

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Winter Sunday Mass Times~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 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.

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.

The Square Gift Store

(Catholic Shop)

Liston House, St Patrick's Square

43 Wyndham Street, Auckland CBD 1010

Tel: (09) 365 1693

Email: info@thesquaregiftstore.co.nz

DONATION POINT TAP

No cash but keen to donate?

You can now use the Tap & Go device located in the church foyer to give a one off donation.

This is a secure contactless donation using your eftpos/credit cards with PayWave or mobile devices with Apple Pay or Google Pay.

It is \$10 for every tap (no receipt will be issued).



St Vincent de Paul Society Foodbank Donations

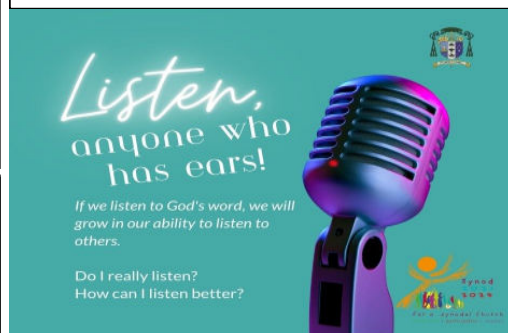
Our Parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods and personal care items. The donations basket is located on the right side of the main entrance as you go inside the church.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Contact the SVPD Food Support team at:

0800 680 090 or 815 6122

Email: foodbank@svdpak.org.nz



PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

"Prepare a way for the Lord."

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME ~ 16 JULY 2023

"And the Word was made flesh."

One of my friends has the gift of remembering scripture passages. She's the kind of person who wouldn't finish a sentence without mentioning a passage in the scriptures. She is always inspired to share the Word of God. She would talk about God's Word while at the mall, airport, airplane, on the streets, in the car, church, hospital, literally, everywhere. Her life revolves around, mainly, on God's Word. But not everybody appreciates her. Some of her friends would interrupt or cut her off, as there is tendency for her to speak quite long. I guess, that only shows how passionate she really is to share God's Word.

Preaching the Word of God is at the heart of my priestly ministry. God's Word is our source of life, strength and inspiration. Honestly, there were times when I would feel that I have not served the Word of God enough or I could have preached better and more inspirational. But these were the exact same times when someone would come to me and say they felt blessed and touched by my homily or reflection. It is very humbling to discover how in our weakness, God is still using us, through His Word, to bless and touch people's lives.

In our first reading, the prophet Isaiah tells us that God's word that came down to us like rain and snow will not return to Him void but will achieve its purpose. Sometimes it may seem that no one is interested and no one is listening. But God's Word will always be effective because that is the will of God. The parable of the seeds and the sower shows three kinds of wasted seeds, because they landed on bad soils (footpath, rocky ground and thorns), in contrast to the fruitful kind of seeds that landed on good soil. What kind of sower would do that? Why throw the precious seeds on to unproductive soils? Remember the story of prodigal son that turned out to be the story, too, of the prodigal Father? Maybe, it is meant to tell us that God actually makes no waste. It may take a bit of time, but surely and trustingly, something good is going to happen. The seeds of the Word, of goodness and of holiness sown in our hearts will eventually yield their fruits, in God's time.

Meanwhile, Paul reminds us that there will be sufferings during this present time. The Word of God and goodness will be criticized, oppressed and suppressed. But that is nothing compared to the glory that is to be revealed. Be ready, strong and steadfast. Let us be inspired by God's Word, Jesus Christ. It is, especially, during the times of tribulations and challenges that the Word of God truly becomes flesh and we should witness to it.

Blessings ~

Fr Gilbert Ramos, St Benedict's Newton



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 55:10-11** The prophet aims to lift the spirits of the exiles through this ringing affirmation of the power and effectiveness of God's word.

~ **Psalm 64** The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

~ **Romans 8:18-23** The age-old story of Adam's disobedience is the background of today's reading.

~ **Gospel Matthew 13:-1-23** The passage falls into three distinct parts: the parable of the sower, an exposition to the role of parables and an explanation of this particular one.

Next Week's readings: Wisdom 12:13,16-19; Psalm 85; Romans 8:26-27; Gospel Matthew 13:-24-43

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

This Week at St John the Baptist

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5pm Vigil Fr Stephen Berecz

Sunday 9.30am Fr Stephen Berecz

Mass times this week in Parnell

Mon to Fri – No Mass until further notice

Saturday & Public Holidays 9am

Reconciliation—Saturdays 9.30am
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St Michael's Remuera Parish Mass times:

Monday to Friday 7am & 12 pm

New Parish Bank Account

We have recently changed our bank account number to comply with the latest banking regulations. From 1 July 2023, new and one-off Donations to the Parish should be to this

New Account:

BNZ 02 0108 0705969 000

For those with existing Automatic Payments already set up prior to 1 July 2023, these will be processed as usual with the payments automatically routed to the new bank account.

Church Life Survey 2023

—Parishioners aged 15 yrs and above are encouraged to participate.

Please Scan the QR codes on display at the entrances or click on the link below to download the questionnaire online. The survey takes approximately 10-15mins to finish. [CLSNZ](https://www.clsnz.org.nz)

Holy Hour Adoration & Benediction at St

Michael's Remuera

Can you spend 1 hour with Jesus?

St Michael's Church in Remuera invites everyone to join them for a Holy Hour every 4th Friday of each month. The Holy Hour includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and communal prayer. The next Holy Hour is on **Friday 28 July, 7:00pm.**

175 Campaign – reflecting on our past by supporting those in need!

As we reflect on the diocese's 175th Anniversary, please join Bishop Steve's 175 campaign through the Caring Foundation. By donating \$175 as a parish, a family, a group of friends, or individually, you will support families and people in need throughout our diocese. To donate, please pick up a donation card from your parish foyer or visit www.caringfoundation.org.nz to donate online or to find out other ways to donate.

The Beginning Experience

ALONE AGAIN? A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood, 25-27 August. Phone Lynda 0274898003 or (09)4789742 or Kelly evenings 0276864416 www.beginningexperience.org.nz
For more info.

New CDA Connect

The latest edition is available at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

Bishop's Pastoral Council

A copy of the Bishop's Pastoral Council Newsletter is available at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/June2023-6.pdf>

Sunday Mass on TV

Sunday Mass on TV at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201
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The Women in the Bible

with Kieran Fenn fms. Mondays, 07/14/21 Aug and 04/11/18 Sep, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session or \$90/series (incl. study material).

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures/>

VACANCIES

IT Systems Administrator/Technician

The position is full time, with some flexibility around this. Applications close 21 July 2023. The role is responsible for first and second level support of the Diocese's IT systems. For more info and full description, visit the Diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/>

Prison Chaplaincy Director for the NZCBC

This is a full-time national role, providing pastoral and professional leadership and support to the Catholic chaplains who provide chaplaincy services in New Zealand prisons. For more info, visit www.catholic.org.nz/news.



Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School 2024: Scholarship.

We are excited to announce the opening of the inaugural Bishop Basil Meeking Hearts Aflame Scholarship! There are two scholarship spaces available for the 2024 School for any young adult aged 18 to 35 who wants to know more about their faith, have an authentic encounter with Christ, and meet other Catholic young adults from all over New Zealand. Visit heartsaflame.org.nz to apply before August 15, 2023

Maeve & Friends ~ A Farewell Concert

St Patrick's Cathedral, Saturday 29 July at 7 pm. A concert for Maeve Herd, our Cathedral Choir Director and Cantor. Entry is free with a retiring cash collection and digital donation options available to support Maeve's further study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

World Youth Day Auckland 2023 6 August 2pm at Sancta Maria College

Young people aged 13-30yrs old (and their youth leaders!) are invited to join us at Sancta Maria College for this unforgettable celebration of our Catholic Faith. Get ready for uplifting music, inspiring speakers, mass with Bishop Steve Lowe, a delicious (FREE) dinner, reconciliation, adoration and HUNDREDS of young people. Spread the word and register now for this taste of the international World Youth Day taking place in Lisbon, Portugal!

Go to [facebook.com/ACYM](https://www.facebook.com/ACYM) to register

Young Adults Ball 26th August 7pm at McHugh's of Cheltenham

Back by popular demand, we are excited to bring you The Young Adults Ball 2023! The theme for this year is 'Starry Night'. Standard tickets \$110 (Sales close midnight 17th August). This is an 18+ event. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/young-adults-ball-tickets-632483524247?aff=oddtcreator>

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

Francis Morais, Sallyshni Devi, Paul Mulderry, Louise Collins, Dina Miranda, Edilberto Reyes, Malu Beltran, Msgr Paul Farmer, Vivien Emery, Thilsi Vern, Gil Melling, Elenore Byrne, Neira, Ivy Hi, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Ben Hunt, Angela Robinson, AS, Maura Just, Maurice Robinson, Aaron Abla, Teresa Gudex, Kirei Tua, Emy Calma, BC, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, Samira & Raj, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Joy Agon, Alberto Olarte, Ana Laura Robles, Ambi Joseph, Alice Swann, Christopher Hughes, Brian Murphy, Ana Denisse Manjarrez, Sue Bedford, Joe Raymond, Royston Beckham, Alana North, Margaret Everett, Mary Bratton, Fr Andrei Centeno, John & Rosa Williams, Linda Mole, Jin Shu Qin, Judy Hanna, Michael Wong, Yaroslav Khmel, Anne Telles, Linus Broughton, Patricia Wright, Sue Wynne Davis, Rosily Chacko, Dawn Rocca, Nicholas James, Rosa Santos, Bonifacio Sanches, Rosita Galarg, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, Benny Clynes, Jon Manson, Eric & Rachel Smith, Francisco Billinilanz, Lynn Welsh, John Kainuku, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, Pamela Vincent, Michelle Bergin, J. Harrington, Serena Coughy, Martin Harriman, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, 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 . . .

Annette Louise Linehan, Michael Murray, Simon Gibson, Lynette Wills, Rafael Panag Llaguno Snr, Sister Palencio, Sr Margaret Timms rsm, Maria Tipene, Sr Marina Norris rsj, Frances Denham, Gertrude Ng, Msgr Ray Green, Giandomenico Ghella, William Waby, Teofilo Damasco, Mary Rajan, Marie Stevens, Karen Smith, Tilly White, Mary Ryan, Desmond O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Price, Ann Johnson, Sr Joan Timpany, Dawn Davis, Doreen Cox, Sharon Lim, Frank Antonucci, James Smyth, Fr Eugene O'Sullivan OP, Rosa Almeida, Margaret Scanlan, Joseph Flanagan, Hoani Hotene, Mary Ferrario . . . *Eternal rest grant to them..*