

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

Parking in St John's Car Park

Those attending Sunday or a weekday Mass 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 or Saturday Morning, you have fifteen minutes after Mass only.

CATHEDRAL OF ST PATRICK & ST JOSEPH

43 Wyndham St, Auckland CBD

Sunday Mass

8 am, 11 am, 4.30 pm & 7 pm

Children's Liturgy at 8.00 am, 11.00 am & 4.30 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



SAFE CHURCH ~ SAFE GUARDING

As Catholics we believe that every person is created in the likeness and image of God. Therefore, we continue to ensure that our parish is a place where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. We foster an environment which is welcoming, and in which all our parish whanau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia and kaumatua, feel safe. If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Felina Soldevilla and you can contact her by phone (09) 373 3132 or email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz. You may also contact the National Office for Professional Standards 0800-114-662. You may also contact the police 111.

ST BENEDICT'S NEWTON

1 St Benedict's Street (off Upper Queen St)

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6 pm & Sunday 9.30 am

Mass Filipino ACFC (Every Sunday) 11:30 am

Weekdays

Wednesday-Friday: Mass 12.10pm

Wednesday (Filipino Community) 7.30pm

First & Third Friday (Filipino Community) 7.30pm

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

St Vincent de Paul & Foodbank: 0800 680 090

So stay awake, because you do not know
the day when your master is coming.

MATTHEW 24: 37-44

What is the pattern of your life?
Do you share your time, talents and
attention with other people?



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 27 NOVEMBER 2022

'Stay awake!' is the cry that opens the season of Advent; the Gospel seeks to rouse us from the spiritual torpor to which we are prone. The difficulty of staying spiritually awake is real. In our Gospel, Jesus calls his disciples to vigilance five times and leads them in the gathering darkness to Gethsemane and bids them keep watch with him while he prays. But three times he will return to find them sleeping.

Just as physical exhaustion can come over the body, so a spiritual sleep, accidie, or sloth, can overtake the soul, a sin we don't always take seriously today. What is it, this sloth? It's a form of apathy, a neglect of our own spiritual good because of the effort involved. Jesus gives us a picture of sloth in today's Gospel. Noah labours to build an ark, a means of salvation, but the others are too caught up in their own pleasures to attend to the clouds overhead. They suspect nothing, and like it that way. Whatever their better judgement, they are simply swept along by the round of daily life until the waters of the Flood sweep them away.

We mustn't confuse sloth with idleness. In fact it's often masked by busyness, obsession with the everyday instead of, like Noah, recognising the gathering storm. If we consider the things we know we should do, but never somehow manage to find time for, perhaps we catch a glimpse of sloth, as it shuffles out of sight behind one excuse or another. "I know I should, but it's been a long day, and I'm tired, so let's leave it." Sloth says, "I really should pray, should go to confession, but it can surely wait." For one who was once told by a teacher "the trouble with you, Denham, is that your motto is never put off to tomorrow what you can put off to the day after that!" I know the problem well.

Sloth also makes us depressed at the prospect of living out the moral imperatives of our Christian life. It sours our delight in what God is preparing for us and in what he is preparing us for. If we do

not face it, it can turn ultimately to hatred of God's goodness and make us reject the very thing we should most embrace. How do we escape it? St Thomas Aquinas wrote that 'the more we think about spiritual goods, the more pleasing they become to us, and sloth dies away.' So perhaps staying awake involves thinking about spiritual goods, of what is really good for the human spirit, what is good given the fully human life we are to enjoy in heaven.

The season of Advent, taken seriously, helps in that task. It reminds us of Christ's second coming and urges us to fast (in a small way, this isn't Lent) and pray in preparation. We are to keep vigil, like the shepherds who kept a night watch on the hills around Bethlehem and who were met by the host of angels proclaiming the good news of Christ's birth. A little detachment from the busyness, the trivial, and a focus on what really matters is perhaps the heart of this Advent season. So that anticipation of the good of the Lord's first coming may prepare us for the still greater good of the second.

*Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham
Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*

Continental phase of the Synod of Synodality - has now begun. Read all about it, how NZCBC are implementing it and how you might be involved

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/>
Online Event for Oceania—The Preparatory Event *Our Ocean Home* has been scheduled for two hours on each day of November 28th, 29th and 30th from 5pm to 7pm NZ Time.

Each session explores a different theme on *Our Ocean Home*. In the spirit of the synodal process, this event is open to all.

Registration is now open.
<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-theology-and-philosophy/annual-lectures-talks-and-conferences/our-ocean-home#register>

Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 2:1-5** This vision of a world at peace under God challenges Christians to work for this new world which was inaugurated by Christ.

~ **Psalm 121** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

~ **Romans 13:11-14** This contains a wake-up call, and urges us to turn away from the darkness of evil, and to walk in the light of Christ.

~ **Matthew 24:37-44** This Gospel urges us to stay awake because we do not know the day or the hour when Christ will return.

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 121; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

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

COVID19 UPDATE

The Traffic light system has now been officially retired by the government. This means we can welcome everyone to our services without any restrictions in place. Face masks are no longer mandatory however you can still wear them when coming to church.

If you are sick or unwell, please stay home.

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday Vigil 5pm Fr Stephen Berecz

Sunday 7am Fr Tony Dunn

Sunday 9.30am Fr Stephen Berecz

Mass times this week at Parnell

Monday to Friday—no Mass until further notice

Saturday & Public Holidays 9am

Reconciliation—Saturdays 9.30am.

St Michael's Remuera Parish Mass times:

Monday to Friday 7am and 12pm

Saturday 8am

Sunday 8am, 10am and 5pm

Volunteers needed in our Parish

We are still looking to have a few more Communion Ministers and are urgently looking for Sacristans to assist the Parish Priest during our weekend Masses. Training will be provided. For more info, contact Felina at the parish office :

office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

Sunday Mass on TV—at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201. It is also uploaded at 5.30pm Saturday night to the Auckland Catholic Diocese Youtube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/aucklandcatholic>. The TV Mass this weekend comes to us from our very own Parish—St John the Baptist, led by Fr Stephen Berecz.

CDA Connect—The November issue is available to read now online.

At <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

Remembering our Dead— This November, we remember in prayer our deceased friends and family members. Please write their names on the cards provided and place them in the wooden box designated for this purpose. The box will be placed before the altar during Mass.

Columban Calendars— The 2023 Columban Calendars are now available and can be purchased from the Parish Office for \$15 each. Please bring cash or email the parish office for details if you'd like to pay online. Thank you.

Organists Needed - St John the Baptist Parish in Parnell are seeking talented organists to be part of our Music Ministry. You will be playing either on the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm or the Sunday 9.30am Mass alongside our cantor from time to time. If you are interested or know of someone who would be, please get in touch with the Parish Office, email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

St Michael's Remuera Book - A book about St Michael's church is to be published in December at a cover price of \$20. See the poster and brochures in the foyer. For information contact office@remueracatholic.org.nz or visit www.remueracatholic.org.nz/guide-book Print out will be limited so order early please.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy Christmas Traditions – Advent Wreaths & Christmas Trees. With Beate Matthies.

Monday, 5 December, 7-8pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/20/christmas-traditions/>

Stories, Films & the Bible: The Father With Fr Kevin Waldie SM. Monday, 12 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/15/stories-films-the-bible-2/>

For more information visit www.studyjoy.nz

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass

Friday 2nd December 7 pm at St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. All Welcome.

G.I.F.T. Christmas Mass

Sunday 4th December at 4.30pm at Good Shepherd Church, Telford Ave, Mt Eden. After we will share a light meal after in the G.I.F.T. Centre. All intellectually disabled friends and support people welcome.

Ngā Tapuwae - Sacred Footsteps 2023

Registrations are now open for the Northland pilgrimage from 6th January to 8th January 2023.

Visit <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/nga-tapuwae-pilgrimage/>

Contact Stephen Fraser 09 360 3052 or email stephenf@cda.org.nz

Advent Retreat Day Mary MacKillop

Retreat Centre Mission Bay

Saturday 10 December 10am – 3pm. \$30 waged/\$20 unwaged. Registrations to Sr Julian Langton by December 9th. Phone [09 528 1801](tel:095281801) or email marymackillopcentre@sosj.org.au.

Taize Prayer For Advent—Friday December 9th at 7pm at the Mary MacKillop Chapel, Mission Bay.

NZ Catholic - The latest edition of the NZ Catholic is for sale in church foyer. Price \$4.

Scholarship for Study at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the *Ruth Miller Scholarship*. This scholarship will be available for a selected number of people who intend to do one or more Theology papers at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2023. For further information about this scholarship and to receive an application form, please contact Catherine Ryan, Vicar for Education, catheriner@cda.org.nz. **The closing date for applications is Monday 12 December.**

See the Holy Land Pilgrimage

There are still some places available for a 21-day pilgrimage to Israel, Jordan and Palestine, leaving on May 2, 2023, led by Pat McCarthy, with Fr Chris Denham as chaplain. Details from Pat on patsuzie@slingshot.co.nz or (09) 480-4463. Go to tinyurl.com/43atbdjr for a short YouTube video on the trip.

Pilgrimage to Italy & Spain

5 – 28 September 2023. Chaplain Msgr David Tonks. For information visit <https://bit.ly/Pilgrimage2023ItalySpain>. To book email Laura Yap laura.yap@travelmanagers.co.nz

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

Desmond Clarke, Fr Joseph Parkinson, Craig B, Benjamin Salvador, Don Valerio Fontanilla, Malu Beltran, Jack Gibbs, Alison Foss, Gil Melling, Elenore Byrne, Angela Robinson, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Maura Just, Maurice Robinson, Neira, Ivy Hi, Aaron Ablan, Teresa Gudex, Kirei Tua, Ben Hunt, Annabel Kalin, Emy Calma, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, Samira & Raj, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Sepi Fe'ao, Joy Agon, Ana Laura Robles, Anne Telles, Ana Denisse, Christopher Hughes, Manjarrez, Brian Murphy, Sue Bedford, Alberto Olarte, AS, Joe Raymond, Ambi Joseph, Royston Beckham, Margaret Everett, Alice Swann, Ann Sayegh, Fr Andre Centeno, Alana North, John & Rosa Williams, Marie Mole, Linda Mole, Mary Bratton, Maree C, Elizabeth Beckham, Michael Wong, Yaroslav Khmel, Linus Broughton, Patricia Wright, Sue Wynne Davis, Rosily Chacko, Thilsy Vern, Judy Hanna, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Nicholas James, Maria Martho, Bonifacio Sanches, Jin Shu Qin, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Rosa Santos, Teana Jones, Benny Clynes, Eric & Rachel Smith, BC, Jon Manson, Rosita Galarg, Francisco Billinilanz, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Noline Levick, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, Pamela Vincent, Michelle Bergin, J. Harrington, Jill Hoppood-Luyers, Serena Coughy, Martin Harriman, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, John Kainuku, Wilfred Mansoor, Rodolfo Paragas, Virgilia Velasquez, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh.

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

Tony Vela, Felicity Anna Dorbu, Bernardita P Navarro, Andrew Sheedy, Sr Maureen O'Brien rsm, Alicia Chain, Michael Swann, Chew Sin Tan, Fay Hudner, Billy Plumb, Ann Mathias, Paulene Brommer, Msgr John Broadbent, Sr Maureen McBride RNDM, Fr Brian Fletcher, Heather Szarbo, Ray Columbus, Mary Ellison, Mary Carr, Stephanie Aspite, James Ropata, BJ Nathan, Norman Holland, Helen O'Shea, Phyl Dromgoole, Erlinda Gonzales, Clare Free, Margaret Williams, Rachel Fox, Jim Waldron, Ian Stephenson, Margaret Williams, Mary Mullally, Jerry & Bridie Collins, Gavin Michie, Br Kieran O'Sullivan, Jack Waddell, Rhonda McMahon, William McCoy, Pat Langdon, Walfrido Fantins, Rodrigo Fernando, David Pfahlert, Catherine Brockley, Peter Wood, Alexander Kerebs, Frank Neeling, Louis Luzuriaga, Bienvenido Kanapi, Richard Petricevich, Rosita Uy Lim, Bartolomeo Cas . . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*