

## 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 9am Mass & No Reconciliation until further notice

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berez

~ Email: [sberez@gmail.com](mailto:sberez@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)

**Well done good and  
faithful servant**



Am I using my gifts in the service of the kingdom?



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

### THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 19 NOVEMBER 2023

Matthew's Gospel presents a parable that carries profound lessons about the utilization of God's gifts and the pursuit of wisdom. This passage encourages us to reflect on how we manage the talents and abilities entrusted to us by the Divine, and how our choices can either lead us towards a life of purpose or down a path of missed opportunities.

In this parable, a master entrusts his servants with various talents, each according to their abilities. The servants who received five and two talents put them to work and doubled their assets, while the one who received only one talent buried it out of fear. The master praised the diligent servants for their wise use of his gifts, but the fearful servant was cast into the darkness.

The reading inspires us to consider the way we steward the gifts and resources God has bestowed upon us. It highlights the importance of recognizing our unique talents and abilities, and the responsibility that comes with them. Just as the diligent servants multiplied their talents, we are called to invest our gifts, be it time, skills, or resources, wisely. Through proactive and purposeful action, we can grow and make a positive impact on the world.

The challenging aspect of this parable lies in the fear and hesitancy of the one who buried his talent. Many of us can relate to times in our lives when we've hesitated to take risks or remained complacent. Our desire for a 'quiet life' or a fear of failure can lead us to squander our potential. This reluctance to embrace opportunities and fulfil our true purpose can ultimately distance us from the richness of a meaningful life and separate us from the divine feast of eternal life.

We must overcome this fear and idleness, recognizing that God's gifts are meant to be shared and developed, not hidden away. By cultivating our talents and using them for the betterment of others, we not only fulfil our purpose but also draw closer to the divine purpose set before us.

This Gospel serves as a powerful reminder that God's gifts are meant to be utilized for the greater good. It calls us to action, wisdom, and the embrace of our unique talents. Simultaneously, it serves as a stark warning against complacency and fear, urging us to avoid becoming isolated in the darkness of our own limitations. By recognizing our talents, utilizing them wisely, and conquering our hesitation, we can ensure that we draw closer to the feast of eternal life that God has prepared for us.

*Blessings ~ Fr. Stephen Berez  
St John the Baptist Parnell*

### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31** A good wife is invaluable, trusted by her husband and doing good all her life.

~ **Psalm 127** *Happy are those who fear the Lord.*

~ **1 Thessalonians 5:1-6** The day of the Lord will arrive unexpectedly.

~ **Gospel Matthew 25:14-30** A man going on a journey entrusts his servants with different amounts of money.

**Next Week's readings: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 Psalm 22; 1Corinthians 15:20-26, 28**

**Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46**

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 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  
*As Fr Stephen recovers from his surgery for the next couple of weeks, there will be no 9am Mass and no 9.30am Reconciliation on Saturdays during this time.*

#### 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**



#### Secretary Vacancy—St John the Baptist Parnell

We are currently seeking to employ a capable and self motivated Parish Secretary for effective day to day running of the Parish Office and to support the Parish Priest and other pastoral staff. Applicants should have good administration and written and oral communication skills, be highly competent in the usual Microsoft Windows applications, as well as WordPress website management and familiar with basic accounting procedures. For a full position description please contact the parish office at [office@parnellcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz) or phone 373 3132.

**Applications close 3 December 2023.**

**Remembering our Dead** – This November, we remember in prayer our deceased friends and family members. Please write their names on the cards provided and place them in the wooden box designated for this purpose. The box will be placed before the altar during Mass.

#### Advent Retreat

Saturday, 2 December 8am-2pm at St Michael's Parish Remuera ~ 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera. Discover the mysteries of Advent with the insightful guidance of Dr Robert Loretz. Light lunch provided. Entry by Koha. Visit [www.remueracatholic.org.nz](http://www.remueracatholic.org.nz) for more info.

#### Catholic Hospitality

In New Zealand and Australia, payment per night is \$50 for one guest and \$30 for each additional guest, e.g. a couple would pay \$80 per. night for bed and continental breakfast. To purchase the book, contact Marie Anderson, 03 3595541 or email [marie.ian@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marie.ian@xtra.co.nz)

#### Monte Cecilia Housing Christmas Appeal 2023

We are asking for donations of children's toys and non-perishable food, which can be dropped off at our 30 Windrush Close office in Mangere. No gift is too small, as we have over 1,200+ children living within our Transitional & Community houses, so every little bit helps. For more info call

0800 624 848, or email us at

[info@montececilia.org.nz](mailto:info@montececilia.org.nz)

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### Catholic Diocese of Auckland Vacancy:

**Youth Ministry Officer** – Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who wants to make a meaningful positive impact in the lives of young people? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time **Youth Ministry Officer**. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland.

#### Parish Coordinator Vacancy - St Luke's Flatbush

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](mailto:office@flatbushcatholic.org.nz)

#### Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass

**on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 7:00pm 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.

#### Celebration Mass

02 December 4:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. This special event marks the end of our year-long journey with the young leaders of the Diocese of Auckland. Bishop Steve Lowe will celebrate the mass, present the Awards, and give a special blessing to all youth and young adult ministry leaders. All welcome.

#### CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER—Wednesday,

**22nd November, 2023, Catholic Women's**

**League Orakei – Eastern Suburbs**

starting with Mass at 10.30am at St. Joseph's Church, Orakei then to the Hall for Morning Tea followed by a **talk by Father Patrick Brady**. Cost is \$35 pp. For info & bookings contact: Tina Raines 021 940 950/09-5212499 email:

[tinaraines2703@gmail.com](mailto:tinaraines2703@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:liturgycentre@cda.org.nz) or visit our webpage: [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/gaudete](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/gaudete)

#### Witnesses of Faith Event

**Thursday, 30 November, 7 – 9 pm. Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, Auckland.**

The Pontifical Foundation, *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN) invites you to a unique and inspirational event in support of the suffering and persecuted Church. A light supper will be served afterwards where you can meet the speakers. **More info and to register :** [www.aidtochurch.org/witnesses](http://www.aidtochurch.org/witnesses) or email [info@aidtochurch.org](mailto:info@aidtochurch.org)

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

**Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa, Maureen Adsett, Fr Stephen Berecz, Bernadette Tan, Chonusi William, Teana Jones, Maria Martho, Linus Broughton, Dawn Rocca, Lyn Sparks, Royston Beckham, AS, Margaret Everett, 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 Muldery, 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 Abla, 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, Dennis Obillos.**

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

**Caroline McLean, Ada Harris, Leciso Baldo, Eddie Ierenino, Sr Helen O'Neill rsm, Margaret Wilke, Dame Sr Pauline Engel rsm, Stephanie Hoyle, Linda Ward, Oscar Lacuna, Lorenza Inigo, Betty Robinson, Molly Novak, Mark Farac, Kevin Ryan, Gerry Dooley, Linda Ward, Vili Filo, Tony White, James Waldron, Sr Cecilia Maher rsm, Don Gordon, Evelyn McGilly, Michael Goodwin, Gail Layborne, Isabel Acuna, Patrick Keenan, Zinaida Ponomareva, Fr Hans Bachman, Steve Munro, Br Clarent Glynn FMS, Alfred Santos, Fr Humphrey O'Leary CSM, Richard Tapley, Albert Reardon, Ong Siew Eng, Anthony Yco, Josebelle Filipino, Fa'asima Muliumu, Fifta Ramaulal, Florence McCarthy, Antonio Guzzo, Fr Dominic O'Neill**

*.. Eternal rest grant to them..*