

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:

Diane Howe ~ dianehow@gmail.com Olivia Gaston ~ 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

Wednesday - Friday: Mass 12.10 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm

St Benedict's Parish Secretary

Catherine van Veen

office@stbenedictsaukland.org.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

CHRISTMAS & FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY-DECEMBER 2020

At Christmas our attention is focused on the birth of Jesus in a humble Bethlehem cave. It was all so completely unexpected. The star which the wise men were following did not stop at a regal palace, but at a stable used for sheltering animals. We are amazed and surprised that God should come to us as a helpless and dependent child, of poor parents, who were far from home and soon to become refugees in Egypt. By choosing to be born in such a desolate place, out of the limelight, away from the world's palaces and riches, God's son turns upside-down, worldly notions of fame and success. He was giving us the very clear message about the need to see grace and goodness in the very poorest of people and places. The first to share the joy of Mary and Joseph in their humble surroundings were rough country folk, social outcasts, shepherds guarding their flocks by night. Their presence was an assurance that Christ was available to ordinary people carrying out their normal work. What's more, he was going to be on the side of the weak, poor and disadvantaged.

Our celebration of the birth of the Lord is more than a remembrance of the happenings in Bethlehem on a starry night 2000 years ago. It is a reminder that God loves us so much that he sent his only son among us to save us, to forgive our sins and to show us a way to our heavenly home. In compassion, he broke the sacred barrier between creature and creator, by reaching down and presenting himself to us as a child, inspiring love rather than fear. Since that night, the new born child is our living link with God, who is always near to those who welcome him with an open heart. As heaven comes down to earth, it carries with it timeless blessings which

soften the hardest of hearts. Bitterness and grudges are dissolved by the affection of the new born child who has raised us up to a life far beyond any human expectation.

Christmas focuses not only on what Jesus did by making his home with us, but on what we must do, as it reveals that we are part of God's family. This means that we need to reverence each human life, and that raises some tough questions about our treatment of other people.

The consequences of our daily living are truly enormous. To neglect the old, to be contemptuous of the poor, and to have no thought for the unemployed and the lonely, is to ignore those individuals with whom Christ has so closely identified. We all need to examine ourselves on the doors we close to Jesus. There is no point in being sentimental about the doors slammed by the people in Bethlehem, when there is no room in our own hearts for the needy.

The happiness and peace of Christmas comes from within, when God is born in the stable of our hearts.

May the Christ child be born into our hearts and lives that we may truly make him present in our homes, our land and our world!

*Christmas Blessings, Pa Peter
Dean, Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*



Feast of the Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Shine TV 2 pm Sunday
27th December



**PRAY CHRISTMAS
MASS**

**Christmas Day @ 1.50pm
SHINE TV**

Free-to-air TV Channel 25
SKY TV Channel 201

Liturgy of the Word ~ Christmas

~ **Isaiah 9:2-4. 6-7** This prophecy about the coming of a saviour child, who will rescue his people from oppression, is fulfilled in Jesus.

~ **Psalm 97** A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

~ **Titus 3:4-7** We did nothing to merit the birth of Jesus rather, God sent his Son out of compassion for us.

~ **Gospel Luke 2:1-14** This tells about the birth of Jesus, and how the news of his birth was brought by angels to shepherds.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 This calls for each member of the family to develop concern, respect, honour and kindness within the relationships that the family.

Psalm 127 Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Colossians 3:12-21 Paul wants the Colossians to understand that Jesus is fully divine and that those baptised into him are also to see themselves as "raised with Christ."

Luke 2:22-40 This tells us about the presentation of the child Jesus in the temple, and also provides us with a glimpse of his life at Nazareth.

Next Week's readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6; Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

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

Alert Level 1 at St John

Now that we are in Alert Level 1, we continue to encourage everyone either visiting the Church or attending Masses to keep a record of your visit by Scanning the QR codes on display at the Church entrances when you arrive. Hand Sanitisers are also provided for you to use. Wearing of facemasks is no longer mandatory. If you or anyone in your family is sick or unwell, please stay home.

~ ~ ~

Christmastide at St John the Baptist

Thursday 24 December:

Regular Midday Mass at 12.10pm
Christmas Vigil at 8pm (carols start at 7.30pm)

Friday 25 December:

Christmas Day, Masses at 7am and 9.30am
NO Midday Mass.

Saturday 26 December:

St Stephen Mass at 9am.
Sunday Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sunday 27 December:

Holy Family, Masses at 7am and 9.30am

Monday 28 December to Tuesday 6 January 2021

All Weekday Masses are at 9am only including Mass on **New Year's Day.**

Normal Weekend Mass times remain for 2nd & 3rd January.

12.10pm Weekday Masses resume on

Wednesday 6 January 2021

Presiding Priest this Sunday

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

Parnell Office Hours during Christmastide

25 December to 4 January: closed

5 to 8 January 9am to 2pm

St John the Baptist Church Organ Fund

The Parish Finance Committee has given the approval for our parish to purchase a new Church Organ. This will replace the old one (that's been used for 30 years) that broke down several weeks ago. At the moment, the parish is renting an organ for our Musicians to use during our weekend Masses. The estimated cost to get the new organ would be between \$30,000 and \$40,000. We have set up a Church Organ Fund to help our parish achieve this. For your donations, please send them to:
BNZ Parnell Parish 02-0100-0120982-014.
Indicate your "Initials & surname" (for example: PBrowne) in the Particulars and "OrganFund" on the Reference. To get a tax receipt, email your details to office@parnellcatholic.org.nz. We thank you for your generosity.

Church Flower Ministry

We are **in need** of parishioners who would like to join our small group that provide the beautiful flower arrangements here in church. If you would like to volunteer and share your talent, please get in touch with Felina in the office. Email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

Thank You - Fr Chris, Felina and the members of the PPC and PFC would like to extend their gratitude to everyone who have helped in the various Ministries this year. It has been a challenging year for all and indeed your help has been invaluable in many ways to enhance the celebration of our Liturgy. We also thank our Parishioners for their generosity in various times when we have been called upon to share our blessings to those who are most in need in our community. We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a wonderful year ahead.

New Appointments - The Bishop's Office released the new appointments last week and there are changes which affect the Parnell Parish.

At the end of January we will farewell Fr Chris Denham as he takes up an appointment as the Dean of the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph. At the same time, we will welcome Fr John Tollan as our new parish priest. We will have an opportunity to farewell Fr Chris at the end of January.

Monte Cecilia Christmas Appeal "Thank you"

On behalf of Monte Cecilia we wish to thank you for your generosity and kindness during Christmas. You have made a big difference to the lives of our homeless children in South Auckland, providing such a comfort during what has been an extraordinarily difficult year for many people. Joy and happiness will linger in the minds of all the parents and children who have received gifts and food.

Shine TV—Christmas & Feast of the Holy Family

Christmas Day Mass will start at 1.50pm on Shine Free-to-air Channel 25 and Sky TV Channel 20.

Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family will be broadcast at 2pm Sunday This Mass was recorded at the Carmelite Sisters' convent.

Alternatively you can watch at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/our-events/mass/>.

This will conclude this current provision of broadcast Mass.

Heading North this summer? - A reminder and encouragement to visit the places of important Catholic history in our diocese, particular Motuiti, where Bishop Pompallier's remains are interred in St Mary's Church, and Tōtara Point, where the first official Mass was celebrated on 13 January 1838. All are invited to Mass at Tōtara Point Sunday, 10 January 2021 at 11am to commemorate the first Mass in Aotearoa. The map on the poster describes the route.

Columban Calendars

2021 Columban Calendars are available to purchase at the Parish Office during office hours and on weekends after Mass. \$12 each, cash only please.

NZ Catholic Newspaper

The latest print edition is available in the foyer for \$4. The next edition will be published 24 January 2021.



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

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

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

Fr Martin Bugler, Rogelio Antolin, Victorino Antolin, Sr Valerie Gunnion rsm, Fr Frank Roach, June Yuong, Olga Wolk, Marge Rameka, Josephine Aitchison, Vilma Adique, Santos Adique, Karen McDonald, Chris Hughes, Aileen Fitzpatrick, Consolotrix Redillos-Ageas, Baby Eli, Elizabeth Hood, John Body, Catriona Jackson, Ivan Selak, Wim Van Het Bolscher, Jude Fernandes, Murray Tanner, Adrian de la Santos, Lance Christian, Mary Kearns, Rosemary Weatherstone, Br Sean Hanaray FMS, John Fabling, Msgr Paul Cronin, Mary Henley, Janine Haywood, Peggy Griffiths, Cornelius Bakker, Frederick (Buster) Bell-Booth, Julita Binuya, Milagros Logarta, Doris Mary Myers, John Shea, Ella Swanson, Don Thompson, Betty White . . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*