \$4 .

YOUNG ADULTS

Outreach – for people 18-30s - For more information contact Rochelle on 022 309 2022.

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Pilgrimage—The Joy of Discovery

(following the footsteps of the Lord) with Fr Sherwin Lapaan. The joy of discovering the richness of the Holy Land and growing in faith through this pilgrimage. 15-29 June 2020 via Seoul, Korea. Limited number. Email Laura Yap at laura@skytrain.co.nz for more information.

2020 Pilgrimage to Europe for Passion Play

Prague – Budapest – Vienna – Salzburg – Oberammergau – Munich – Lucerne. 26 August to 16 September. With an optional extension to Barcelona – Padua – Venice – Assisi – Rome 15 September to 26 September 2020.

Chaplain: Monsignor David Tonks. Inquiries to Laura at laura@skytrain.co.nz or 09 921 5106.

Are you of Irish descent?—the Embassy of Ireland to New Zealand and the Centre for Scottish and Irish Studies at the University of Otago are calling all Irish people, Irish community groups, people of Irish heritage or affinity with Ireland living in New Zealand. They have two short surveys, that they hope, will assist in showcasing the rich Irish history of New Zealand, as well as the opportunities for future collaboration and connection. You can access the surveys and more information at Friends of Ireland or email info@friendsofireland.co.nz.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:

Francine Morais, Yaroslav Khmel, Ann Sayegh, Steve Mascarenhas, Patricia Devereaux, Maree C, Guozhi Wang, Chris Dwyer, Linus Broughton, Emy Calma, Sue Wynne Davis, Michael Wong, AS, Sepi Fe'ao, Patricia Wright, Maurice Robinson, Alana North, Bonifacio Sanches, Michael Swann, Alice Swann, Kirei Tua, Gavin Alexander, Yuliang Liu, Ivy Hi, Mary Bratton, Julie Nicholls, Joy Agon, Chonusi William, Linda Mole, Eric & Rachel Smith, Francisco Billinilanz, Benny Clynes, Baby Uji, Tom Keane, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Brendan McFadden, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, BC, Rosily Chacko, Bronwyn Ryan, Anne Telles, Nicholas James, Judy Hanna, Pamela Vincent, Neira, Luigi Rocca, Shane McGruddy, Michelle Bergin, Jon Manson, J. Harrington, Bunty Hart, Rodolfo Paragas, Frank Van Nieukerk, Rosa Santos, John Kainuku, Noline Levick, Ben Hunt, Jane Ireland, Marie Mole, Maria Martho, Serena Coughy, Jin Shu Qin, Ellie Blackwell, Jill Hopgood-Luyters, Rosita Galarg, Teana Jones, Thilsi Vern, Martin Harriman, Virgilia Velasquez, Sheila Birnie, Ann Gordon, Wilfred Mansoor, Adelaida Sison, Baden McPherson, Peggy Bell-Booth, Shannon Kavanagh, John & Gloria Gillespie.

We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time . . .

Grace Millane, Mary Jury, Peter Schoeman, Yasmin Ryan, Catriona Jackson, Ivan Selak, Wim Van Het Bolscher, Maria Baek, Ksanita Peauafi Bell-Booth, Betty Walsh, Doug Brebner, Rolando Lagman, Barry Young, Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier, Nancy Wackrow, Dorothy Chatterley, Jim McKay, Msgr Pat O'Corr, Henning Petersen, Fr George Duggan SM, Betty White, Vincent Buonanno, Joachim Kim, Alexander Lee, Lance Christian, Mary Kearns, Chris Hughes, Rosemary Weatherstone, Br Sean Hanaray FMS, John Fabling, Wilfred Mansoor, Mary Henley, Janine Haywood, Peggy Griffiths, Cornelius Bakker, Frederick (Buster) Bell-Booth, Julita Binuya, John Shea, Milagros Logarta, Doris Myers, Ella Swanson, Don Thompson

. . . Eternal rest grant to them.