

## 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

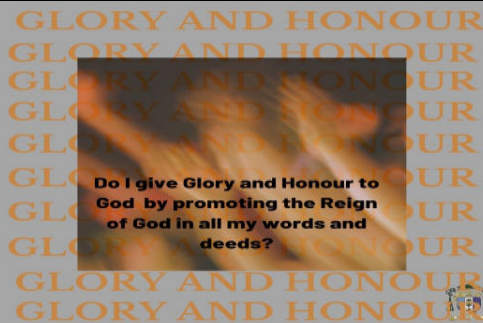
Our Parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods and personal care items. The donations basket is located on the right side of the main entrance as you go inside the church.

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



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 22 OCTOBER 2023

Shakespeare once wrote, "Misery acquaints a man with strange bed-fellows," and the same is true with hatred and jealousy. The Pharisees and the Herodians were people who represented opposite political views. While being unnatural associates, they come together to trap Jesus. The Pharisees opposed paying taxes to a foreign king as an infringement of the 'divine right of God'. The Herodians on the other hand, while supporting Herod the Great, favoured collaboration with the Romans and paying taxes to Caesar. The followers of Jesus on the other hand hated the Romans for both theological and economic reasons. Jesus is trapped between the rock and a hard place of sneaky alternatives. The question, "Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" was a double-edged sword that would slice Jesus on either side! The Pharisees-Herodians alliance is malicious from the start. They are neither interested in God nor in taxes. They were out to trap Jesus.

However, their trap fails. Jesus asks for a coin and traps them with another question, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" The Pharisees who opposed paying taxes to Caesar have their pockets full of Roman coins. Jesus' pockets are empty of coins, since he is an itinerant vagabond without land or fixed employment! They knew the likeness and the image on the coin. It was stamped with a profile portrait and read, *Tiberius Caesar, Divi Augusti Filius Augustus*, and on the reverse, *Pontifex Maximus*.

Those who used these coins, engraved with religious and political images, became slaves of the Roman system. They recognised the emperor's sovereignty. Jesus is free. He is not a subject of Caesar's empire; Jesus belongs to God's reign. Jesus answers them, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." The coins were stamped with Caesar's image, but every human being is stamped with God's image. Jesus was simply telling them to fulfil their obligations to the tax collectors. But Jesus also implied strongly don't leave in Caesar's hands what belongs to God. Jesus stressed on the need for one's primary duty to God. We are first 'citizens' of heaven and then 'citizens' of the earth. But, what really belonged to Caesar? Everything really belonged to God. We too are caught in the trap of independent spheres of power and obligation. Let not God's Kingdom find second place in your life. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and all the rest will fall in line."

*Blessings ~ Fr Glenford Lowe, Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph*

### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 45:1,4-6** The Lord empowers Cyrus for Israel's sake.

~ **Psalm 95** Give the Lord glory and honour.

~ **Thessalonians 1:1-5** Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy greet the Thessalonians, offering thanks for their faith, love, and hope.

~ **Gospel Matthew 22:15-21** The Pharisees tried to trap Jesus with a question about taxes to Caesar.

**Next Week's readings: Exodus 22:20-26 Psalm 17; Thessalonians 1:5-10 Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40**  
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 Tony Dunn  
Sunday 9.30am Fr Stephen Berecz

#### Mass times this week in Parnell

Monday 23 Oct (Labour Day) 9am  
Tues 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>

#### Holy Hour at St Michael's Remuera

The next Holy Hour with Adoration, Benediction & Communal Prayer is at 7pm on Friday 27 October in St Michael's Church.  
Everyone welcome.

### 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>

### 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/>

When the Synod Assembly opened in Rome, Pope Francis published *Laudate Deum*, an Apostolic Exhortation building on his 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. A copy of *Laudate Deum* can be read online at : <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/10/04/231004a.html>

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#### 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 if you prefer to pay online.

#### NZ Catholic Newspaper

The latest edition is available in the main foyer for \$4 a copy (unchanged for 8 years). Please pay cash to the Parish Office.

### 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)

### SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Jubilee Bursary** is offered for theological and religious education studies. **Applications close 18 November 2023.**

**Ruth Miller Scholarship** 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. **Closing date for applications is 18 November 2023.**

For info & applications, please email: [scholarships@cda.org.nz](mailto:scholarships@cda.org.nz).



### VACANCY - Marriage and Family Life Administration Assistant

The role involves liaison with Marriage Educator couples and engaged couples, administration, preparation of course material & some hosting at courses. This is a part time role of 16hrs/week, with occasional evening and weekend work. Please visit the Diocesan website [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) for more info.

### 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.

### Requiem Mass for All Souls

All are welcome to attend a Mass for the Faithfully Departed - All Souls, 7 pm Thursday, 2 November, at St Patrick's Cathedral, 43 Wyndham Street. Validated parking will be available at the Wilson car park on Durham Lane (\$3). Parking with a discounted rate (\$4.50) available at the Hobson Street (Farmers) Car Park using the ParkMate App only. Download the App, register your details and use the Code: STPATS to access this discount.

### Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitemui Ave, Mt Albert. All Welcome.

### 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 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, Thils 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 . . .*

Tom Keane, Eileen Keane, Tony Wu, Mabel Thomson, Von Phillips, Conrad Saldanha, Brian Philipps, Jose Tlentino, Henryk Wolk, Isabel Rodriguez, John Pakistan, Fr John Airey CSSR, Fr John Berry, Dan McCarthy, Denham Shale, Paul Austin, Eulalio Daguman, Rosa Romualdez, Mario Samala, Billy Plumb, John Gordon, Faustino Calvelo, Bill Mudgway, James O'Grady, Violet Sinkovich, Trinidad Antolin, Eileen O'Brien, John Geddes, Jo Walsh, June Courtney, Luke Tipene, Brian Claney, Tarun Asantha, Campbell Adams, Paul Gallagher, Janis Coleman, Carolina Noionha, Ann Marian, Carmel McCarthy, Cheekeong, Pat Insley, Mary Conning, Shirley Loretz, Shaun McKay, Terence Abreo, Rosann Laird, I Antoniraj, Rosemary Mohi, Jim Waldron, Dallys Horne, Helen McLaughlin, Bishop John Cuneen, Jim Butterworth, Fr Michael O'Hara, Ester Rian, Leonard Lanigan, Monthi Fernandes, Margaret Chapman, Jillian Paterson, Steve Noonan, Margaret McLean, Maria do Carmo Noronha, Dorothy Bowerman, Phyllis Bloomfield

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