

# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

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

No Weekday Masses until further notice

Masses Saturdays & Public Holidays 9 am

Reconciliation ~ Saturday 9.30am

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berecz ~ Email: sberecz@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

9.30 am & 6 pm

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

NO weekday Masses until further notice

### Reconciliation

Saturday 5pm- 5.45pm by appointment only

### 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

# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PARNELL



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 LENT ~ LAETARE SUNDAY ~ 27 MARCH 2022

I once heard a priest, whose preaching I much admired, say that the problem with the parable of the Prodigal Son, or The Two Brothers if you prefer, is that we are too familiar with it. We know how it ends, and the smell of roasting fatted calf drifts back to the beginning of the story and prevents us from seeing how shocking the whole affair is.

This could well be described as a story of separation, of alienation. Two sons who have both become separated from their father. This is obvious in the case of the younger. He has demanded everything right now. Grabbed it and headed off, explicitly rejecting his father. "Give me my share of the inheritance now," after all, really means "let me live my life as if you were dead." Shocking, as I said. But the elder son, though it doesn't seem so on the surface, has also become bitterly separated, emotionally, from his father. "You never gave me so much as a young kid to celebrate with MY friends," means after all "not with you." He may live in the same house, but his heart is a long way away. But it could also be described as a story about the consequences of idolatry. The younger son has identified wealth and pleasure as the source of his happiness, and has sacrificed his relationship with his father to gain them. The elder isn't as different as he appears. He has turned his relationship with his father into simply a means to gain these things. And that is, perhaps, why he is so cross at his brother's return. Anything his brother gets now will be taken from "his share" seems to be his

concern. Both have failed to understand that their father's love is the greatest thing they can possibly have, and that it is infinite and inexhaustible. However much is given to one, there is still an infinite amount for another. "All that I have is yours" the father reminds his elder son.

This is why Jesus tells this parable to the scribes and pharisees, and invites them to see themselves in the elder brother, just as they will undoubtedly see the sinners and tax collectors in the younger brother.

They too have come to see their relationship with God as a means to an end, rather than the proper end of their lives in every sense. To complain about the mercy of God to others because it devalues what they see as their virtue. We too in this Lenten season are invited to examine our relationship with God, and ask if it is the true centre of our lives, or if it is secondary to other desires, or if it is just a means to an end.

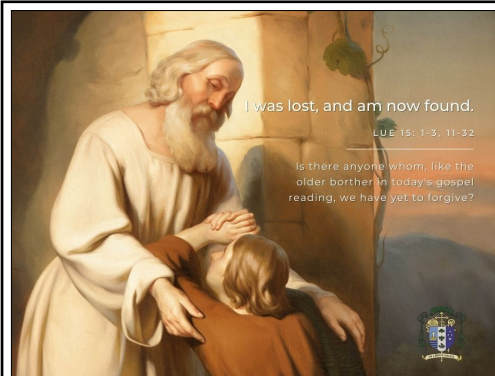
But above all we are to remember that even if we have fallen prey to either problem, the love and mercy of God are infinite and just waiting for our return.

*Lenten Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham*

~ ~ ~

### Open Synod Session

Come have your say. The Church really wants to hear your voice. Join a Synod listening group (online). Thursday 31 March 7 pm, Tuesday 4 April 10 am & Thursday 5 April 7 pm Register at: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/open-synod-sessions/>



SCAN HERE TO SIGN-IN WITH  
THE NZ COVID TRACER APP



St John the Baptist Parish  
244 Parnell Rd, Parnell, Auckland

## Liturgy of the Word

~ **Joshua 5:9-12** The Israelites, free at last from the humiliation they suffered in Egypt, enter the land of promise and partake of its produce.

~ **Psalm 33** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

~ **2 Corinthians 5:17-21** Christ brought about a reconciliation between God and humanity. The Church's task is to bring the benefits of this to all people.

~ **Luke 15:1-3,11-32** The parable of the prodigal son shows that God delights in showing mercy to repentant sinners.

**Next Week's readings: Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 125; Romans 5:1-2.5-8; Gospel: John 9:1-41**

For Sunday and weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://mobilegabriel.com) AND [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz)

### COVID19 UPDATE

In light of the recent changes to the RED settings this weekend, the following applies for everyone coming to church:

- Vaccine Passes will continue to be checked and verified.
- Face masks must be worn for the entire time whilst inside the church. Ensure this covers your mouth and nose.
- Bookings for our Masses are no longer required.
- If you are sick or unwell, please STAY home.

### Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday Vigil 5pm Fr Stephen Berecz  
Sunday 7am Fr Stephen Berecz  
Sunday 9.30am Fr Stephen Berecz

### Mass times this week at Parnell

No weekday Masses Monday to Friday  
Saturday & Public Holidays 9am

**Reconciliation**—under RED will be by appointment only. Please email the parish office.

### Stations of the Cross this Lent

The church is open on Fridays and invites everyone to pray the Stations of the Cross. Prayer leaflets are available to use beside the church side entrance.

### Pray the Rosary with us

Jesus and Mary initiated the Flame of Love Movement through Elizabeth Kindelmann, the Secular Carmelite and widowed mother of six. The Flame of Love rosary is prayed every night at 8pm on Zoom. Duration approx. 40 mins. Please text Vivienne 0211064722 for the link.

### Resources in times of COVID-19

#### Protection Framework (traffic lights)

The diocese has a page dedicated to the key information for places of worship at this time <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/covid-protection-framework/>

**Daily Reflections during Lent**—Sign up for daily reflections for Lent at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)

**Sunday Mass on TV**—the diocese continues to provide broadcast Sunday Mass. It is uploaded at 5.30pm Saturday night (as per a Vigil Mass time) to the Youtube channel Auckland Catholic <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XyFQet-mOW1mJSzfow>. It is also be broadcast on Shine TV Sundays at 2.00pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV Channel 201.

**Cathedral Spotify Page**— Spotify Music list for each of our Sunday Masses continues to be created each week. Listen for free at <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4x1yvkUkVsNgESgnS6Ka3Y?si=74e0d82664b84123>

**Mercy Parklands Chaplain Vacancy** - for a suitably qualified lay person or ordained minister to join the chaplaincy team. The team is ecumenical in nature to ensure they meet the needs of all the residents and the range of ministry opportunities.

Part-time and/or job-share options will be considered. For more details or to discuss the opportunity further, please contact Rev Andrew Bell on 0272712306 or email [abell@mercyhealthcare.org.nz](mailto:abell@mercyhealthcare.org.nz)

### Vacancies at the Diocese

#### CDA Senior Accountant & CDA Junior Accountant

To view the full adverts and the position descriptions go to [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies. Applications close 30 March.

**Mercy Parklands Chaplain Vacancy** - for a suitably qualified lay person or ordained minister to join the chaplaincy team. The team is ecumenical in nature to ensure they meet the needs of all the residents and the range of ministry opportunities.

Part-time and/or job-share options will be considered. For more details or to discuss the opportunity further, please contact Rev Andrew Bell on 0272712306 or email [abell@mercyhealthcare.org.nz](mailto:abell@mercyhealthcare.org.nz)

## CATHOLIC COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

### St Peter's College Mountain Road, Epsom

#### Catholic School for Boys Years 7-13

Applications are now open for 2023 for Year 7 enrolments in 2023, limited enrolments at other levels. Application forms and the enrolment process can be downloaded from their website. Applications close on Friday 1st April 2022 at 4pm. No late applications will be accepted. For more information and to view their online presentation visit <https://www.st-peters.school.nz>.

**Sacred Heart College**—Applications are now open for Year 7 and Year 9 for 2023. Places available in Years 7 and 9 in 2023, with Boarding available from Year 9. Enrolments close Wednesday 13 April 2022. Visit [www.sacredheart.school.nz](http://www.sacredheart.school.nz) for more information.

**St Paul's College YEARS 7-13** - Enrolments are now open for 2023 for Years 7, 8 and 9 with limited slots available for other levels. Applications close 14 April. For more information visit [www.stpaulscollege.co.nz](http://www.stpaulscollege.co.nz).

**Auckland Inter-Faith Council** - Sunday 27th March, 2pm Online Event: Let's Pray for Peace, Peace for Ukraine, Peace for Europe & Peace for Everywhere. Representatives from the various faith communities of Aotearoa-New Zealand leading us in prayers and readings. On Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81952156537?pwd=NFFPZTAwdWEwRIRsOTICRdkwbFIFQTO9>

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

Ofelia Ninofranco, Carrie Canapi, John Higgins, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Angela Robinson, Maurice Robinson, Maura Just, Alissa Neal, Ivy Hi, Avelino Tibudan, Natalie Keane, Aaron Ablan, Teresa Gudex, Lucas Arnet, Annabel Kalin, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, Samira & Raj, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Sepi Fe'ao, Ben Hunt, Emy Calma, Ana Laura Robles, Kirei Tua, Ana Denisse Manjarrez, Brian Murphy, Sue Bedford, Chris Dwyer, Christopher Hughes, Alberto Olarte, Joy Agon, Joe Raymond, Ambi Joseph, Royston Beckham, Margaret Everett, Alice Swann, Fr Andrei Centeno, John & Rosa Williams, Ann Sayegh, Marie Mole, Linda Mole, Mary Bratton, Elizabeth Beckham, Alana North, AS, Michael Wong, Yaroslav Khmel, Maree C, Anne Telles, Christopher Browne, Kanawat Cheevachit, Linus Broughton, Patricia Wright, Sue Wynne Davis, Rosily Chacko, Thilsi Vern, Neira, Judy Hanna, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Bonifacio Sanches, Jin Shu Qin, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Rosa Santos, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, Benny Clynes, Eric & Rachel Smith, BC, Jon Manson, Barry Spooner, Francisco Billinilanz, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Nicholas James, Pamela Vincent, Shane McGruddy, Michelle Bergin, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Serena Coughy, Martin Harriman, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, John Kainuku, Noeline Levick, Wilfred Mansoor, Jill Hoppgood-Luyers, Virgilia Velasquez, Baden McPherson, Rosita Galarg, Shannon Kavanagh, Gloria Gillespie.

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

Bernadette Hague, Sheila Leishman, Tom Kiely, Peter Dew, Fr Denzil Meuli, Lyn Insley, Leentje Meeuws-Marten, Alan Grey, Kuinimeli Taito Tusa, Dylan Mika, Sue Wynne Davis, Olinda Dias, John Gillespie, Brian Watt, Edna Peters, Ross Jennings, Frank Neven, Sean Nugent, Mary Davidson, Eugene Mooney, James Little, Peter Tran, Lau Yuk Wan Fong, Denis Stitch, Tom Dennehy, Len James, John Rose, Ron Boyd, Jim Redmond, Nick McNamara, Frank Cordtz, Caroline Mitchell, Rev Joe Shepherd, Ann Roper, Pamela Law, Mohi Hotene, Benjamin Martinez, Gordon Palairet, Nativitas Z Baylon, Ottilie Adelinger, Noel Fernandes, Pacita Yap, Zita D'Souza, Eulogio Avila, Mary Whitener, Mary Rahman, Gary Viskovich, Edna Cororan, Marcia Macedo, Sinead Fox, John Sullivan, Irawan Kwik, Julia Barangan, Nelida Cordeta . . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES

### COVID-19 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support as a result of the Covid-19 Virus with the payment of Attendance Dues for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest or the Revenue Manager on 09-360-3069 at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland for further information.

Application forms for the Hardship Scheme are available <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/> under the heading ATTENDANCE DUES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

### Scholarship Medical Students -The Walter Francis

**Darby Trust Scholarship**—If you are a 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> year medical student in 2022, are an active Catholic and normally reside within the Auckland Diocese you may be eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship. For more information contact Randall Ramos – [randallr@cda.org.nz](mailto:randallr@cda.org.nz)

### NZ Catholic

The latest digital issue is now available for free online: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/020aaf8c-8cb2-45cb-be32-6e89083cecec>

Some headlines for this issue: College name changed after inquiry. Three first year students at seminary. Defeat of anti-life mentality needed for peace. Major reform of the Roman Curia.