

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

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

No weekday Masses until further notice except public holidays.

Saturday 9 am Mass & 9.30 am Reconciliation.

9AM MASS & 9.30 RECONCILIATION CANCELLED SATURDAY 12 OCT

Public Holidays 9 am Mass.

Parish Priest ~ Father Stephen Berecz ~ Email: sberecz@gmail.com

Parish Secretary ~ Nathaniel Hood: phone (09) 373 3132 ~ Email: office@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

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

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

Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry

www.facebook.com/AKCYM

Contact Sam Brebner samb@cda.org.nz

Catholic University Ministry

FB: www.facebook.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy

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

IG: www.instagram.com/AucklandCatholicChaplaincy

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

Email: 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

No cash but keen to donate?

Donations to the Parish should be to this account:

Acc. name: St. John's Parnell Parish

Account N^o: 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."

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 6TH OCTOBER 2024

There are those who think that Jesus's teaching about marriage has become out of date nowadays. It does not fit the facts or the experience of so many. "The world has changed, and so must we" is the principle, whether spoken or not. Well, the world does change, and will keep on doing so. But not always as much as we think. Jesus's teaching was "counter-cultural" even in his own day. Obviously Jewish law and practice went against what he taught, as mentioned in the gospel, but so also did Roman law and culture.

Divorce in ancient Rome was very easy. One of the most famous ancient inscriptions preserved in Rome is what is called the "Laudatio Turiae." It was erected by a grieving husband in honour of his late wife. In it he says "Marriages as long as ours are rare, marriages that are ended by death and not broken by divorce. For we were fortunate enough to see our marriage last without disharmony for fully 40 years." 40 years without divorce was worth erecting a stone tablet for, it seems. What Jesus taught about divorce and remarriage was counter-cultural at the start. It did not fit in easily at the time he said it.

We should not get used to sin and moral weakness, seeing them as our deepest and most natural condition. It is goodness and love that are at the heart of creation, and marriages are built on them. On hearing today's gospel our minds may well start to focus on the issue of divorce and remarriage, but Jesus wants us to discover or re-discover how it was in the beginning, at creation, and to live and love accordingly.

So we are not to put asunder what God has joined. The central and sustaining image is that the two spouses become one indivisible flesh. As Jesus says, we must go back to the beginning, to creation, and, to help fill our minds and imaginations before we hear the gospel, today's first reading is in fact from *Genesis*. But we do not hear these readings just to remind ourselves of the teaching on marriage. We hear them to remind ourselves that, like the whole of creation, we were made by God, and made for good.

You should be able to tell Christians by their realism and by their founded belief that God is greater than any weakness or sin. It is fashionable to say that we are all sinners. True enough, but this is only part of the truth. We are also *repentant* sinners, and we seek the grace of deeper conversion during the whole of our lives. We seek to commit ourselves to a vision of human life that is based, not on the changing culture of the world, but on the solid rock of the teaching of Jesus Christ.

- Fr Christopher Denham

Liturgy of the Word

~ Genesis 2:7a, 8b, 18–24 The two become one flesh.

~ Psalm 127/128 May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

~ Hebrews 2:9–11 For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.

~ Mark 10:2–16 What God has joined together, let no one separate.

Next weekend: Wisdom 7:7–11; Psalm 89/90:12–17; Hebrews 4:12–13; Mark 10:17–30.

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

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5 pm Fr Michael McCabe
Sunday 7 am Fr Michael McCabe
Sunday 9.30 am Fr Michael McCabe

Mass Times this week in Parnell

No 9am Mass or 9.30 Reconciliation Sat 12 Oct

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St Michael's Remuera Mass times this week:

Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm
Mon–Fri 7 am, 12 noon
Sat 8 am

Saturday morning Mass/Reconciliation cancelled

There will be no 9am Mass or 9.30 Reconciliation at Parnell on Saturday 12 October 2024. Normal Mass timetable resumes Saturday 19 October.

Carpark fines 14 September

Anyone attending the mass at midday on Holy Cross Day who may have been issued a fine for parking in the St John's carpark, please do not pay the fine. Contact the parish office with your registration number plate to have the fine waived.

Hope Reigns: A new prayer resource for Advent

This year's 25-day Advent resource, Hope Reigns, seeks to help you prepare for the birth of Emmanuel, God with us. Fr Stephen is considering purchasing a set for Advent 2024 if there is sufficient interest. If you would be interested in receiving a copy, please contact the parish office.

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. Full training & support will be provided.

Safeguarding workshop

Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding a safeguarding workshop in Ellerslie Immaculate Conception parish on Tue 22 Oct, 7pm. Any parish volunteers who have yet to attend a workshop are encouraged to join. Contact the office for more info: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz.

Sacred Heart & Redwood College, Nelson

Past Pupils & Staff Historic Reunion. 15–17 November 2024. Mānuka Street, Nelson. Email Bernadette King-Turner: SHReunion2024@gmail.com.

Exploring Sacred Spaces

Thanks to those who've joined for the 1st 4 events in our series. If you haven't made it to them so far, you still have the chance to visit 1 more sacred space this year: Sat 12 Oct, 2–3.30pm: Gurudwara Sri Guru Harkrishan Sahib Ji (Sikh), 3034 Gt North Rd aucklandinterfaithcouncil.org.nz

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

accepting enrolments for 1st semester 2025 23 Sep–22 Nov 2024. Courses offered: Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma & Certificate in Christian Studies, & a new micro-credential on Managing Church Organisations.

Ruth Miller SCHOLARSHIP for Theological Study

Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications. This scholarship will be available ideally for those already teaching in a Catholic school, who intend to do one or more theology papers towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2025. For further info, please email scholarships@cda.org.nz. The closing date for applications is 15 November 2024.

The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship

If you are a fourth- or fifth-year medical student in 2025, are an active Catholic, & normally reside within the Auckland Diocese, you may be eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship. Applications close 15 November 2024. For more info, please email scholarships@cda.org.nz.

Catholic 30s & 40s Meetup @ Enchanted Forest

Mini Golf, 19 Oct. We will tee off from 4pm in Onehunga. At the moment, there's a GrabOne special for \$9 entry, down from the usual \$15. Email aklcatholicsinglesocialgroup@gmail.com.

Footsteps of Pompallier Pilgrimage

26–29 October 2024. Hokianga. Walk 100km over 4 days. Daily Mass & Confession. Meals & accommodation included. Visit fopp.nz to register.

Cans for Christmas

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



The Upper Room Thurs 17 Oct 6:30pm–9:00pm

at Good George Mission Bay. Young adults, this event is a fantastic opportunity to grab a drink, enjoy some (free) bar snacks, meet other young Catholics, & dive into some relevant topics. Our guest speaker for this Upper Room is Tim Wilson. Tickets are \$10: go to facebook.com/AKCYM or email felicitym@cda.org.nz for more info.

Abundance Op Shop East Tāmaki

Opening 18th October @ 272 Tī Rākau Drive, East Tāmaki. For more information, contact Rebecca, 021 149 1320. Follow our progress & learn more: FB: [@abundanceopshopeasttamaki](https://www.facebook.com/abundanceopshopeasttamaki).

Parish to Parish for Bed & Breakfast

Catholics throughout New Zealand & a few in Australia host Catholics in their homes, a wonderful way for Catholics to meet & enjoy the company of other Catholics. A contribution of \$50 for one person, & \$30 for each additional guest, this is per night. E.g. two people would pay \$80 per night. If you wish to purchase a book with the details of the hosts, the cost is \$15, includes postage; contact or order from Marie Anderson, 2 Brent Place, Christchurch 8053, phone 027 2800 611, email marie.ian@xtra.co.nz.

Sister Eveleen Retreat House may need you!!

Vacancy for a live-in Host Interested in serving God through the gift of hospitality?? We have a vacancy for a live-in Retreat House Host (RHH), paid 10 hours a week, accommodation provided. The RHH works with the Director to provide a hospitable welcome to guests & a presence at the house when the Director has left for the day. Please see our website for more info or get in touch with us enquiry@sistereretreat.com.

The Baradene Alumnae Association Committee

is delighted to invite you to the 2024 Alumnae High Tea to honour this year's Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award recipient. We have great pleasure in announcing Victoria Carter ONZM (Class 1981) as the recipient of this year's Meritae Award. Join us for a lovely afternoon tea on Sun 20 Oct 2–4pm in the Baradene Atrium with your fellow alumnae & members of the wider Baradene community.

Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat Centre:

visit stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or call 09 625 6651 for more info. **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. **Time Out Days**—For those who seek a day retreat—9:30am–2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch) Tue 15 Oct/Tue 5 Nov/Thu 5 Dec. **24Hr Quietude**—For those who seek a short retreat—Fri 7pm–Sat 7pm (\$120pp incl. accommodation+food) 22–23 Nov.

Pilgrimage with the Saints Tour 2025

Fr Chris Friel (Timaru) will lead this 17-day tour of Portugal, Spain & France in June. For full details & itinerary, email Pilgrimage Tours in Auckland at info@travlink.co.nz or phone 0800 99 7788.

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 Samoa, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands & Mongolia. Applications close October 31st, 2024. Send us an enquiry—cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially: 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 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, Thilsy 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 & whose anniversaries occur at this time: Teresita Hontiveros, Br Gerard Mahony, Msgr Terry Leslie, John Fay, John Griffin, Chrissy Jacobs, Gregory Cambie, Andrew Afeaki, Stephen Nobilo, Mary Kemp, Wanda Ellis, Alma Tadman rsm, Kevin Gould, Peter McLeavey, Dolly Nursanti Tjandra, Hugh Lacey, Maria Leite, Rosario Jose, Basil Mayer, Msgr Vincent Hunt, Gloria Court, Mark Pye, Kumi Masui, Senia Auva'a, Erin Griffin, Florence Gomez, Dennis Mannex, Anna Noh, Wilhelmina Arnet-Schumacher, Colette McCarron, Alejandro Chan, Paul Lao, Iwona Konarkowska, Pedro Bautista, Dorothy Leuschke, Patricia Faire, Sarah Caulfield, Marie Green, Gregory Mascarenhas, Pat Hendry, Phyllis Revel, Eric Athaide, James Hurley, Thean Chuan Ong, Jimmy Kelly, Patricia Borg, Mary Hyland, Cameron Murphy, Louisa Potter, Guillermo Rabno, Kaz Wisniewski, Colleen Green, Margaret Stewart, Park Dong Hyun, Paul Shanahan, Shane & Allan Brewster. Eternal rest grant to them.