

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times ~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 7 am & 9.30 am

SUNDAY 7AM MASS RESUMES THIS WEEK 1ST SEPTEMBER

No weekday Masses until further notice except public holidays.

Saturday 9 am Mass & 9.30 am Reconciliation (no 9 am Mass 14th September).

Public Holidays 9 am Mass.

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berecz ~ Email: [sberecz@gmail.com](mailto:sberecz@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary ~ Nathaniel Hood: 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 11.30 am) 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](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)

### 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 left 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)

### Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

Contact Sam Brebner [samb@cda.org.nz](mailto:samb@cda.org.nz)

### Catholic University Ministry

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

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

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

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

Email: [thechaplains@cda.org.nz](mailto:thechaplains@cda.org.nz)

### Mass: Deaf Friendly

- 12 noon, 2nd Sunday each month. Followed by shared lunch (BYO). Poynton Room, 30 New St, Ponsonby. NZSL adapted.

- 9.30am 4th Sunday each month. Good Shepherd Parish, Telford Street, Balmoral. NZSL interpreter present. [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/deaf-ministry](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/deaf-ministry)

### No cash but keen to donate?

Donations to the Parish should be to this account:

Acc. name: St. John's Parnell Parish

Account N°: 02 0108 0705969 000

Set up through online banking  
or visit your nearest branch.

Register with the Parish for receipt.



## PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

*"Prepare a way for the Lord."*

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 8TH SEPTEMBER 2024

The miracle of healing that is at the centre of this Sunday's Gospel makes clear that Christ is the longed-for Messiah, who brings in a new age, a time of deliverance, of freedom from bondage, a time of restoration. The healing of the deaf and dumb man points us to the prophecies of Isaiah, from which we heard in our first reading, which proclaim a return of God's people from Exile, a time of healing and restoration, of plenty and of a new life with God and with each other. So, Christ's healing of the deaf and dumb man is a sign that in Christ and in what Christ does this new age is coming to be a reality. Through Christ human beings can have deliverance and a restored life.

The news is truly good, and yet its demonstration is a little unexpected. There are no dramatic gestures and signs from heaven. No rolling thunder, no flashes of lightning, to accompany such works of power. Instead Christ puts his fingers into his ears and puts his spittle onto his tongue, before commanding him to be healed. It's all very up close and personal. And very earthly.

By its sheer physicality this healing makes very real for us the fact of the bodily Incarnation of the Son of God. Christ is God made present for the people of his time as a human being, a man very much of flesh and blood, and he interacted with other human beings of flesh and blood in very physical ways. The graphic details of the healing of the deaf and dumb man emphasize and make very evident that the incarnate Son of God is a real physical human being. We even have recorded the very words Christ spoke, the Aramaic word, 'Ephphatha' 'Be opened,' preserved across all the centuries for us.

Fingers in the ears and spittle on the tongue aren't glorious or romantic, but they are a sign that what is humble and very earthly can become the means by which God's grace is given to us. In the same way water, oil, bread, and wine, can become the reality of God's presence with us. The very ordinary, physical, actions of Our Lord are a foreshadowing of the sacraments he was to give to his Church.

But it is also a reminder that God usually comes to us, not in a voice like thunder from heaven, or a shining vision of light, dazzling our eyes. But in the apparently mundane events of our daily lives, in the everyday beauty of the world around us, and in the words and touch of those images of his with which we are surrounded.

- Fr Christopher Denham

## Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 35:4–7** The ears of the deaf shall be unstopped, & the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

~ **Psalms 145/146:6c–10 R. 1** Praise the Lord, my soul!

~ **James 2:1–5** Has not God chosen the poor to be rich in faith, & be heirs of the kingdom?

~ **Mark 7:31–37** Jesus has done everything well; he even makes those who are deaf to hear & those who are mute to speak. **Next weekend:** Is 50:5–9; Ps 114/116:1–6, 8–9; Jas 2:14–18; Mk 8:27–35.

For Sunday and weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://mobilegabriel.com) AND/OR [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz)

### Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5 pm Fr Stephen Berecz

Sunday 7 am Fr Tony Dunn

Sunday 9.30 am Fr Stephen Berecz

### Mass Times this week in Parnell

Saturday 14th Sept \*12 noon\*

### Reconciliation

\*No 9 am Mass or 9.30 reconciliation Sat 14 Sept\*

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### St Michael's Remuera Mass times this week:

Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm

Mon–Fri 7 am, 12 pm

Sat 8 am

### Saturday 9 am Mass cancelled 14 September

There will instead be a Mass at St John's 12 noon.

### St John the Baptist Statue Appeal

Thank you to all who have donated so far. We have raised 9,065 of the necessary \$10,450.

### Altar servers needed in our Parish

If your son or daughter would like to serve at the altar for Mass, please speak to sacristan Peter Lye, or enquire at the Parish Office.

Email: [office@parnellcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz).

Full training and support will be provided.

### The Diocesan Faith Formation Team

are offering refresher education sessions across the regions of the diocese for the ministries of 1st Sacraments for Children & Baptism preparation. This is open to all educators & volunteers involved in these ministries. Please register on [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/formation/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/formation/) to attend for your parish. For any further information please contact Dcn Steve Fraser on [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz) or 021439407.

### Cans for Christmas

is a Charity that has run for 10 years now—we coordinate Catholic Primary Schools & Colleges to collect canned food items for St Vincent de Paul. During the last 9 years we have collected 160,000 cans & \$10,000 for St Vincent de Paul Society to help those in need. Please join us by donating to our page—This money goes directly to St Vincent de Paul.



### St Mary's College Past Pupils Association

Sunday 22nd September 2024. Mass will be celebrated by Fr Peter Tipene in Old SMC Chapel, New St, Ponsonby at 2pm. Followed by afternoon tea & AGM. RSVP to [catheharrop@gmail.com](mailto:catheharrop@gmail.com).

### NZ Catholic Medical Association

Networking Event with Dr Mary English on 20 September. The event will be for healthcare students and professionals and is an opportunity to connect with each other, learn and be inspired.

### Positions available St Joseph's Takapuna

Following restructuring of the parish staff, two positions have become available: (a) Executive assistant, a 25 hours per week role; & (b) Property manager, 10–15 hours per week. For position descriptions & to apply for a position, contact Fr Mark Napa [frmark@stjoseph.org.nz](mailto:frmark@stjoseph.org.nz). Applications close 27 September 2024.

**Ethnic Chaplaincies Rise Up & Shine Festival** to be held on Sat 21 Sept to Sun 22 September at the Malaeola Sāmoan Catholic Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place, Māngere. A time of celebration with Food, Music, & Cultural Shows on Saturday 9am–3pm, & Thanksgiving Mass in the various languages & culture on Sunday at 1pm.

### Bach to Brubeck on organ & oboe

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER, 4PM Takapuna Methodist Church 427 Lake Rd Takapuna Entry by programme suggested koha \$25 proceeds for organ refurbishment fund.

### Catholic 30s & 40s Meetup @ Dice & Fork

On 14 September, the Catholic 30s & 40s singles group is meeting at Dice & Fork. Starting at 6:30pm, we will have dinner & drinks over a board game or two. From the classic, fight-inducing monopoly to the strategic challenge of Catan, Dice & Fork has a huge range of fun for everyone. All who are interested should email [aklcatholicssinglesocialgroup@gmail.com](mailto:aklcatholicssinglesocialgroup@gmail.com) as there is space for only so many because of the booking limit. Ngā mihi, Marie-Claire.

### Dove Catholic Women's Fellowship, North Shore

invites women to join us on TUESDAY, 17th September 2024, 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas More Catholic Church hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield. Topic: BURNING BUSH Scripture: Exodus 3:1–2, 10.

## Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat

**Centre:** For more info/dates & to book visit [www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz](http://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz) or call 09 625 6651.

**Time Out Days**—For those who seek a day retreat—9:30am–2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch) | Thu 12 Sep | Tue 15 Oct | Tue 5 Nov.

**Transitus of St Francis**—Join us to commemorate the "passing over" of St Francis of Assisi with stories of his dying moments, hymns, music & drama. For more details & to register, visit our website | Tue 1 Oct | 6:30–8pm.

**St Francis Open Day**—Join us to celebrate the Feast of St Francis. Come explore the grounds & learn more about St Francis. There will also be an Animal Blessing Service so please bring your pets | Sun 6 Oct | 3–4pm.

**Job vacancy**—St Francis Retreat Centre is looking for a part time assistant groundskeeper to join our team to support landscaping & maintenance for our buildings and grounds. Key duties include performing minor repairs, assisting with maintenance, & managing grounds upkeep.

Email [emily@sfrc.org.nz](mailto:emily@sfrc.org.nz) to apply or if you have any questions.

**24Hr Quietude**—For those who seek a short retreat—Fri 7pm–Sat 7pm (\$120pp incl accommodation + food) | Nov 22nd/23rd.

### Long-Term Volunteer Opportunities

in the Australia-Pacific Region—The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco. We are seeking long term (6–12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Sāmoa, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands & Mongolia. Applications close October 31st, 2024. Send us an enquiry—[cagliero.org.au](http://cagliero.org.au) or [hichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:hichaaba@salesians.org.au).

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

Helen Mullin, Luke Sebastian Catiben, 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 Coughney, 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, 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, Dennis Obillos.

*We remember those who have died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time:*

Bishop Denis Browne, Salvacion Jimenea, Milagros Undag, Cyril Fernando, Isabella Alexandra, Louie Beltran, Mari-ta Beltran, Ramon Preeda, Elizabeth Hales, Msgr Pat Ward, Myra Crawford, Barbara Bato, Dermot O'Leary, Fr Des Moosman, Ethel Marshall, Marie Early, Patricia Yambao, Reynaldo Yambao, Justyn Bianzon, Lenny Hidalgo, Ruby Holland, Maria Boles, Kath Allen, Carmel Jefferies, Brian Raju, Ivan Main, Brendan Schollum, Dianne Molloy, Emma Gill, George Fisher, Michael O'Reilly, Wayne Hotton, Lani Sinawari, Eng Hoc Ong, Apolinario Castano, Sheila Bamford, Kees van Hassel, Ira Divinagracia, Dorothy James, Ray Buisson, Moira Bryant, Cathy Sheehan, Julie Keesling, Dorothy Jones, Bruce Sherlock. *Eternal rest grant to them.*

## Card Crafting Workshop

will happen on Saturday 28th September. Meg Hills rsj is very skilled & gives excellent guidance on how to create your own personalised cards. The workshop is for those who have a small degree of experience in card-making. It provides an opportunity to design & create a variety of hand-crafted all-occasion cards that recipients will treasure. All materials are supplied. A maximum of eight people can attend this workshop. Please see the poster in the foyer for more information.

### Enjoy a live-in retreat

beginning Friday evening October 4 at 7pm & finishing on Sunday 6 October at 4pm. This will be facilitated by Éamon Butler. The retreat is entitled Homecoming & will explore the parable of the Prodigal Son using Rembrandt's painting of the son's homecoming & insights from Henri Nouwen's book The Return of the Prodigal Son. There are limited spaces left for this retreat so please register soon if you wish to participate. All details are on the poster in the foyer.

### Mums & Bubs

A social gathering for women & preschoolers to learn through music, stories & play. A great way for mums to meet other women to fellowship and share a chat. WHERE: St. Thomas More Church Hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield. WHEN: On alternate Wednesdays at 10–11am Next sessions are on Wednesday, 11th & 25th September 2024. Contact Sylvia on 021 088 22990.

### Marist Catholic Primary School, Herne Bay

is a values-driven central city Integrated Catholic School. An un-zoned local school serving the surrounding areas. For further information email Sarah Gleeson [principal@maristschool.co.nz](mailto:principal@maristschool.co.nz)