

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 except public holidays.

Saturday 9am Mass & 9.30am Reconciliation.

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berecz

~ Email: sberecz@gmail.com

Parish Secretary ~ Nathaniel Hood: 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 - Safeguarding

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 whānau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia and kaumātua, feel safe.

If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Nathaniel Hood and you can contact him 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).

Auckland Anniversary & Waitangi Day

Monday the 29th January & 6th February
are public holidays.

Mass times for both dates will be at 9am.

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

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY MINISTRY

[www.facebook.com/
AucklandCatholicChaplaincy](http://www.facebook.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy)

[www.instagram.com/
AucklandCatholicChaplaincy](http://www.instagram.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy)

Email: thechaplains@cda.org.nz



PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

"Prepare a way for the Lord."

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 28TH JANUARY 2024

An Authority that Liberates: Mk 1:21-28

Power without Authority is always dangerous and dictatorial. Authority without Power is just a paper-tiger! No one likes a 'power' that dominates, bullies, or manipulates. When 'power' is allied to love, then even powerful forces crumble. Power without love is often associated with violence, compulsion and force. In Jesus, power and authority have a happy blend. In today's gospel, Mark presents Jesus in the synagogue—a holy space, on the Sabbath—a holy time, and invested with the power of the Holy Spirit. But, in this 'holy' environment, Jesus encounters a man possessed with the 'evil' spirit. Can evil exist in the presence of the Holy?

At the start of Jesus' public ministry, the 'evil one' is there too in the desert. Good and evil seem to walk beside each other. The scribes and Pharisees knew that one had to stay away from the one possessed for fear of being contaminated. Purity codes had to be followed. Avoidance of the man possessed was the safest way to stay clean. But, they forgot, that the entire synagogue was already unclean with the presence of the man who was possessed. The scribes and Pharisees had no power and authority to drive out the unclean spirit.

Jesus, the sinless one, had the power and the authority to intervene. The possessed man will ask, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?" Till this time, no one challenged the evil one! Jesus knew that he could never be contaminated or made unclean by a direct contact with the evil one. Jesus was beyond defilement. He is the Holy One, the Son of God. Jesus with the power and authority invested on him, goes beyond the purity code. Jesus silences the evil one and rebukes him with the words, "Be silent and come out of him!"

A new teaching and with authority are being taught. In the presence of Jesus, there is no place for impurity. The powers of darkness submit to the powers of Light! Jesus breaks all boundaries and reaches out to those in need. For Jesus, even the sabbath wasn't a good boundary. To usher in the Kingdom of God to people, every boundary had to be crossed. Not all will applaud Jesus for crossing these boundaries. Jesus will be questioned on his authority, criticised for his values and denounced for his preferences for the poor and the marginalised. But Jesus does not give up. He continues to liberate those who are bound by the evil one and confronts those who lay burdens on the weak. ~ Fr. Glenford Lowe

Liturgy of the Word

~ **Deuteronomy 18:15–20** I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet.

~ **Psalms 94/95:1–2, 6–9** If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

~ **1 Corinthians 17:17, 32–35** The unmarried are concerned about the affairs of the Lord.

~ **Gospel Mark 1:21–28** They were all amazed: a new teaching—with authority.

Next weekend: Job 7:1–4, 6–7; Psalm 147:1–6; 1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23 Mark 1:29–39

For Sunday and weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com AND/OR www.livingtheword.org.nz

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5pm Fr Stephen Berecz

Sunday 7 am Fr Stephen Berecz

Sunday 9.30 am Fr Stephen Berecz

Mass times this week in Parnell

Monday 29th Jan 9am (Auckland Anniversary)

Saturday 9am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30am

~ ~ ~

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

Sacramental Programme for 2024

In February 2024 we will commence a

1st Communion/Confirmation programme for primary/Intermediate aged children here in the Parish. If you have a child in this age group and are interested please email the parish office with your contact details and attach a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. The first meeting will be held on Sunday 18 February 2024 after the 9.30am Mass.

Bible Diary 2024

For daily Prayers, Readings and Reflections, Saint of the Day. \$20 each. To order your copies, contact Fr Prakash 0225852875 email prakashreddycmf@gmail.com.

SHINE TV Mass resumes

Next weekend (4th February) Shine TV will resume weekly broadcasting of Sunday Mass at 2pm Free-to-air channel 25 or Sky 201. It is also uploaded at 5.30pm Saturday night to the Auckland Catholic Diocese Youtube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/aucklandcatholic>

SHINE TV Mass Recording in Parnell

All are invited to come and join for the pre-recording of the TV Mass on Saturday 10 February at 9am here in our church. This will be for broadcast on the 1st Sunday of Lent.

Blessing of Water & Salt

Blessed Water & Salt can be used to bless objects, families and individuals, and to provide spiritual protection and healing. A special blessing of Water & Salt will take place at St Michael's during their usual Saturday Mass. Bring along a container of water and/or bag of salt on Saturday 3 February 8 am Mass.

A conversation with Monsignor Tomáš Halik.

Help my Unbelief! How can we find the "Galilee of Today"? Ordained secretly as an underground priest, Tomáš Halik is now theologian at Charles University Prague. Come and listen to Mons Halik. St Columba Centre 5 February 2024 7.30pm. Followed by supper. Please RSVP Fr Merv Duffy m.duffy@ctc.ac.nz by 2 February.

Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Resources are available on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/year-of-prayer/> and will be updated regularly particularly as resources become available through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

The Liturgy Centre has a number of resources for parishes including ceremonial binders and resources for the Sunday readings explore <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/liturgy/>

Waitangi Day 2024 Miha

All are welcome to celebration of Mass in Te Reo Māori and English to pray for our nation as we acknowledge the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in 1840. Miha (Mass) will be celebrated at Whaiora Marae, 14 Ōtara Road, Ōtara beginning with a Pōwhiri at 8.30am on Tuesday 6th February 2024. Following Mass there will be refreshments and a talk on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. For more information email ManuelB@cda.org.nz

Diocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Inter-faith Relations

Past, present members of the commission, and those interested in these aspects of Church life are invited to a meeting to explore how the diocese moves forward in these important relations particularly in light of the Synod's call to engage. Bring your interest, enthusiasm and ideas. Wednesday 7 February Poynton Room Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 6.30-8.00pm. RSVP pas-toraloffice@cda.org.nz by 5 February.

NZ Catholic for sale in church foyer again

Price \$4 (unchanged for 8 years). Some headlines for this issue: Cardinal Williams farewell—requiem, obituary, editorial. The story of a married priest with children. Representations of Jesus in the first 300 years. Clergy moves for six NZ dioceses. As a promotion venture for this issue, the entire current edition is supplied here: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/089a63c0-ee02-4e87-913a-ac6bb23be9ad>

Columban Calendars 2024

are still 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.

Bible Stories - What do they mean?

Join Titipounamu Study & Joy in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms. Sundays, 4 Feb, 3 Mar, 7 Apr, 5 May 2024, 5–6pm (Zoom). Koha <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/>

Combined Services of the Ashes

14 February at 7.30 pm with the Anglican Bishop, Ross Bay & Bishop Steve Lowe at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Rite of Election and Call to Ongoing Conversion

will occur Sunday 18 February at St Patrick's Cathedral. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/rite-of-election-2024/>

Auckland Catholic Singles Group

The second 2024 Meet Up for Catholic Singles in their 30s and 40s will take place at 6pm on 24 February at the Lantern Festival held out at Manukau Sports Bowl: Te Irirangi Drive, Manukau City Centre. There's all kinds of stalls so the plan is to walk around, see what's on offer and take in the amazing lantern displays that have made the festival such a longstanding event in the history of Auckland. RSVP to Marie-Claire aklcatholicinsinglesocialgroup@gmail.com

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

Scott Hickey, Maureen Adsett, 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, 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 Swind, 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 . . .

Wanda Czarcinski, Graeme Owens, Manuka Henare, Val Bennett, Teresa Owens, James Lewis, Gregory Tan, Sr Veronica Keane rsj, Peter Gilmour, Malisa & Bernard Williams, Catherine Pinto, Maurice Williams, Mary Pratt, Neil Collins, Harold Serpes, Dorothy Serpes, Patrick Sigamoney, Ljubica Steinhauer, Basil Machado, Leo Divine, Irene Dermody, Br Tony Sisson cfc, Ian Johnson, John Lanun, John McHugh, Marjorie (Bobs) Gardner, Meliton Magbago Jr, Carol Franks, Fiona Gooder, Pat O'Connor, Peter Goddard, Carol Date Chong, Mary B Connaghan, Vicki Rommel, Marjory Hall, Catharina Kamp, Desmond O'Brien, Val Dawson, Pat Murphy, Edith O'Brien, Yasmine Baheshy, Helena Yiin, Valentina Angel, Desmond Graham, Thomas Scannell, Jean Spelman, Evelyn Considine, John Nienarber, Felipe Estrellanes *Eternal rest grant to them.*