

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



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

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 JOHN THE BAPTIST, PARNELL



ST BENEDICT'S
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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 ~ 18 DECEMBER 2022

Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus shows it as the perfect fulfilment of the Prophet Isaiah's words to King Ahaz in the first reading (Isaiah 7:10 -14). Matthew is putting before us a vital theme of Christian faith: that Jesus is the living presence of God in the human world.

Today's Gospel is concerned with the circumstances surrounding the conception of Jesus and the names given to this special baby. The passage focuses on the divine origin of Jesus, explained in the saying "child conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" and with his role as saviour of all humankind, proclaimed in the name Joseph is to give him.

This child is distinct and unique. He is more than the accumulated best of his ancestors. The developing story tells how this child will act distinctly as the agent of the divine Spirit and manifest in a unique way the power of God.

Matthew puts forward Joseph as a representative figure who welcomes the coming of Emmanuel. He is struck with profound humility at the mystery of what God's action may require of him and he doubts himself. Joseph's thoughts of "dismissing her privately" were not prompted by suspicion that Mary had been unfaithful - he already knew that 'she was with child from the Holy Spirit'. The dream brings with it the reassurance that he too could stand in the presence of the divine mystery, that he was not outside the providence of what God was doing; that God's grace will support him in fulfilling his mission.

If the conception calls attention to Jesus'

special place in history, so also does his name. Joseph, acting the part of the legal father, is directed by the messenger to call the child "Jesus". For non-Jewish readers like us, the narrator adds an interpretation "for he will save his people from their sins". The name, together with the title "Messiah" alerts us to the peculiar role the infant is to play throughout his ministry. He is the one who does what only God can do.

Where Jesus is, God is there, present with the people of faith and the reassurance of Divine forgiveness.

For ourselves there is the opportunity to reflect on the name given to us by our parents, acknowledging the hope and joy they saw in our births and the expectations they nurtured in us to be bearers of God's love to all. When we feel we are not living up to a life lived in Christ we can call on the intercession of St Joseph, that we too can stand in the presence of the divine mystery once again celebrated in Christ's nativity and cry out

"Come Emmanuel" - God is with us!"

Advent Blessings
Fr Stephen Berecz



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 7:10-14** This reading foretells the birth of a special child—a child who will be called Emmanuel, that is, God-with-us.

~ **Psalm 23** Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

~ **Romans 1:1-7** These opening lines from Paul's letter to the Romans draw attention to the human and divine 'roots' of Jesus.

~ **Matthew 1:18-25** This shows how the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled in Jesus.

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 97; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

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

COVID19 UPDATE

We welcome everyone to our services with no restrictions in place. Face masks are no longer mandatory but you can still choose to 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 Stephen Berecz
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—Saturday at 9.30am.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish office closes at 2pm on Friday 30 December and will re-open on Tuesday 17 January 2023.

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.

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.

Columban Calendars—are 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.

NZ Catholic - The new 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 Berecz)

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.

Marriage & Family Life - Marriage Educators needed. If you have 2 hours a fortnight and are passionate about helping engaged couples prepare for marriage & have been married for 5 years or more, phone Gerry on 021 02247442.

Caring Foundation Christmas Appeal

Give a more impactful gift this Christmas with a donation to the Catholic Caring Foundation. They provide funding for care & support of families/whanau & communities affected by poverty & hardship.

Visit www.caringfoundation.org.nz

Vacancy—Holy Cross Seminary, Auckland

—for a part-time chef for 25-hours per week over 5-days (including Sundays). Duties will include the weekly grocery shop, as well as x1 evening meal preparation for the Seminarians and Seminary Priests. The successful applicant will be required term time only (x32 weeks per year). If you are interested, send your CV with Cover Letter to office@holycross.org.nz by Sunday, 1 January 2023

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

The Infancy Narratives in the Gospel of

Matthew—with Kieran Fenn fms. Monday, 19 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-infancy-narratives-in-the-gospels/>

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

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 . . .

Don Valerio Fontanilla, Jan Laurent, Anita Butkovich, Lancette Heron, Charlie Pride, Larry Downes,

Vincent Santos, June Yuong, Olga Wolk, Marge Rameka, Ivan Selak, Josephine Aitchison, Vilma Adique,

Santos Adique, Karen McDonald, Aileen Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Hood, Consolotrix Redillos-Ageas, Baby Eli,

John Body, 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, John Shea, Peggy Griffiths, Cornelius Bakker,

Frederick (Buster) Bell-Booth, Julita Binuya, Milagros Logarta, Doris Myers, Ella Swanson, Don Thompson .

. . . Eternal rest grant to them.