

## 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](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.

**Upcoming safeguarding workshops:** Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding safeguarding workshops in Glenfield St Thomas More, Wed 6 Nov, 7 pm; & Glen Innes St Pius X, Sun 10 Nov, 4 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](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

To find out more about what's going on for Catholic tertiary students in Auckland, please contact Daniel Story at [daniels@cda.org.nz](mailto:daniels@cda.org.nz) & check out [instagram.com/aucklandcatholicstudents/](https://www.instagram.com/aucklandcatholicstudents/)

### 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<sup>o</sup>: 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."*

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 3RD NOVEMBER 2024

At the end of his ministry it is not surprising that the religious authorities want to know what is the basis of Jesus's authority. After all, in cleansing the Temple he had challenged the symbol of their authority. Jesus, like Jeremiah before him, had attacked the way God's law had been carried out by the Jewish priests—with sacrifices and holocausts in the Temple—but ignored in the way that so many of God's people were treated with disdain and injustice. The temple, instead of being a place of prayer for all nations, had grown inward-looking, excluding the Gentiles. These religious authorities suffered from what we might call today a polarised mind; this is the attitude in which someone is fixated on one point of view exclusive of any competing points of view.

So Jesus is attacked by the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Herodians as they try catch him out and make him take sides on contentious issues such as the resurrection or the tax paid to Caesar. Now today it is the turn of a scribe to address Jesus. No doubt we have already pigeon-holed him and expect him to pose an aggressive question to Jesus. But, no, the scribe is fair and open-minded. He has listened to Jesus' wise replies to the other leaders and seems genuinely interested in wanting to know how Jesus would answer what had become a familiar question among lawyers. With 365 prohibitions and 248 positive commands in the Torah, was there a basic principle behind all this detailed legislation which could interpret it well? So he asks, "Which is the first of all the commandments?"

Jesus answers by quoting the *Shema* which we read in the first reading from Deuteronomy. "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." Love of God comes first but it is not enough. No doubt aware of our human tendency to polarise, to separate the divine from the human, the earthly from the heavenly, Jesus quickly adds another command taken from Leviticus 19. "You must love your neighbour as yourself." These two together are the key to true interpretation. These two commandments existed separately in Judaism. It is apt that Jesus, who unites both the human and the divine in himself, should bring the two together.

Throughout his ministry he has shown what the love of God means, and as he goes to Gethsemane and Calvary he will show what the love God and doing his will means. He will accept the cup which the Father gives him. But that sacrifice is also an expression of his love for neighbour for he gives his life "as a ransom for many." The Incarnational Son shows in practice what it means to love God and neighbour at the same time. To the scribe, and to us, he effectively says what he said of the Good Samaritan: "Go, and do likewise!"  
- *From a homily by the late Fr David Sanders*

### Mission Month—Thank You

Thank you for your gift from the heart for the missionary work of the Church via the Pontifical Mission Societies. May only goodness and kindness follow you all the days of your life. Scan the QR code or donate online via [missio.nz/donate/](http://missio.nz/donate/).



## Liturgy of the Word

~ **Deuteronomy 6:2–6** Hear, O Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

~ **Psalm 17/18:1–3, 6b, 46, 50a** I love you, Lord, my strength.

~ **Hebrews 7:23–28** Jesus holds the priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

~ **Mark 12:28–34** Love God and love your neighbour as yourself.

**Next weekend:** 1/3 Kings 17:10–16; Psalm 145/146:6c–10 R 1; Hebrews 9:24–28; Mark 12:38–44

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 9 am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30 am  
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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

### 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.

### CALLING ALL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS!

Join us this Tue 5 Nov for our final student Mass for 2024! 12:10pm at Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes St. Afterwards, there is a delicious free lunch.

### A Spectacular Concert—7pm, Sat 16 Nov

Join us at St Michael's Catholic Church for a memorable evening. Hosted by James Ioelu, Bass Baritone, with special guest Edward Laurenson, Operatic Baritone, & musician friends. Uplifting classical songs from shows, opera, instrumental pieces & traditional Christmas music. Prices \$60–\$95, includes intermission refreshments. Buy tickets at [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com). Proceeds to support the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation.

### 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](mailto:aklcatholicssinglesocialgroup@gmail.com). Afterwards, we will wander around the exhibits until the museum closes at 8:30pm.

### On the "Wings" of the Spirit!

Gather with others in your parish to explore your faith through the Scriptures and to grow in your relationship with Jesus. Get *Wings.Ngā Parirau* in your parish today, the NZ Catholic Faith Formation programme. Contact Dianna: [diannaf@cda.org.nz](mailto:diannaf@cda.org.nz)

### Delexit Nos, "He loved us"

Pope Francis has just released his latest encyclical in the last couple of days & Dianna will host a series of 3 sessions on this in Advent, 4/11/18 Dec, 7–7.30pm on Zoom. Contact Dianna above.

### Champagnat Marist Education

is looking to appoint a Group General Manager to lead a new venture focusing on the Catholic & Marist Brothers' education mission. Alignment with Catholic education values & direction, stakeholder management, strategic planning, property operations, education & finance management are important elements. Further information is on SEEK where confidential applications can be made. Closing date November 15, 2024.

### 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](http://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](mailto:newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto:enquiry@sistereretreat.com).

### 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](mailto:scholarships@cda.org.nz).

### 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](mailto:info@travlink.co.nz) or phone 0800 99 7788.

### 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](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz).

### Ngā Tapuwāe 10th to 12th January 2025

Come & join us in experiencing the footsteps of Bishop Pompallier, Kupe & the Poyntons 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 above.

### 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/>.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:prakashreddycmf@gmail.com).

### Never Look Away: The Margaret Moth Story

Documentary Preview Screening Tuesday 12 Nov 6.30pm Event Cinema St Luke's. Contact Felicity O'Driscoll (Marist College Mt Albert Ex-Students' Association): [maristexstudents@gmail.com](mailto:maristexstudents@gmail.com).

### x3 vacancies: Join Caritas

Head of Justice & Peace; Pouwhakahaere—Chief Operating Officer (COO); & Marketing & Communications Advisor. Visit [caritas.org.nz](http://caritas.org.nz).

*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 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 & whose anniversaries occur at this time:*

Valrae Collins, Caroline McLean, Ada Harris, Leciso Baldo, Eddie Ilerenino, Manus Gallagher, Robert Whiting, Anne Mendrano, Vili Filo, Melkiau Thavethoo, Sr Helen O'Neill rsm, Dame Sr Pauline Engel rsm, Margaret Wilke, Stephanie Hoyle, Linda Ward, Oscar Lacuna, Lorenza Inigo, Betty Robinson, Molly Novak, Toni Johnston, Mark Farac, Kevin Ryan, Gerry Dooley, Linda Ward, Tony White, Anthony Yco, Sr Cecilia Maher rsm, James Waldron, Don Gordon, Evelyn McGilly, Michael Goodwin, Gail Layborne, Isabel Acuna, Patrick Keenan, Johnny McCarthy, Zainada Ponomareva, Fr Hans Bachman, Steve Munro, Br Clarent Glynn FMS, Alfred Santos, Fr Humphrey O'Leary CSsR, Richard Tapley, Albert Reardon, Ong Siew Eng, Josebelle Filipino, Fa'asima Muliumu, Fifita Ramaual, Florence McCarthy, Antonio Guzzo, Fr Dominic O'Neill. *Eternal rest grant to them.*