

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 ~ 13 DECEMBER 2020

It's one of our defining characteristics in the Church that we aren't good at extended solemnity. Even in those more reflective seasons of Lent and Advent, we can't help but let the joy at the end break through. And rightly so! While it is true that it is proper to keep our minds on the job, on our daily tasks, those troubles of each day which are quite sufficient in themselves, it is also true that there should always be an awareness of what it is that we are moving towards.

In a sense, that is what the season of Advent is all about – looking forward in hope and expectation. On this, the third Sunday of Advent, traditionally called “Gaudete”, that is “Rejoice”, Sunday, that call to joyfully look forward speaks commandingly from our readings. In all three readings, and in the psalm, there is a call to look beyond the here and now, to what is to come.

Even those around us have a hint of this call. We may well roll our eyes at the commercialisation, and indeed banality, of so much of the secular celebration of Christmas. But even so there is among our brothers and sisters a sense of looking forward to something good. Almost all children feel this, but many adults as well, and it is not just a desire for presents. It speaks in fact of the need for hope that is an essential part of being human. We need to believe that there is something worthwhile in the future.

Perhaps especially as we end this year, which has been so filled with disruption and



difficulty, we all need that belief that there is something better to come. A secular Christmas doesn't really have the power to support that, though. But what we proclaim and look forward to, or rather, who we proclaim, does. The coming of the Lord, which John the Baptist foretells to the people of Israel is to be the cause of exultation, as Isaiah proclaims. Isaiah sees liberty, healing, and the renewal of all things. St Paul tells the Thessalonians to look for the remaking of everything, and ourselves in particular, into perfection and holiness.

Christ's coming into the world, which we celebrate at Christmas, was above all to make it possible for us, for the world, to experience that transformation. As we look back at the ashes of 2020, and recall all its problems, there should still be a current of joy running through us. Because, no more than any other solemnity or sorrow will this last. Joy is coming into the world, that all may rejoice. So let us look forward in hope.

*Advent Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham  
John the Baptist, Parnell*



### 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](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz).

## MISSION MAP

John came as a witness

*to testify to the light*

JOHN 1:7



How do my actions testify to the light of Christ?  
How do I proclaim the Good News?



### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11** The writer declares that he has been sent by God to usher in the age of salvation. Jesus used this prophecy to announce the programme of his own ministry.

~ **Luke 1:46-50, 53-54** My soul rejoices in my God.

~ **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** St Paul tells the Thessalonians how they ought to live as they await the second coming of Christ.

~ **Gospel John 1:6-8.19-28** John the Baptist declares that he is not the Saviour. His task is to prepare the way for the Saviour, who is already among the people, though they do not recognise him.

**Next Week's readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-5.8-11.16; Psalm 88; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38**

For Sunday and weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://mobilegabriel.com) AND [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://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 and check-in when you arrive or alternatively, write down your details on the Visitor's logbook provided on the church foyer. Wearing of facemasks is no longer mandatory.

#### **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](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz). We thank you for your generosity.

#### **Rosary prayer group**—weekdays after the

12.10pm Mass here in church.

Everyone welcome.

### **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

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

##### **Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

Mass at 9am only.

From 28 December to 31 December, weekday Mass will be at 9am only. No Midday Mass during this period.

#### **Rite II Reconciliation for Advent**

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

Tuesday 15 December 7 pm - at the Cathedral.

For children Saturday 19 December 4 pm

- at Sacred Heart, Ponsonby.

#### **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.

#### **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](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz)

or phone 373 3132.

### **Titipounamu Study & Joy**

#### **Online Session: Christmas "Self Care Nibbles"**

- with Clare Barnett. Tuesday, 15 December, 7.15-8.45pm. Fee: \$30. ZOOM. [www.studyjoy.nz/events/christmas-self-care-nibbles/](http://www.studyjoy.nz/events/christmas-self-care-nibbles/)

**Online Session: Who am?** Reflecting on our Identity in God with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 30 January, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60, ZOOM [www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/](http://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/)  
To register email [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz).

**Heading North this summer?** - A reminder and encouragement to visit the places of important Catholic history in our diocese, particular Motuti, where Bishop Pompallier 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.

**Christmas blessings and gratitude from the Caring Foundation**—Your support for families and communities in need during 2020 has helped the foundation support over 60 agencies working with the poor and the vulnerable. Please keep the Foundation in your prayers, and if able please support their Christmas Appeal. [www.caringfoundation.org.nz](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz)

*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 Hoppood-Luyppers, 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 . . .*

Sr Marcella Somers rsm, Larry Downes, Huriwaka Harris, Maraea Lundon, Tony Rudolph, Grace Millane, Mary Jury, Peter Schoeman, Yasmin Ryan, Catriona Jackson, Ivan Selak, Wim Van Het Bolscher, Maria Baek, Kasanita Peauafi Bell-Booth, Betty Walsh, Doug Brebner, Rolando Lagman, Barry Young, Nancy Wackrow, Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier, 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, Msgr Paul Cronin, Mary Henley, Janine Haywood, Peggy Griffiths, Cornelius Bakker, Frederick (Buster) Bell-Booth, Julita Binuya, John Shea, Milagros Logarta, Doris Myers, Ella Swanson, Don Thompson, Joseph Tan

. . . Eternal rest grant to them.

### **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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:elaine@montececilia.org.nz) or call/text 0277770632.

#### **Diocesan Mission Map & the Diocesan Website**

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