

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

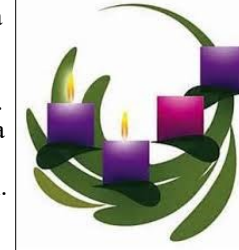
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 6 DECEMBER 2020

Every great celebration requires a great deal of preparation, this preparation is essential if the event is to go off with out a hitch. When planning a birthday party, a small checklist needs to be made for the event to be celebrated well.

There would need to be food, drinks, a cake, and invitations sent out to those who are close to the individual and perhaps a gift would be purchased to be presented at the party. This becomes even harder if the person seems to have everything, so what do you get the person who has everything? This is certainly a very good question, what sort of gift do you get for someone so important, what sort of gift is fit for a King, and what sort of gift would you want to give to the person who loved you from the beginning. The birthday that we are building up to is the birthday of God incarnate and certainly falls into the category of a person who wants for nothing.

We are clearly told in the Gospel what Jesus wants for his birthday; Jesus wants a real relationship with you. Jesus' birthday party has been a long time in the making. We are told that this Good News can be found in the Prophet Isaiah, that there would be a voice crying in the wilderness telling us how to prepare for this great celebration. That God desires the paths of our lives to be made straight for the coming of the Messiah. This is done specifically by receiving forgiveness through the confession sin. This is a process of self-emptying so that we can receive more from the source of all goodness.

This gift that we give to God is a gift that



benefits us, we present ourselves to God like a vessel and God fills us with his power and grace. The birthday of Christ is the one party where the host desires to give the guests more than the guests could ever offer. In a way this Advent period is a time where we ready ourselves for the generosity to come at Christmas.

It is a period where we are called to renew our desire to be Jesus' disciples. Today John the Baptist encourages us to seek out the one who will follow him, the one who is greater and will baptise his followers with the Holy Spirit.

This Gospel message relates well to the first element of the diocesan "Mission Map", we are all called to be disciples of Jesus. This is a deeply personal call on each one of us, and because it is a personal call no one can respond on our behalf, you are called to actively engage in this time of preparation. Jesus wants us to be united with him on his birthday and Jesus desires to give you the greatest of gifts, the gift of his physical presence. This gift is a gift that keeps on giving, it is a gift that will help you as we celebrate the birth of Christ and will continue to aid us as we progress into the new year. The great gift will help and guide you in your discipleship, growing from strength to strength in the relationship that Jesus has desired to have with you from the beginning of time.

*Advent Blessings ~ Fr Tony King-Archer
Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*



MISSION MAP

A voice cries in the wilderness

Prepare the way for the Lord

MARK 1:3

What actions of justice large and small am I undertaking to prepare the way for the Lord



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11** The people are urged to prepare a way for the Lord who is coming to save them.

~ **Psalm 84** Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

~ **2 Peter 3:8-14** If the Lord appears to be slow in coming, it is to give people an opportunity to be ready to meet him when he comes.

~ **Gospel Mark 1:1-8** John the Baptist urges the people to prepare for the imminent coming of the Saviour.

Next Week's readings: Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11; Psalm Magnificat; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8.19-28

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

Alert Level 1 at St John

Now that we are back at Alert Level 1, we continue to encourage everyone either visiting the Church or attending Masses to Scan the QR codes on display at the Church entrances. Wearing of facemasks is no longer mandatory. If you are sick or unwell, please stay home.

This Week at Parnell

Sunday Masses

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

Mass & Reconciliation

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

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.



Christmas Timetable at St John the Baptist

Thursday, 24 December

Midday Mass at 12.10pm.
Christmas Eve Mass at 8pm

Friday, 25 December – Christmas Day

Masses at 7am & 9.30am

Saturday, 26 December – Feast of St Stephen

Mass at 9am.

Usual Sunday Mass times will apply for the weekend of 26 & 27 December.

Friday, 1 January 2021 – New Year's Day Mass

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Mass at 9am only.

Rite II Reconciliation for Advent

In preparation for Christmas we encourage you to participate in this sacrament of Reconciliation.

Thursday 10 December 7 pm

- St Benedict's Newton

Tuesday 15 December 7 pm

- at the Cathedral.

For children Saturday 20 December 4 pm

- at Sacred Heart, Ponsonby.



Diocesan Mission Map & the Diocesan Website

A refreshed diocesan website same address <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/> is live.

Bishop Pat invites you to explore it.

You will also find a message from him and Bishop Michael regarding the Mission Map on the site as well as a wealth of information and resources.

Food for Faith for Advent – Fr John O'Connor's popular Food for Faith page will have daily reflections for Advent. Go to his site and sign up to get the reflections daily by email during December: www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

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

Rosary prayer group—weekdays after the 12.10pm Mass here in church. Everyone welcome.

Sunday Mass on TV—Sunday Mass continues to be broadcast at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201.

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. Email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz or phone 373 3132.

G.I.F.T. Christmas Mass—today Sunday 6th December, 4pm at Good Shepherd Church, Balmoral. An invitation to all Catholics with disabilities, their families and support workers. A light meal is provided after Mass in the G.I.F.T. Centre. Everyone is most welcome. Ph 629 0445.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

For those in their 20s-30s interested in young adult groups/events in the Auckland Diocese, please contact Rochelle (rochelled@cda.org.nz) or 022 30 2022.

Feed a Family Christmas Appeal 2020

The "Feed a Family" appeal to support families who are struggling to put food on the table during the Christmas Season.

This is an opportunity for you to connect with a family, and really make a difference.

Visit www.svdpak.org.nz for how you can give and to find out more about the work they do.

Monte Cecilia Christmas Appeal

They need your help and support for our Homeless families. They have 1,410 children in their care, who have been exposed to homelessness. They would like to provide a gift for every child so they may experience a little Christmas joy.

If you can help, please contact Elaine Lolesio, email elaine@montececilia.org.nz or call/text 0277770632.

NZ Catholic Newspaper—The latest print edition is available in the foyer for \$4.

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

Helena Hamlin, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Simativa Perese, John Lee, 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, Fr Martin Bugler, Royston Beckham, Sepi Fe'ao, 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, Kanawat (Pui) Cheevachit, Alice Swann, Yaroslav Khmel, Linus Broughton, BC, Emy Calma, Sue Wynne Davis, Michael Wong, Rosily Chacko, Patricia Wright, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Kirei Tua, Jane Ireland, Bonifacio Sanches, Michael Swann, Joy Agon, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Bunty Hart, Eric & Rachel Smith, Maria Martho, Rosa Santos, Jon Manson, Francisco Billinilanz, Benny Clynes, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Thilsi Vern, Neira, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, Anne Telles, 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, Frank Van Nieukerk, John Kainuku, Noeline Levick, Ann Gordon, Jin Shu Qin, Jill Hoggood-Luyvers, Maree C, Virgilia Velasquez, Wilfred Mansoor, Adelaida Sison, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh, John & Gloria Gillespie.

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

Abbey Russel, Yasmin Ryan, T.F.P. Hanrahan, Peter Jay Seto Ma, Jude Fenandes, Rose Nebrao, Catherine Clarke, Irene Roca, Geoffrey Phillips, Isaura Sodder, James Ropata, BJ, Elizabeth Daly, Geb Aranas, Joachim Kim, Rebecca Dizon Castro, Patricia Perkins, Maria Baek, Barry O'Meagher, Ong Hua, Grant Dunn, Jimmy Maninang, Rachel Fox, Bonnie Malpas, Lou McElwee, Mollie Coleman, Irene Pereira, Stoyanka Genora, Kieran Hegarty, Francie O'Sullivan, Alicia Artunduaga, Doris Myers, John Shea, Melwy Castelino, Joan Gravatt, Karen Ward, Andrew Carucan, Joan Coleman, Case Bakker, Rodrigo Fernando, Mary Mullally, Domingos Jose, Betty White, Joan Joseph, Catherine Petry, Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier, Jean Epalle SM, John Harriman, Francis Terry, Delphine Victor Moreau SM, Ronald Terry, Rosita Uy Lim, Margaret Cheyne, Sin Lin Dale Chong, Marie Thomson, Don Thompson.

. . . Eternal rest grant to them.