

## 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

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).

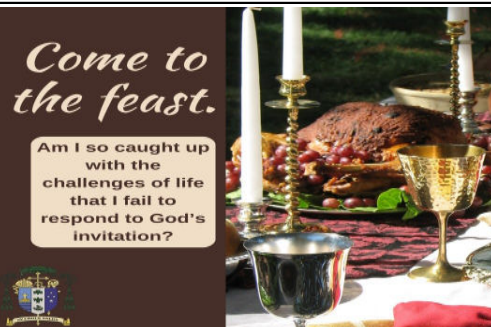
### St Vincent de Paul Society Foodbank Donations

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)



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 15 OCTOBER 2023

Matthew's Gospel this week presents the Parable of the Wedding Feast, a thought-provoking narrative that carries profound lessons about spiritual invitation, response, and readiness. This passage speaks of a king who prepares a wedding feast for his son and invites many guests. However, when the time comes, those invited show disregard and reject the invitation. The king then sends his servants to invite anyone they can find, both good and bad, filling the wedding hall with guests. Yet, one guest is found without proper wedding attire and is cast out into darkness.

This parable offers insights into the nature of God's invitation and humanity's response. The initial refusal by those invited mirrors the way some reject God's call due to worldly distractions or preoccupations. It emphasizes the importance of recognizing and prioritizing the divine invitation, as well as the potential consequences of ignoring it.

The second part of the parable highlights God's inclusivity and grace. The king's decision to invite both good and bad to the feast illustrates God's desire for all to come to Him, regardless of their past or social status. This reflects the message of Jesus, who often associated with those considered outcasts by society.

The parable also underscores the importance of preparedness and sincerity. The guest without proper attire symbolizes those who approach God's invitation casually or hypocritically. This teaches us the significance of genuine repentance and a sincere heart when responding to God's call.

The conclusion of the Parable, where the unprepared guest is cast into darkness, serves as a sobering reminder of the ultimate consequences of rejecting God's offer of salvation. It reminds us of the importance of a transformed life and the need to continually grow in faith and righteousness.

As we reflect on today's Gospel, we are prompted to examine our own responses to God's invitation. Are we wholeheartedly accepting His call, or are we allowing worldly distractions to deter us? Are we embracing His grace and extending it to others, irrespective of their background? Are we approaching our faith with sincerity and authenticity, or are we merely going through the motions?

In summary, Matthew invites us to consider the depth of God's invitation, the inclusivity of His grace, and the necessity of genuine preparedness. It challenges us to evaluate our responses to God's call and encourages us to live with intentionality and authenticity in our spiritual journey.

*Blessings ~ Fr Stephen Berecz, St John the Baptist Parnell*



### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 25:6-10** The LORD promises to provide abundantly for all and remove obstacles that blind nations. All will recognize and rejoice in God's salvation.

~ **Psalms 22** I shall live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life.

~ **Philippians 4:12-14,19-20** Paul expresses contentment in all situations, whether in scarcity or plenty.

~ **Gospel Matthew 22:1-14** Jesus shares a parable about a king who hosts a wedding feast for his son.

**Next Week's readings: Isaiah 45:1,4-6 Psalm 95; Thessalonians 1:1-5 Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21**

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 7am 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 - Saturday 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

#### 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)



#### 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>

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.

### 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) Wed 1 Nov | Thu 7 Dec

24Hr Quietude - For those who seek a short

retreat – Fri 7pm – Sat 7pm Nov 10th /11th

(\$120pp incl accommodation + food)

For more info/dates and to book visit

[www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz](http://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz) or

call 09 625 6651

#### Titipounamu Study & Joy

The Gospel of Mark with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 13 and 20 November, 7-8.30pm.

ZOOM. Free. Donations/Koha are appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/10/10/the-gospel-of-mark/>

#### Columban Calendars 2024

Is now available and can be purchased from the Parish Office for \$15 each. Please bring cash or email the parish office for details if you prefer to pay online.

#### Family Life Catholic Gifts

Are having a special sale this month of the Holy Rosary - 20% off all Rosaries. Sale runs from 1st to 14th October. Visit their shop at 569 Richardson Road, Mount Roskill 1041 or go to [www.catholicgifts.co.nz](http://www.catholicgifts.co.nz).

When the Synod Assembly opened in Rome, Pope Francis published *Laudate Deum*, an Apostolic Exhortation building on his 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The Latin title translates to *Praise God*. It is fully titled:

*Apostolic Exhortation Laudate Deum of the Holy Father Francis to all people of good will on the climate crisis* A copy of *Laudate Deum* can be read online at : <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/10/04/231004a.html>

### Foundations of Christian Leadership

Three webinars offered by Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College.

Dates: 31 October, 7 & 14 November.

For more information email: [events@ctc.ac.nz](mailto:events@ctc.ac.nz)

#### RUTH MILLER SCHOLARSHIP for STUDY at TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the **Ruth Miller Scholarship** for study at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College. For info & applications, please email: [scholarships@cda.org.nz](mailto:scholarships@cda.org.nz). **Closing date for applications is 18 NOVEMBER 2023.**

#### VACANCY - Te Kupenga College

Te Kupenga Catholic Leadership Institute is inviting applications for the **Operations Manager position**. For info visit: <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/uncategorized/we-are-seeking-for-operations-manager/> Application closes on **Friday 20 October 2023.**

#### 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.**

### The Upper Room' Young Adults Evening,

**Thursday 19 October** Young adults, join us for an evening of fellowship and formation on Thursday 19 October, 7pm, at Good George Mission Bay. Tickets are \$10 and you can find all the details at [www.facebook.com/AKCYM](http://www.facebook.com/AKCYM)

#### AGM, Catholic Women's League Orakei – Eastern Suburbs

Everyone is invited to the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023, starting with Mass at 10am at St. Joseph's Church, Orakei; Morning Tea & lunch provided. Cost: \$20 includes charity. For info & confirmation; how to pay, ring Tina Raines on 021 940 950/09-5212499 or email: [tinraines@orcon.net.nz](mailto:tinraines@orcon.net.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.

#### 25th November 2023

#### Gaudete: Advent & Christmas Carols

**3pm - 6pm Saturday.** Sir Woolf Fisher Arena (770 Great South Road, Manukau 2104) For All Ages | Donation / **Entry by Koha** | Free Parking Available Caring Foundation Christmas Appeal.

*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 Coughey, 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 Clynnes, 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 . . .*

Ernesto Manacap Tubal, John Griffen, Clemence Crummer, Demetrio C. Bolante, Von Phillipps, Cesar Budoy, Virginia Calamucha, Sylvia Worth, Josie Gillies, Alma Sands, Innes Colegrove, Kathleen Sharkey, Sharon Lim, Grant Hutchinson, Januaria Contreras, Mary Brittenden, Siaganoa Availepule, Ligaya Juarez, Cyril Breslin, Bernardo Gomez, Maureen Godon, Jojo Deguit, Pat Glamazina, Trinidad Antolin, Johnny Austin, Kevin Gould, Russell Nelson, Johannes Wijoko, Joe Coleman, Michael Hontiveros, Patricia Borg, Joseph Ang, Barbara Richardson, Florence Gomez, Victoria Cano, Consuelo Katigbak, Felizardo Gacad, Mary Fernandez, Sr Maria McDonald OP, Nancy Kelly, Eric Kolhase, James Hurley, Jet Carib, Des Rosser, Rosemary Griffen, Margaret McLean, Kath Clarke, Ann Foss, Lorie Ayao-Shields, Theresa Kemp, John Barret, Patricia Maher, Rose Blacklock, Gwen McCarthy, Rodolfo De Asis, Maureen McQuoid, Alice Murphy, Kathleen Reardon, Fr Ernie Milne, Jimmy Nicoll, Reenie Fernandez. . . *Eternal rest grant to them..*