

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 7am & 9.30 am

No Weekday Masses until further notice

No Saturday Morning Mass & Reconciliation until further notice

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

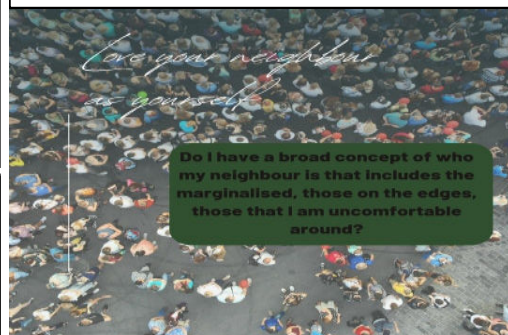
Our Parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods and personal care items. The donations basket is located on the right side of the main entrance as you go inside the church.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Contact the SVDP 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."

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 1 OCTOBER 2023

A man had two sons... No, not those two, another two! Our thoughts, perhaps automatically, turn to the parable of the prodigal son when we hear those opening words, but this is a different parable. It seems that Jesus liked using the image of two contrasting sons in his preaching. Perhaps to remind his hearers that everyone to whom the message is preached is a child of God, the loving Father.

But this particular parable deals with different answers to a call. A British satirical programme a few years ago had a piece which responded to a claim that a particular politician didn't have the answer by saying that: "he had an answer, he just hadn't shown his working." A fairly common complaint about political promises all over the world these days, maybe.

But the issue isn't confined to politics, after all. The distinction between talking about something, and actually doing it, is universal. And Jesus made clear the importance of doing: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." But this isn't what this Gospel passage is really about. It's about what happens when we recognise, or don't, that we have failed to do what we promised.

Jesus is addressing this parable to the pharisees. The Pharisees were religious rigorists, who wanted everyone to keep the law of Moses – nothing wrong in that, of course, but they tended to look down on people who didn't keep the law as they did.

The prostitutes and tax collectors who responded to John's call to repentance had made a bad start: being a tax collector, extorting your own people in the context of the time, or selling your own self and your sexuality on the street were definitely not good things. But in repentance, they recognised their faults and showed their desire for something new and better. They showed that they, after all, wanted to live the way of righteousness that John preached. They wanted their Father's will.

The Pharisees, however, rejected John. They didn't see the need for repentance in their own lives and they didn't think it was right to spend time with sinners. They wanted to encourage the strong and live pure lives, rather than to bind up the weak. They believed so strongly in their own cause that they forgot the Scriptures, where they could have read of God's forgiveness for those who repent.

In doing this, they showed that, after all, they didn't want the Father's will. They had said yes, but they weren't going to go. They didn't accept the power and the importance of repentance and forgiveness. It is easy to identify the dramatic sins of others, the tax collectors and prostitutes. It is less easy to recognise that our own, less dramatic, sins are just as much in need of repentance and forgiveness. But when we do, when we recognise our need of God's forgiveness, we really are doing our Father's will.

*Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham
Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*

Liturgy of the Word

- ~ **Ezekiel 18:25-28** The Lord responds to those who complain about fairness. God's ways are just.
~ **Psalm 24** Remember your mercies, O Lord.
~ **Philippians 2:1-11** Encouraged by Christ's love, unity, and compassion, we're urged to be of one mind, considering others above ourselves.
~ **Gospel Matthew 21:28-32** Jesus presents a parable of two sons asked to work in a vineyard.

Next Week's readings: Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 79; Philippians 4:6-9 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43
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 Philip Sullivan
Sunday 7am Fr Tim Costello, SM
Sunday 9.30am Fr Philip Sullivan

Mass times this week in Parnell

Mon to Fri – No Mass until further notice
No Saturday 9am Mass & No Reconciliation
this weekend

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St Michael's Remuera Parish Mass times:

Monday to Friday 7am & 12 pm

Fr Stephen Away

Fr Stephen is away until 8 October. The weekend Masses (Saturday Vigil 5pm, Sunday 7am & 9.30am) will continue as normal. There will be **NO 9am Mass and Reconciliation on Saturdays** during this period.

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

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



Safe accommodation required

Professional woman in her 30's, parishioner of St Michael's, using public transport, seeking room or flat to rent in her work area, either Epsom, or a neighbouring suburb. Please contact 022 360 6569.

Sunday Mass on TV

Sunday 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>

Seminar on Loss, Suffering and Death

At St Michael's Remuera Parish Centre on Wednesday, 25 October 7pm. Registration forms are available in the Church Foyer or through their website: <https://www.remueracatholic.org.nz/events/seminar-loss-suffering-death>

Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat Centre:

Time Out Days – For those who seek a day retreat - 9:30am – 2:30pm
(\$30 includes lunch) Tue 3 Oct | Wed 1 Nov

Contemplative Prayer Retreat- Want to deepen your faith? Join us to learn about fruits of the journey of meditation in the Christian Tradition | Sat 7 Oct 10am-4pm | Earlybird (before 23 Sep) \$65 | Standard (after 23 Sep) \$85.

For more info/dates and to book visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or call 09 625 6651

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The New Zealand Catholic Methodist Dialogue Committee invite you to join a **Liturgy of**

Repentance and Reconciliation.

Preacher: Bishop Steve Lowe.
Wednesday, 25 October 7.30 pm
Methodist Church, 427 Lake Road, Takapuna.

Invitation from the Sisters of Mercy

The Sisters of Mercy invited all those pondering religious life to **'Prayer and Meal' Evening**. Mass will be celebrated by Fr Chris Skinner.

Wednesday 4th October 2023 6.30pm at Hou Mana Wai – Mercy Well-springs 104 The Drive, Epsom All are welcome! Contact: 021 0360781

Volunteering– Salesians of Don Bosco

Long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close October 31st, 2023. For enquiries visit <https://www.cagliero.org.au> or email lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

Volunteers required. Our Diocesan Archives protect records and artefacts dating back to the earliest days of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa NZ is moving from a paper-based catalogue to digital. This is not a paid role. For more details, please contact Keith on 09 360 3064 or keiths@cda.org.nz

Vacancy Convent Security Office Baradene College, Remuera

This special role requires the night Security Officer to live onsite. Accommodation in lieu of salary is included in the 2 year contract. For full details please visit the CDA Website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/>. Closing date: **20 October 2023**

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass

Friday 6th October 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. All Welcome.

The Ethnic Chaplaincies Annual Festival

is back! It's all happening at Sancta Maria School and St Luke Church, Flatbush, Sat 7th – Sun 8th October 2023. Book this date! Get involved in your ethnic communities! If you want to be involved in the organising/volunteer email louisar@cda.org.nz

Open Home at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre

An invitation to an open home at The Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New St, St Mary's Bay on the 9 November from 4.00-7.30pm. It will be an opportunity to engage with staff, explore some of the archival treasure, enjoy a snack, purchases liturgical resources and more.



General Election

Make a conscious voting decision this general election by being informed in the light of faith through the Gospels and Catholic Social Teaching. Please refer to the leaflet 'Your Vote Counts' issued by Bishop Lowe and the Justice & Peace Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland which you can find at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/care-of-the-poor/justicepeace/>

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

Linus Broughton, Dawn Rocca, Royston Beckham, AS, Margaret Everett, Lyn Sparks, Ian Werder, Maryke Lind, Joy Mitchell, Francis Morais, John Kainuku, Christopher Browne, Serena Coughy, Adelaida Sison, Rita Lopez, Wayne Barden, Mary Bratton, John & Rosa Williams, Michael Wong, Yaroslav Khmel, Rosa Santos, Linus Broughton, Dawn Rocca, Royston Beckham, AS, Margaret Everett, Lyn Sparks, Ian Werder, Maryke Lind, Paul Mulderry, Louise Collins, Judy Hanna, Neira, Thilsi Vern, Ivy Hi, Dina Miranda, Edilberto Reyes, Malu Beltran, Vivien Emery, Gil Melling, Teresa Gudex, Corazon Villanueva Misa, Ben Hunt, Angela Robinson, Anne Telles, Kirei Tua, Maurice Robinson, Maura Just, Aaron Ablan, Alice Swann, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, John Sullivan, Joy Agon, Lynn Welsh, Samira & Raj, James L. Cu, Linda Mole, Alberto Olarte, Ana Laura Robles, Brian Murphy, Christopher Hughes, BC, Ana Manjarrez, Sue Bedford, Joe Raymond, Patricia Wright, Sue Wynne Davis, Ann Gordon, Nicholas James, Bonifacio Sanches, Rosita Galarg, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, Benny Clynes, Eric & Rachel Smith, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Virgilia Velasquez, Shannon Kavanagh.

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

Peter Healey, Ian MacAndrew, Howard Trenwith, Fr Phillip Handforth, Luming Dorado, Connie Garcia, Maurice Aldridge, Jocelyn Franklin, Stephen Nobilo, Fidel Dionisio, Albert Smits, Jill Perry, Joan Little, Sr Moira Feeney rsm, Sr Lorraine Challis OP, Tony Brown, Sr Margaret Maher RSCJ, Mary Ashton, Margaret Foster, Teresa Fisher, Florence Neven, Hugh Laracy, Neville Williams, Conchita Benitez, Msgr Vincent Hunt, Joan Gillies, Bobby Gee, Fr Lawrie Sakey, Ken Giblin, Brian Fitzpatrick, Mark Fitzpatrick, Mary McDiarmid, Matija Selak, John Rountree, Ruru Hotene Karnuth, Emmanuel Santos, Ann Melendes Tuazon, Senia Auva'a, Karen Cipriano, Donna Carreon, Walter Homan, Sue Neal, Cameron Murphy, Pat Hendry, Delfino Labay, Patrick Early Snr, Kaz Wisniewski, Maria Lette, Phyllis Revel, Kathleen Wiles-Pickard, Fr Peter Kay, Zita Kean, Edward Waldron, Kathleen Vanniselroy, Anna Mlekusch, Pamela Muffty, Marie Wratt, Anne Mayall, Rosemary Eller, Jim Walsh, Irene Roca, Austin Donegan, Kalala Fuimaono, Benjamin Mendoza, Josefina Abellana, Fr Leo Downey, Fr Philip Catchside IC

. . . Eternal rest grant to them..