

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.

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
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. You may also contact the National Office for Professional Standards 0800-114-662. You may also contact the police 111.

Upcoming safeguarding workshops: Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding safeguarding workshops in Flatbush St Luke, Wed 30 Oct, & Glenfield St Thomas More, Wed 6 Nov, both 7 pm. Any parish volunteers who have yet to attend a workshop are encouraged to join either of these. Contact the parish office for more info.

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
IG: 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."

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 27TH OCTOBER 2024

The prophet Jeremiah prophesies that the Lord will come to save His chosen people who experience hardships during their captivity. Even the blind and the lame will be brought back home. In ancient Israel, physical infirmity and sickness were considered punishment for sin. That is why this prophecy testifies to God's unconditional and transcending love. God's love heals and redeems.

The eyes are the windows of our soul. They help us see, but only to some extent. Some people are born blind but are gifted with stronger senses. They are more sensitive and alert to different stimuli. Many people may have perfectly beautiful eyes, with 20/20 vision. But this does not guarantee a healthy spiritual vision. Indeed, there are people who have eyes but don't see.

Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, was blind and had to beg on the road to live. The name Timaeus means a man of honour. One may ask, "What is honourable in being blind and having to beg for food and other personal needs?" But Bartimaeus, although blind, saw more than what many failed to see. He saw an irresistible light in Jesus. He couldn't stop himself from begging Jesus to help him because he clearly saw Who Jesus is and what He can do. His spiritual vision is 20/20. He couldn't be wrong in what he saw.

This could be one of the reasons why this blind man had to be named unlike the other healing miracles of Jesus where the names of the people who got healed were not mentioned. He had to be named to further emphasize his strong faith in spite of his physical weakness.

Bartimaeus was physically blind, but he chose to see. While there are people today who have eyes in good physical shape but choose not to see. Some people are blind to the needs of others, blind to the injustices and abuses around them and blind to the many blessings that God is giving them day by day.

May the Lord heal us of physical infirmities and spiritual blindness. May He help us see through our hearts where He sowed seeds of goodness and love. As we get old and become frail, the physical eyesight start to fail. So, be it. But let us not allow our hearts and spirits go blind, ever.

Blessings!

- Fr Gilbert Ramos

October is World Mission Month

The Pope this year asks us to, "go and invite" others to the Lord's banquet. Please help the Society of Propagation of the Faith, an arm of the Church's Pontifical Mission work, through prayer & monetary donations by using a MissioAotearoa envelope, scanning the QR code or donating online via missio.nz/donate.



Liturgy of the Word

Jer 31:7–9 I am going to bring my people home—both those who are blind & those who are lame.

~ **Ps 125/126** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

~ **Heb 5:1–6** You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.

~ **Mk 10:46–52** My teacher, let me see again.

Next weekend: Deuteronomy 6:2–6; Psalm 17/18:1–3, 6b, 46, 50a; Hebrews 7:23–28; Mark 12:28–34

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

Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5 pm Fr Stephen Berecz
Sunday 7 am Fr Stephen Berecz
Sunday 9.30 am Fr Stephen Berecz

Mass Times this week in Parnell

Monday 9 am (Labour Day)
Saturday 9 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30 am
~ ~ ~

St Michael's Remuera Mass times this week:

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

Mass at Parnell Monday 28 October (Labour Day)

This weekend there will be the usual 9 am Mass scheduled at St John's for public holidays.

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.

2025 Columban Calendars now available

and can be purchased from the Parish Office for \$17 each. Please bring cash or email the parish office for details if you'd like to pay online.

Bible Diary 2025 for daily Prayers, Readings

& Reflections, Saint of the Day. \$20 each. See flyer in the church notice board for details. To order your copies, contact Fr Prakash 0225852875 email prakashreddycmf@gmail.com.

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.

Welcoming NZSL users to Mass

In this workshop we will explore simple ways to make NZSL users welcome & comfortable, practise some basic signs & have opportunities to gain insight into deaf culture. Saturday 16 November 9.30am–1pm Mary MacKillop Chapel 56–66 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay. Cost: koha. Please register: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/welcoming-nzsl-users-at-mass-registration/>.

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.

The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship

If you are a 4th- or 5th-year med 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 for both scholarships 15 Nov 2024. For more info email scholarships@cda.org.nz.

Catholic 30s & 40s Meetup @ Auckland Museum

on 12 November for their late night, Twilight Tuesdays. The Tuitui Museum Bistro & Café has been booked for tapas at 6pm—please let Marie-Claire know if you would like to attend as space is limited: aklcatholicssinglesocialgroup@gmail.com. Afterwards, we will wander around the exhibits until the museum closes at 8:30pm.

Long-Term Volunteer Opportunities

in the Australia-Pacific Region—The Cagliari 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—cagliari.org.au or hichaaba@salesians.org.au.

Ngā Tapuwae 10th to 12th January 2025

Come & join us in experiencing the footsteps of Bishop Pompallier, Kupe & the Poynton with other pilgrims together sharing our Catholic & Māori heritage. This will be a guided pilgrimage. Accommodation \$80/night/person will be shared living, experience & eating on the Marae. Own transport required. Contact Dcn Steve below.

Anniversary Mass 2025

Registrations now open for Coach Trip 12 Jan 2025. We are excited to invite you to join us on pilgrimage for this 1-off day-trip by coach to attend the Anniversary Mass at Tōtara Point. Leave Pompallier Diocesan Centre at 6am & expect to arrive back at Pompallier Diocesan Centre at 6:30–7pm. Hydration & lunch will be provided. Cost per person \$15. All welcome! For more info, contact Dcn Steve on stephenf@cda.org.nz.

Join the Auckland Young Catholic groups going to The Send, Saturday 23 November! Find out more & register at: cdathesend.eventbrite.com.

St Leo's Catholic School Xmas Fair Sun 10 Nov 11am–3pm. 102 Victoria Road, Devonport. Food, games, clothes, white elephant, books, toys, preserves, plants, raffles and more.

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass Fri 1 Nov 7 pm

St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of BS, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of S Faustina's relic.

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.

NZ Catholic Medical Association (NZCMA)

provides community support & chaplaincy for those involved in providing health care in Aotearoa. We invite doctors, nurses, midwives, students, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, dentists, health administrators, lawyers, & anyone in allied roles to join us. Retreat & Seminar 15–16 November 2024, based at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington. Details & registration: newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz/2024-retreat-wellington. Accommodation: There are limited spaces on-site (use booking ref BGRP-21024). Email/phone the Home of Compassion directly. For updates regarding events, email newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com.

Family Survey

Do you have children & want to connect with other families? Help us work out what families need & want so we can support & grow faith in families. Please take a moment to complete our short survey: surveymonkey.com/r/RNSYNX2.

A Spectacular Concert—St Michael's, Remuera

7 pm Sat 16 Nov. Hosted by well-known Auckland bass baritone James loelu, with special guest operatic baritone & recording artist, Edward Laurenson. Joined by musician friends from a wide variety of musical genres. A programme of uplifting classical songs from the shows, opera, instrumental pieces & lots of traditional Xmas music. With Xmas approaching, enjoy a supreme evening of performance at our unique venue, one of Auckland's most beautiful heritage-listed Catholic churches with great acoustics. Concert proceeds to honour the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation in thanks for its generous support of James' & Edward's careers. Dame Kiri will be present to support the singers. Tickets available through their parish website: remueracatholic.org.nz/events.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially: Luke Sebastian Cati-ben, 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, Thiisi 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 Sanchez, 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: Liam Payne, 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 Nononha, Carmel McCarthy, CheeKeong, Mary Conning, Shaun McKay, Ven Catherine McAuley.