

## 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](mailto:sberecz@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary ~ Felina Soldevilla: phone (09) 373 3132

~ Email: [office@parnellcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz)

[www.parnellcatholic.org.nz](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 ride side of the main entrance as you go inside the church.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Contact the SVDP Food Support team at:

0800 680 090 or 815 6122

Email: [foodbank@svdpak.org.nz](mailto:foodbank@svdpak.org.nz)

THE KINGDOM OF  
HEAVEN IS LIKE A  
MUSTARD SEED

In my place no matter how small I might feel, how can I make a difference, to help bring about the Reign of God!



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 23 JULY 2023

#### Mercy in Divine Judgement

The Gospel presents us with a series of parables spoken by Jesus, each carrying profound insights into the nature of the kingdom of heaven. Reflecting on these verses one is struck by the central message of divine judgment and the importance of showing mercy to others.

In the parable of the weeds among the wheat, Jesus illustrates the coexistence of good and evil in the world. Just as the enemy sowed weeds among the wheat, representing the presence of evil amidst the righteous, we live in a world where both righteousness and wickedness exist side by side. However, the parable also teaches us about the patience of God, who allows the wheat and the weeds to grow together until the time of harvest. It reminds us that it is not our role to judge and uproot the evil around us, but rather to live faithfully and allow God's judgment to prevail in due time.

Continuing with the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, Jesus emphasizes the transformative power of the kingdom of heaven. These small and seemingly insignificant beginnings eventually yield abundant growth and influence. It reminds us that our actions, no matter how small they may seem, have the potential to make a significant impact in the world when infused with the grace of God.

Lastly, in the parable of harvest, Jesus depicts the final judgment, where all people will be gathered before God, and the separation between the righteous and the wicked will take place. This parable serves as a sobering reminder that our actions and choices in this life have eternal consequences. In the end, we will all be judged, and the measure with which we have judged others will be the same measure used to judge us.

Jesus impresses upon us through these parables: the importance of showing mercy to others. Throughout his teachings, Jesus consistently emphasized the need for compassion, forgiveness, and love towards our fellow human beings. The parables in this passage remind us that the mercy we extend to others will be reciprocated towards us in the divine judgment.

In this day and age we are called to be agents of God's mercy and grace in a world that so desperately needs it. In our interactions with others, let us strive to extend love and compassion, withholding judgment and embracing forgiveness. Let us remember that in the end, we will all be judged by the same measure with which we have judged. May we be known for the mercy we have shown, for it is through mercy that we reflect the very heart of our loving Creator.

*Blessings ~*

*Fr Stephen Berecz, St John the Baptist Parnell*



### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Wisdom 12:13,16-19** The author aims to praise God for tempering the exercise of power & justice with mercy, mildness and forgiveness.

~ **Psalm 85** Lord you are good and forgiving.

~ **Romans 8:26-27** The Spirit prays within us "with sighs too deep for words" (NRSV) that is perfectly understood by God.

~ **Gospel Matthew 13:-24-43** Like last Sunday's gospel, today's one begins with a parable, that of the wheat and weeds.

**Next Week's readings: 1Kings 3:5,7-12; Psalm 118; Romans 8:28-30; Gospel Matthew 13:-44-52**

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

#### 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)

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.

### CARING SUNDAY – 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY

Make an impact this winter and support the Caring Foundation's annual appeal this Caring Sunday. Your gift will support Bishop Steve's foundation to help those in need in the greater Auckland area and Te Tai Tokerau. Donation post cards are available in the parish foyer or visit the website for other ways to give:

[www.caringfoundation.org.nz](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz)

#### 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](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz) to donate online or to find out other ways to donate.



#### 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.

Holy Hour this month is on Friday 28 July at 7pm.

#### 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](http://www.beginningexperience.org.nz)  
For more info.

### CARING MASS – 1 AUGUST 11.30am

Please join Bishop Steve and the Foundation team for the Caring Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August at 11.30am. Mass will be celebrated at Christ the King Church, 260 Richardson Rd, Owairaka. All are warmly welcome!

### NORTH SHORE DOVE FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

invites all women to join us as we celebrate 35 years of Dove Fellowship in North Shore. We will be gathering at 10am on Saturday, 29th July at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 180 Centreway Road, Orewa. BYO lunch.



#### 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. An invitation to music lovers of all ages for an evening of song spanning the operatic, sacred, art song and musical theatre genres. 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

Sunday 6 August 2pm at Sancta Maria College  
Join us for an incredible experience at World Youth Day Auckland 2023!

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. Go to [facebook.com/ACYM](https://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'. Remember this magical evening by stopping by the photo wall where we will have a photographer ready to take some amazing shots of you and your group! Tickets \$110 (Sales close midnight 17th August).

\*This is an 18+ event. Go to [facebook.com/ACYM](https://facebook.com/ACYM) for tickets

#### New CDA Connect

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

*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, Thlisi Vern, Gil Melling, Elenore Byrne, Neira, Ivy Hi, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Ben Hunt, Angela Robinson, AS, Maura Just, Maurice Robinson, Aaron Ablan, 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 . . .*

John Cardozo, Joseph Tan, Manuel Lundon, Brucie Ngapera, Philip Daniels, Sandy McInnes, Savio Louis Pinto, Brian Farrell, Bonny Bonifasius, Brendan McFadden, Akash Anthony, Teofilo Damasco, Murray Addlington, Jennifer Spencer, Mary Matijasevich, Lyn Wolfgram, Gordon Russell, Selwyn Winters, Albie Wiggs, Cathy Mika, Marietta Brochner, Rebecca Rivers, Glenette Menzie, Anne Shanley, Sr Jean Sinclair, Sr Peggy Browne DOLC, Wenceslas Anthony, Molly O'Keefe, Epiena Lomu, Br Brian O'Kane, Fr Aquinas McComb OP, Harold Plumley, Glennis Manning, Taito Etevis McCabe, Megan Small, Maureen Hammond, Fr Chuck Gallagher SJ, Nena Dizon, Maria Lainez, Mary Neal, Anurag Jose, Fr Patrick McHugh, Mary Kurian, Agnes Pile, Nena De Guzman, Terese Van Damm, Doug Knight, Fr Gerry Cushlow, Jim Whelan, Keith Hamlin, Alphonsa Mary Joseph, Br Paul Kent, Kevin Murphy, Mabel Hogg, Ruth Dimadulae, Romeo Abcede, Rosa Almeida, Edwin Escandor, Ann Johnson, Elizabeth Price, Geoffrey Walton, Fr MacDonald MHM

*. . . Eternal rest grant to them..*