

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

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."

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 29 OCTOBER 2023

Immediately after Jesus makes a great proclamation and defense of the resurrection to the Sadducees, who wished to deny it, he is called on by the scribes and the Pharisees to discuss the Law. They do not deny the Law, far from it; indeed, they are obsessed by it. So they want to use it as a test of Jesus.

And Jesus, it seems, passes the test. That love of God and neighbour is the best summary of the Law is something they can agree on. And it seems all agree upon what love of God and neighbour should be, but how does that love appear in the life and death of Jesus? Those experts on the Law know what it is to love God and to love their neighbour. Yet with, and despite this knowledge, these people will execute the very person who is both Son of God and Son of Man. Is that love?

In the death of Jesus we see the gap between what we know about love and what we do. The cross reveals humanity, all of us, to be the kind of creatures that can torture and crucify even the Son of God. That is surely one of the most painful truths of the Christian faith; it is lost or denied when we try to pass off the blame on "bad people" or some specific group we can target and label – Jews, Muslims, "racists", "gangs", someone else, in other words, not us. The reality of sin is that "good people" do bad things.

Ironically however, the cross is itself the true interpretation of these core commandments. The British theologian Herbert McCabe often insisted that the way of the cross is just what love of God and neighbour looks like in our fallen world. The uncomfortable truth is that we too must take up our crosses if we are to love, forgive, heal, and so worship God in spirit and in truth. We can expect scorn and even persecution because that's what love can trigger in a world of sin.

In which case, we can see again why this last question put to Christ leads to his questioning of the Pharisees. If we are really in the business of loving God and neighbour, we shall need the power and the grace of the Messiah. It is not enough to have a humanistic ethic, or to tick off a set of instructions found in the Law. There is no political programme or set of laws that will make the world good.

The 'great and the good' in our secular materialistic society grossly under-estimate the forces of evil which confront us. We depend on God's grace in history, the power of the Messiah at work in our lives, and in the Church, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. That is the only way we can truly love God and neighbour. And so we should pray for that grace each and every day.

Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham
Dean, Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph



Liturgy of the Word

~ **Exodus 22:20-26** Do not oppress aliens, widows, or orphans; I will hear their cries.

~ **Psalm 17** *I love you Lord, my strength.*

~ **Thessalonians 1:5-10** You followed our example and the Lord's, receiving the word even in hardship.

~ **Gospel Matthew 22:34-40** A scholar tests Jesus on the greatest commandment.

**Next Week's readings: Malachi 1.14-2.2,8-10 Psalm 130; Thessalonians 2:7-9,13
Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12**

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 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. New and one-off

Donations to the Parish should be made 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

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>

The Anglican and Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa

New Zealand, meeting together in Wellington last week, jointly express their horror at the latest acts of violence and join international voices in calling for an immediate ceasefire.

<https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/anglican-catholic-bishops-gaza-statement/>

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 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>

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.

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass

Friday 3rd November at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

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.

VACANCIES at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland

University Ministry Coordinator - full time.

Youth Ministry Officer - full-time.

Marriage and Family Life Admin Assistant - this is a part time role of 16 hours per week with occasional evening and weekend work.

Mt Eden Corrections Facility - Catholic Prison Chaplaincy - permanent part-time position of 32 hours per week, Monday to Thursday with the expectation of some Sundays per month for Sunday Services.

Applications close 17 November 2023.

To learn more about these positions, please visit:

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Parish Coordinator Vacancy

Applicants must have the right to work in NZ and have a NZ drivers licence. For more information, please contact the Parish Priest, Fr Craig Dunford by email office@flatbushcatholic.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.

Requiem Mass for All Souls

7pm 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.

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.

For more information Contact: (09) 360 3061 | liturgycentre@cda.org.nz or visit our webpage:

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/gaudete

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Auckland Divine Renovation

Our final event for the year.

Join us as we watch the recorded session of Revival and Renewal Watch Party.

6pm at 30 New St – Ponsonby Monday

6th November. Dinner provided. Please register at Divinerenovation/events. For more info contact

Cheryl Surry on

Cheryl.surrey@divinerenovation.org or

Stephenf@cda.org.nz

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

Chonusi William, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, 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, Adelaide 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, 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 . . .

Archbishop Patrick Coveney, Chris Dunn, Sr Theresa Schaumkell rsm, Helena Vollebregt, Camillia McLaughlin, Paul Walker, Moira Gleeson, Rogelio Beltran, Ros Nielson Webb, Sr Elizabeth Maher rsm, Aileen Clark, Bob Van Lunenburg, Sr Margaret Ellen, Des Clarke, Doreen Plumb, Colin Leathley, Pat Geary, June Courtney, Paul Austin, Ann Marian, Rosann Laird, Carolina Noionha, Carmel McCarthy, Cheekeong, Mary Conning, Shaun McKay, Venerable Catherine McAuley

... Eternal rest grant to them..