

## 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

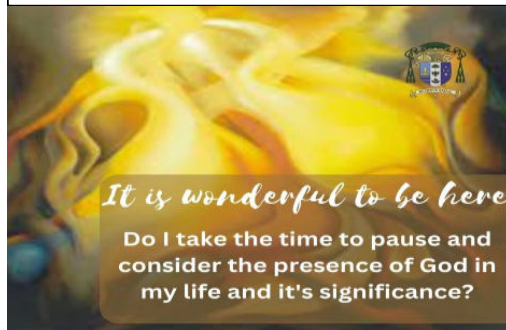
No cash but keen to donate?

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 left 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)



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

### THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD ~ 6 AUGUST 2023

This month of August is marked by two great feasts; the Feast of the Transfiguration, which we celebrate this Sunday, and the Solemnity of the Assumption, our national feast. You could very rightly argue that the theme that unites these two feasts is the holiness of the body. And that's a very necessary theme to proclaim in our world where we worship the body; degrade the body; objectify the body; surgically modify the body, but rarely consider it holy.

One of the most ancient heresies, and one that keeps returning again and again like the villain in a bad action series, is the one that says that the body is not truly good, that only the spiritual truly matters. It is one that insidiously infects much of the world even now. The British writer Mary Harrington has described the modern view as the 'Meat Lego Matrix' a world view where the body is simply a pleasure vehicle, while any inherent language of the body, any inherent meaning to sex, is dismissed. Where our bodies are just "meat avatars" in a truly virtual world.

In contrast, our faith insists on the great value of the material world and our bodies in particular. To redeem the world God took a human body; to redeem us, body and soul. Both the feast of the Transfiguration and the Assumption can be seen as affirmations of the goodness of the Incarnation and importance of our belief in a bodily resurrection.

In the Transfiguration we see the divinity of Jesus manifested in the radiance of His body, not the escape from it, and the Assumption shows us that He came to save us completely and not just spiritually: Mary is assumed body and soul into heaven. This, surely, is our true hope. Which of us thinking of those we have loved and lost would be content with just the idea of a spiritual reunion? I don't know about you, but I certainly want hugs!

As Christians we need to imagine what a world might look like where the body was considered holy again, where the body was no longer objectified, no longer mutilated, nor worshipped, but, instead, was once more seen as the sacrament of the human person, the visible manifestation of the human person made in the image and likeness of God. Imagine if we thought of ourselves like that, imagine if we thought of others like that?

In such a world there is no place for pornography, no place for human trafficking. Instead, just as we venerate the relics of saints, we might see holiness in the entire person of the communion of saints we walk amongst. Those who have heard me will know the quote that is coming, from CS Lewis: *Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbour is the holiest object presented to your senses. If he is your Christian neighbour he is holy in almost the same way, for in him also Christ vere latitat—the glorifier and the glorified, Glory Himself, is truly hidden.*

Properly understood these feasts both teach us that truth and ask us to live it.

*Blessings ~*

*Fr Chris Denham, Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*

### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Daniel 7:9-10,13-14** Daniel has a dream in which a succession of kingdom appears.

~ **Psalm 96** The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

~ **2Peter 1:16-19** This reading is an unqualified affirmation of Jesus as God's Beloved Son and an endorsement of the prophetic word of God.

~ **Gospel Matthew 17:1-9** Jesus is transformed on the mountain and his spiritual glory becomes visible to those with him.

**Next Week's readings: 1Kings 19:9,11-13; Psalm 84:9-14; Romans 9:1-5; Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33**

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 Tim Costello, SM  
Sunday 9.30am Fr Tim Costello, SM

#### 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

Please take note of our new Parish Bank Account. 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.*

#### Volunteers needed in our Parish

Vacancies for the various ministries in our parish are open. EOM, Readers, Greeters, Projectionists.

Full training and support will be provided.

Please enquire at the Parish Office.

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

#### NZ Catholic Newspaper

The latest edition is available in the main foyer for \$4 a copy. Please pay cash to the Parish Office or online through the Parish Account.

#### Sunday Mass on TV

Sunday Mass on TV at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201.

**Church Life Survey 2023**—Parishioners aged 15 yrs and above are encouraged to participate.

Click on the link below to download the questionnaire online. The survey takes approximately 10-15mins to finish. [CLSNZ](https://www.clsnz.org.nz)

#### Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage

around Auckland to the places Mary trod during her visits to Aotearoa. Beginning Meeting Room 30 Holgate Road, Kohimarama  
Saturday 12 August 10.00am finishing at 3pm.  
\$30.00 waged, \$20.00 unwaged. Registrations by Wednesday 9 August to Sr Julian Langton Ph 09 528 1801

[marymackillopcentre@sosj.org.au](mailto:marymackillopcentre@sosj.org.au)

#### Feast of St Mary MacKillop

The sisters of St Joseph invite all to a time of Prayer to honour Mary MacKillop and how her life is an inspiration for us today on her Feast Day 8 August, 5.30pm Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay. A light finger food tea will follow at the Dining Room.

#### Mass for Loss of a Child

A special Mass will be offered for those who have experienced loss of a child. Spiritual and psychological healing is necessary after the loss of a child and the Catholic Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist help to facilitate healing and to fully know God's love and mercy. St Michael's Parish, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera on Saturday 2nd September at 5pm; Reconciliation & Adoration from 4.30pm. For more information contact: Brenda Brightwell, St Michael's Parish, 027 641 5615

#### 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)

**Women in the Bible** with Kieran Fenn, FMS. Mondays, 14/21 Aug & 04/11/18 September, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Fee: \$20/session or \$90/series. All sessions are connect but also stand alone. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/10/women-in-the-bible/>

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### VACANCIES

#### Prison Chaplaincy Director

Applications are invited for the position of Prison Chaplaincy Director for the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (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. Visit [www.catholic.org.nz/news](http://www.catholic.org.nz/news) for more information. Role closes *Monday 28 August*.

#### PSG Administrator & Communications Officer

This is a part-time role of 25 hours per week with flexibility of hours between 9.am and 3.pm. For more details, and a full position description, please visit the Diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/> Applications close on *18 August 2023*.

### 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/AKCYM](https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM) for tickets

Billings Life is holding a **Natural Fertility Management** training session in Nelson on Friday 29 and Saturday 30 September for health professionals, those wishing to become accredited teachers of the Billings Ovulation Method and users of the Billings Method. To register or for further details: Phone 0800 693 378 Email: [info@billingslife.org.nz](mailto:info@billingslife.org.nz)

### Celebrating 125 years of St Joseph's Catholic Church Dannevirke

Special Jubilee Mass & luncheon on Saturday the 14th October, followed by a special Mass Sunday 15th October. Please register your interest by emailing [stjodvke@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stjodvke@xtra.co.nz) with your details no later than 10 September 2023.

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

Elsa J Obillos, Sallyshni Devi, 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 Ablan, Teresa Gudex, Kirei Tua, Emy Calma, BC, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, Samira & Raj, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Joy Agon, Francis Morais, 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 Coughney, Martin Harriman, Ann Gordon, Adelaide Sison, Wilfred Paragon, Rodolfo Paragas, Virgilia Velasquez, Paul Mulderry, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh.

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

Judy Healy, Arthur Cole, Oralia Sieglar, Anthony Baptista, Stephen Nuimata, Stephen Orbell, Wendy Peters, Don Matthews, Matthew Chen, Fr David Whelan MHM, Bishop Stuart O'Connell SM, Anne Medrano, Kerry Lock, Mary Farmer, Ron Wilkie, Jim Robie, Kevin O'Connor, Myrna Rebanco, Brian Farrell, Kitty McKewen, Margaret Craddock, Nada Druskovich, Nikola Druskovich, Adriana Veronese, John & Ellen Sullivan, Alois Ayan, Pat McKinnon, Regina Tan, Eileen Hall, Marika Abbosh, Jack Toland Snr, Peter Collins, Louise Butler, Wendy Poland, Letizia Napoli, Enrique Ayllon, Fr Neville Browne, Emma Haulsell, Oscar Miranda, Lorna Bergin, Verma Devlin, Penisula Reuelu, Jeremy Clarke, Hoani Hotene, Fuifui Smith, Leoncio Sambayan, Keanu Michaels, Neptali Marcos, Rosalina Collardo, Anna Mariyanayagam, Quirino Balujadia, Dennis O'Reilly, Lodewijk Widarma, Ronald Grinter, Mahuika Allison, Yohanes Setio, Marutuna Ranapiri, Michael Murphy, Edmundo Oracion, Jocelyn Quinnell, Patricia Caddell, Maria Mununar, Cholita Miranda-Hipolito, Enrico Domingo, Richard Haslett, Wikitoria Anderson, Corazon Jucaban-Cambronero. . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*