

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

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

Masses ~ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 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: Diane Howe ~ Email: dianehow@gmail.com

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

Check Cathedral website for Covid Level 2
Masses and Reconciliation

Cathedral Parish Secretary

Rebecca Knibb

info@stpatricks.org.nz

Tel 09 3034509

www.stpatricks.org.nz

ST BENEDICT'S NEWTON

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

Check St Benedict's website for Covid Level 2
Masses and Reconciliation

St Benedict's Parish Secretary

Catherine van Veen

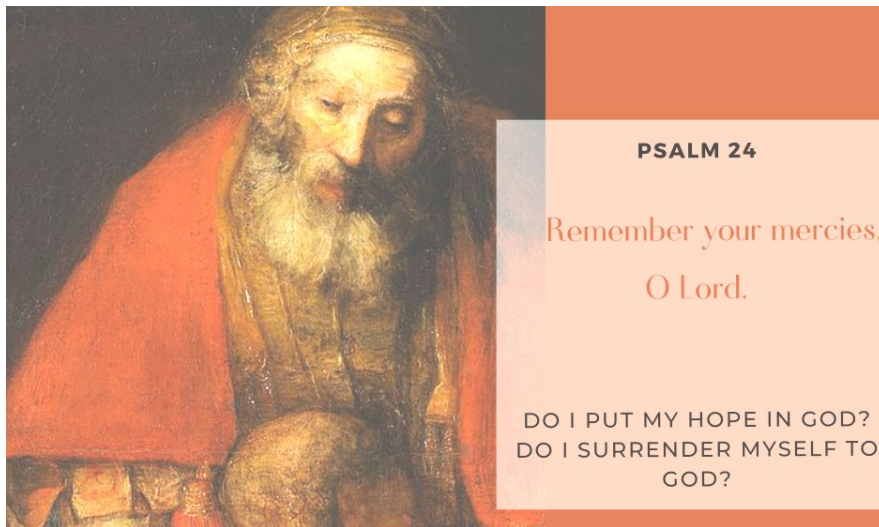
stbenedicts@xtra.co.nz

Tel 09 3790624

www.newtoncatholic.org.nz

St Vincent de Paul & Foodbank: Tel 815 6122

The Square Gift Shop: Tel 365 1693



244 PARNELL ROAD, PARNELL,
AUCKLAND

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PARNELL

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NEWSLETTER

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

No matter who we are we possess the freedom to say 'yes' or 'no' to God and the ability to repent and change the direction of our lives. One way or another we are responsible for our conduct and accountable for our behaviour. One day we will stand before the judgment seat of God answerable for our goodness and our failings. The Good News is that with the help of God's grace we can change the direction of our lives for the better. The varying attitudes of the two sons give us cause to think carefully whether we like it or not, there is a mixture of both personalities in our makeup. Very few of us can say that when the Lord called us we were ready and eager to answer, "Here I am Lord, I have come to do your will." The gospel is telling us that actions speak louder than words. If regular church attendance is not accompanied by upright Christian living, what we profess to believe has no value and amounts to no more than lip service or idle promises which are worthless.

We are uttering words but are not changing our hearts.

The liturgy points out that there must be a connection between what we say and what we do. Jesus criticised the religious leaders of his day because they shirked their responsibility and only thought that they wanted to do God's will. Their promises were empty because they did not keep them and as a result their journey to God was

going nowhere. In a ringing denunciation Christ stated that their observance of the law was an outward show and that there was more honesty and a greater readiness to accept the call for repentance among outcasts. 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of heaven before you.'

This is a story for all ages. The trail of broken promises that each of us leaves behind points to the inconsistency between what we promise and what we do. In the early Christian community the scandal of professed church members who did not fulfil their promises was deeply felt. The lesson the gospel offers us is that we may be saying 'yes' to God on Sunday and turning

our back on what we profess during the rest of the week. Many of us who say 'yes' to the Body of Christ don't realise that we are saying 'no' to the community of Christ when at the church door, an age old feud between families prevents us from speaking to a neighbour. Newly married couples have no problems saying 'yes' on their wedding day but find it increasingly difficult to keep their promises through the ups and downs of life.

The best of our allegiance to Christ is in keeping the promises that we have made and accepting his will whatever it may be.

Blessings ~Fr Peter Tipene



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Ezekiel 18:25-28** Each of us is responsible for his or her own conduct, and will be judged accordingly.

~ **Psalm 24** Remember your mercies, O Lord.

~ **Philippians 2:1-5** Self-seeking and rivalry have no place in the Christian community. We must imitate the humility of Christ.

~ **Gospel Matthew 2:28-32** Actions speak louder than words.

Next Week's readings: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 25; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

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

ALERT LEVEL 2 at ST JOHN

From Thursday 24 September, Public Masses will resume here in Parnell. A few important reminders for those coming to ANY of the weekday or weekend Masses to remember:

- Download the NZ Covid Tracer app on your mobile phones, remember to **scan and check-in** when you arrive or alternatively, write down your details on the Visitor's logbook provided on the church foyer.
- From Thursday 24 September when the public Masses resume until around the end of October, there will only be ONE form of Communion. **No wine** will be given during this period.
- Lastly and most importantly, we ask everyone to **wear a face mask if possible**.

Visit our website

www.parnellcatholic.org.nz or connect with us on our

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/STJohnTheBaptistParnell> for the latest updates.

Weekday Mass & Reconciliation

Under Level 2

Monday to Friday: 12.10pm

Saturday & Public Holidays: 9am

Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30am

Please wear a facemask when possible if you are coming for confession.

Presiding Priests this Sunday

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

Parish Office Hours - Under Alert Level 2

Tuesday & Wednesday 9.15am-3.15pm

Thursday 9.30am-5.30pm.

*Please email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz ahead of time if you need to come and visit the office.

Sunday Mass on TV

Sunday Mass continues to be broadcast at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201. It will also be available to download from 6pm Saturday on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>.

The NZ Catholic Bishops' 2020 Election

Statement-Whakapuaki Pōti

- is available at www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Catholic-Bishops-Election-Statement-2020.pdf

Accommodation Wanted

Mr Hilary Grant, a parishioner of St John's is looking to find a granny flat or to house share nearby from 30th October. This will be for approximately 2-3 months (or longer). Please contact Felina via email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz or phone Hilary directly at 52903455(phone until 6 October) or 0212200306.

The New Zealand General Election

A commentator noted this week that the 2020 General Election with its accompanying referendum is one of the most interesting and challenging. In order to assist people in their discernment the New Zealand Bishops' Conference has produced their *2020 Election Statement*.

This is available digitally www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Catholic-Bishops-Election-Statement-2020.pdf.

NZ Catholic

The latest free digital edition is now available for everyone at: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/2a61ed4c-b19f-4f67-9d49-728df7acf784>

The Nathaniel Report - published by the NZ Catholic Bishops' Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics. The issue is available at www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Nathaniel-Report-61-FINAL.pdf

Liturgy Conference

Although the Liturgy Conference has been postponed until October 2021 Starting from Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd of October we plan to offer a series of **digital presentations** from Conference presenters. If you have registered for the Conference or subscribed to the Conference newsletter, the link to this portal will be emailed to you. Please subscribe to the Liturgy Conference newsletter via the website <https://wuss.org.nz/> if you want to receive the link.

Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care & Pandemics

is a free online Zoom lecture by Sr Prof Julia Upton Provost Emerita and retired Distinguished Professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at St. John's University NY. Monday October 12 10-11.30am (AEDT). Register by 7 October at www.acu.edu.au/LectureUpton. Contact for more information centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au.

Beginning Experience

ALONE AGAIN?

A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood 6-8 November. The Beginning Experience is a non-profit organization that provides support for the grieving single again and offers an opportunity to turn the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth. The total cost for 2 nights' accommodation, meals, and materials, plus a follow up event is \$350 with Early Bird cost \$325 if paid by 25 Sept. For further information please phone Kelly 0276864416 or Bev 09 298 9943 & 0272481631 www.beginningexperience.org.nz
Online Session: Mary, the Mother of God
A contemporary understanding of Mary with Br Kieran Fenn. Monday, 28 September, 7-8:30pm. Fee: \$25/session. Special fees for groups of more than 2 persons. ZOOM. For info and registrations: info@studyjoy.nz

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

John Lee, Teresa Gudex, Ana Laura Robles, Ana Denisse Manjarrez, Patricia Devereaux, Brian Murphy, Christopher Hughes, Alberto Olarte, Sue Bedford, PT, Graeme Owens, Joe Raymond, Ben Hunt, Ambi Joseph, Ivy Hi, AS, Fr Martin Bugler, Royston Beckham, Sepi Fe'ao, John & Rosa Williams, Ann Sayegh, Terry Hodge, Marie Mole, Linda Mole, Fr Philip Handforth, Fr Andrei Centeno, Margaret Everett, Elizabeth Beckham, Dolly P, Alana North, Chris Dwyer, Maurice Robinson, Kanawat (Pui) Cheevachit, Alice Swann, Yaroslav Khmel, Linus Broughton, Emy Calma, Sue Wynne Davis, Michael Wong, Patricia Wright, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Kirei Tua, Maree C, Rosily Chacko, Bonifacio Sanches, Michael Swann, Gavin Alexander, Mary Bratton, Julie Nicholls, Joy Agon, Chonusi William, Bunty Hart, Eric & Rachel Smith, Francisco Billinilanz, Benny Clynes, Tom Keane, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Thilsi Vern, Neira, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, BC, Jon Manson, Anne Telles, Bronwyn Ryan, Nicholas James, Judy Hanna, Maria Martho, Pamela Vincent, Sheila Birnie, Shane McGruddy, Michelle Bergin, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Serena Coughy, Frank Van Nieukerk, Rosa Santos, John Kainuku, Noeline Levick, Jane Ireland, Jin Shu Qin, Jill Hopgood-Luyers, Teana Jones, Rosita Galarg, Martin Harriman, Virgilia Velasquez, Wilfred Mansoor, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh, John & Gloria Gillespie.

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

John Toland, Br JP Wilson, Michael Raj Kumar, Pricilla Andrews, Wendy Terwiel, Consolacion Adique, John Pakistan, Fr John Airey CSsR, Fr John Berry, Denham Shale, Eulalio Daguman, Billy Plumb, Rosa Romualdez, Mario Samala, Faustino Calvelo, Bill Mudgway, Violet Sinkovich, James O'Grady, Brian Claney, Trinidad Antolin, Eileen O'Brien, John Geddes, Jo Walsh, June Courtney, Paul Austin, Luke Tipene, Shirley Loretz, Tarun Asantha, Campbell Adams, Paul Gallagher, Janis Coleman, Carolina Noionha, Carmel McCarthy, Cheekeong, Mary Conning, Terence Abreo, Rosann Laird, I Antoniraj, Ann Marian, Dallys Horne, Rosemary Mohi, Jim Waldron, John Gordon, Helen McLaughlin, Bishop John Cuneen, Jim Butterworth, Pat Insley, Leonard Lanigan, Monthi Fernandes, Pamela Maling, Margaret Chapman, Dan McCarthy, Jillian Paterson, Fr Michael O'Hara, Steve Noonan, Margaret McLean, Maria do Carmo Noronha, Jose Tlentino, Dorothy Bowerman, Phyllis Bloomfield, Sharon Lim . . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*