

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

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

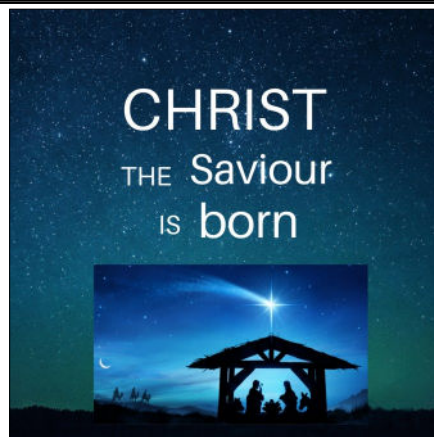
office@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz

Tel 09 3790624

www.newtoncatholic.org.nz

The Square Gift Shop: Tel 365 1693

St Vincent de Paul & Foodbank: 0800 680 090



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

CHRISTMAS 2022

It is appropriate that we begin our Christmas celebrations with an act of reverence towards the nativity scene. Because that gathering of statues and figures so beloved of our childhood is the goal of our journey to Christmas. It is our symbolic sharing in the journeys that found their end at the Lord's cradle. Mary and Joseph, having travelled down from Galilee, at last arrive weary into Bethlehem. The shepherds, making their way down from the hills in the surrounding countryside, will soon reach the stable.

A few more days and the magi will have crossed far greater distances, followed the star to this same end. And at the end of these three journeys, the child who is the glory of God and peace to men and women.

Each of these journeys captures or reflects something of even longer, harder, travels. In Mary and Joseph we see something of Israel's journey towards the Promised Land. This was the exodus journey out of slavery through a wilderness beset with trials, the darkness of infidelity to the covenant, the persecution of the prophets, dark days of foreign invasion and the desecration of God's holy nation. Encapsulated in the magi's pilgrimage, lies the gentiles' long search for God, the darkness of idolatry, and perhaps the guiding light of reason. And, then, the shepherds who live in the fields, a journey made by the outsiders of society, those on the fringes who contend against the darkness of both material deprivation and social exclusion.

All find their journey's end in the Christ child. It isn't simply that each of these travels finish at the same point, but in this common ending the travellers themselves find a new commonality. What does the angel say?

'I bring you news of great joy, that shall be for all people.'

That's why Isaiah, rejoicing that 'the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light' can prophesy that 'all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire.' For the child in the cradle is the Prince of Peace, the one in whom enmity, ignorance, and injustice will be overcome by God's grace, by the forgiveness of sins.

Many of us will not look back fondly on the year coming to an end. A year of continuing sickness, stress, and the darkness of war, a year in which the darkness in human hearts has been all too visible. And yet our journey through those times of darkness brings us to this night of joy and light, kneeling before the cradle of the Lord.

As we worship this child, sing God's praises this Christmas, we can know with relief that God has acted to save us from ourselves, to heal us of our many conflicts. And look again at where we find this new unity in Christ – in 'a joy to be shared by the whole people.' For whatever darkness we have known, tonight we see: "a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower."

May the joy of that light be with you and our families this Christmas.

Fr Chris Denham
Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph



Liturgy of the Word ~ Christmas

~ **Isaiah 52:7-10** This great hymn of exultation at the return of the exiles from Babylon is also a poem of joy for our redemption.

~ **Psalms 97** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

~ **Hebrews 1:1-6** The whole history of God's dealings with his people in the past was a preparation for the coming of his Son at a particular moment in history.

~ **Gospel John 1:1-18** This is a great hymn to the Word of God, the source of all life, whose coming among us makes us children of God.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God ~ 1 January 2022

~ **Numbers 6:22-27** Instructions given by the Lord to Moses.

~ **Psalms 66** May God bless us in his mercy.

~ **Galatians 4:4-7** Paul connects the members of the early church in Galatia directly to Jesus.

~ **Luke 2:16-21** The shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the infant Jesus lying in the crib.

Readings 8 January: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6; Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

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

Thank You

Fr. Stephen and Felina would like to thank everyone who has helped in the various Ministries this year. Your help has been truly invaluable and enhanced the celebration of our Liturgy in many ways.

We also wish to thank our Parishioners for their generosity in the many times when we have been called upon to share our blessings to those in most need of it especially at this time of giving.

May you all have a Joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year ahead.

The Printed copies of the Parish Newsletter will be back on the 22nd of January 2023.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish office closes at 2pm on Friday 30 December and will re-open on Tuesday 17 January 2023. Emails during this time will only be checked intermittently. For any urgent concerns, please contact Fr Stephen directly

sberezcz@gmail.com.

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday Vigil 8 pm Fr Stephen Berezcz
Sunday 7am Fr Stephen Berezcz
Sunday 9.30am Fr Stephen Berezcz

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. In addition to this, we look to have greeters and collectors for our Masses. For enquiries and to sign up for any of those ministries, contact Felina at the parish office: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

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

Christmas timetable at St John's

Saturday 24 December

No 9am Mass

Christmas Vigil Mass at **8pm**

(Carols start at 7.30pm)

Sunday 25 December ~ Christmas Day

Masses at **7am & 9.30am**

NO MASS on Monday 26 December

Tuesday 27 December ~ Mass at 9am

Saturday 31 December

No 9am Mass

Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sunday 1 January ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Masses at 7am & 9.30am

Monday 2 January & Tuesday 3 January
Mass at **9am**

Please Note: No weekday Masses except on the dates indicated. The regular Saturday 9am Mass will resume on 7 January.

Reconciliation also resumes on the same day and follows afterwards at 9.30am.

Christmas timetable at St Michael's

Saturday 24 December - Christmas Eve
8am Mass

*Christmas Family Mass at 5pm

*(Led by Fr Stephen Berezcz)

Carols 11pm followed by Midnight Mass
Sunday 25 December - Christmas Day

Masses at 8am, 10am and 5pm

Sunday 1 January - Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Masses at 8am, 10am and 5pm

JANUARY - Weekday Masses

Mon 26 December 2022 – Sun 29 January 2023
Monday to Friday – 7am

No Anointing of the Sick on 1st Friday.

Christmas Day 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>
Please note that there will be no Shine Masses during January.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Muffin Talk Radio Programme—recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

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.

Made for More—Join Christopher West and Mike

Mangione for a presentation that weaves music, media and sacred art for an evening of beauty and through the lens of *St John Paul II's Theology of the Body*. Wednesday 18th January 2023. Doors open at 6pm and runs from 7-9.30pm. At Sacred Heart College, 250 West Tamaki Road, Glendowie. Tickets \$37 available at Eventbrite. [Made for More NZ Tickets, Wed 18/01/2023 at 6:00 pm | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/made-for-more-nz-tickets-418012023)

Feed A Family Appeal

St Vincent de Paul support a huge number of families in wider Auckland. Feed a Family is an opportunity for you to connect with a family, and make a difference in their lives this Christmas.

You can donate by: Direct Credit

Society of St Vincent de Paul AK
ASB Bank 12-3017-0500224-00
Ref: Feed A Family. Ref: Fullname

Or visit Givealittle

<https://givealittle.co.nz/org/vinniesauckland>

To contact St Vincent de Paul and for receipts email feedafamily@stvinnies.co.nz or phone 09 815 6122.

Nine days Novena Masses for Senor Santo Nino (the Holy Child Jesus) at St Patrick's Cathedral

From January 6th to 14th 2023. Daily start is 6:40pm except Sunday which is 6 pm. The Hobson Street Car Park will be operating via Pay by Plate machines & ParkMate App. Validated parking is still available at the Durham Lane car park.

Santo Nino Fiesta Day Celebration

January 15th 2023 at EventFindA Stadium (previously the North Shore Events Centre).

Procession at 10 am; Mass at 11 am;

Sinulog & Multi-cultural presentations at 1.45pm.

Everyone welcome. For more details, contact Oscar 027 570 1139 or Miriam 027 4875 428 or visit www.santo-nino.org

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

Craig B, Benjamin Salvador, Malu Beltran, 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 Andrei 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, Thilsi 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, Noeline 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 . . .

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