

## 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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 20 DECEMBER 2020

We all know that there are three great figures in the Advent Scriptures; Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary of Nazareth. On this final Sunday of Advent we focus on Mary. For most of us Advent will come and go without us getting much of a chance to focus on the Christ who is at its centre. So how can I break into all of the feverish activity that occupies us so much at this time? I shall try in a practical way, not in some monastic way or in some weird and wonderful religious way. After all, the incarnation is at the heart of Christmas. This Sunday our liturgy focuses on that first Christmas mother. Today the liturgy puts us in touch with that third great figure of Advent – Mary of Nazareth. To activate your Advent I want to draw your attention to a simple gospel phrase. “Mary was much perplexed” In other words Mary was puzzled. For all of her great faith she was puzzled. She believed profoundly but she was perplexed and puzzled. She had to ask herself what it all meant: conceiving a child without the benefit of man, giving birth “to the Son of the most high.” Luke: 1:32.

She had to confront her baby in a feeding trough for animals and later had to flee like a refugee to Egypt. Later, she would have to sit on the side line and watch her son move ever closer to the death he predicted. Mary had to wrestle with all of that and much more. Mary was perplexed. Mary was puzzled.

Well now my practical advent advice: Take a few conscious minutes each day of this week and “toss over” puzzle over, and wrestle with what God has told you about His-Son-in-flesh. Give a reverent mulling over each day that is left of Advent to contemplate the miracle that took place in a hidden corner of the world 2000 years ago. Mull over in your mind that most known of all biblical affirmations: “God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” John:3:16.

Ask the question – who is this child – what does it all mean to me? In the days to come let the image of Jesus Son of God in swaddling clothes trigger your thinking. Let the image of Jesus trigger your thinking about him, about yourself and about all the others who people your days. Don't analyse it all – feel it! Let Christ simply BE! Just look and love. I challenge you to spend a few minutes each day on the episode that changed history forever.

*With Advent blessings & Christmas joy.*  
**Monsignor Paul Farmer**  
*Pastor ~ St Benedict's Church*



..and Mary said  
*I am the Lord's servant  
may it be done to me  
according to your  
word*  
LUKE 1:38

Wherever and however God may speak to us,  
may we like Mary, be able to give our yes.

PRAY CHRISTMAS  
MASS  
Christmas Day @ 1.50pm  
SHINE TV  
Free-to-air TV Channel 25  
SKY TV Channel 201

### Liturgy of the Word

~ **2 Samuel 7:1-5.8-11.16** David wants to build a house for God. But instead God promises to build an everlasting dynasty for him.

~ **Psalm 88** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

~ **Romans 16:25-27** God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles has come to fulfilment in Christ.

~ **Gospel Luke 1:26-38** God's promise to David was fulfilled in Jesus.

**Next Week's readings: Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3; Psalm 127; Hebrews 11:8.11-12.17-19; Luke 2:22-40**

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 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.

#### Presiding Priest this Sunday

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

### **Christmastide at St John the Baptist**

**Monday to Wednesday (21-23 December):**

Regular Midday Mass at 12.10pm

**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**.



#### Parnell Office Hours during Christmastide

21 to 24 December 9am to 2pm

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

#### 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.

### Christmas Day Mass Shine TV

#### & Radio New Zealand

Shine Free-to-air Channel 25 and Sky TV Channel 201 will broadcast Christmas Day Mass starting at 1.50pm. Or you can listen to the Mass on Radio New Zealand 7 am and 10 pm and RNZ Concert 6 am on Christmas Day.

The Mass was recorded at the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph and celebrated by Bishop Michael Gielen. Join in the singing beautifully led by the Cathedral Choir and Vocal ensemble.

Alternatively you can watch at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/our-events/mass/>. Mass will be broadcast at 2pm the next Sunday the Feast of the Holy Family and that will conclude this current provision of broadcast Mass.

#### Diocesan Mission Map & the Diocesan Website

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

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

### 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, at [elaine@montececilia.org.nz](mailto:elaine@montececilia.org.nz) or ph 0277770632.

**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)

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

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

Fr Frank Roach, 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, Fr Martin Bugler, 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, Kanawhat (Pui) Cheevachit, Alice Swann, 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, 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, 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 Nieukerk, John Kainuku, Noline 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 . . .*

Larry Downes, Vincent Santos, June Yuong, Olga Wolk, Marge Rameka, Josephine Aitchison, Vilma Adique, Santos Adique, Karen McDonald, Aileen Fitzpatrick, Consolatrix Redillos-Ageas, Baby Eli, Elizabeth Hood, John Body, Ivan Selak, Catriona Jackson, Wim Van Het Bolscher, Jude Fernandes, Murray Tanner, Betty White, Adrian de la Santos, Lance Christian, Mary Kearns, Rosemary Weatherstone, Br Sean Hanaray FMS, John Fabling, Msgr Paul Cronin, Mary Henley, Chris Hughes, Janine Haywood, Peggy Griffiths, Cornelius Bakker, John Shea, Frederick (Buster) Bell-Booth, Julita Binuya, Milagros Logarta, Doris Mary Myers, Ella Swanson, Don Thompson,

*. . . Eternal rest grant to them.*