

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times (summer) ~ 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 a.m.) 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 & dignity. We foster an environment which is welcoming, & in which all our parish whānau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia & kaumātua, feel safe. If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Nathaniel Hood & you can contact him by phone 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 workshop:** Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding a workshop at St Mary's, 117 Onewa Road, Northcote, on Wednesday 30th April at 7 p.m. Any parish volunteers who have yet to attend a workshop are encouraged to join. 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 the Baptist Parnell  
Ecclesiastical Goods Trust

Account No: 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."*

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 23RD MARCH 2025

Jesus' journey to Jerusalem is a dominant theme in the Gospel of Luke. Just a few verses after this text, Jesus 'resolutely took the road for Jerusalem', and his resolve is foreshadowed in his conversation with Moses and Elijah when they speak of 'his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem'. Jesus not only reveals his true identity to his chosen companions but also his destiny: the 'passing over' of his death and resurrection, by which his divinity will be definitively revealed to all. In fulfilling this destiny, everything that the law (represented by Moses) and the prophets (represented by Elijah) stood for will be accomplished. Peter misunderstands and thinks that the event on the mountain is the end of the story—he wants to erect tents there. He has not yet grasped that the journey to Jerusalem must be continued. As Christians, we cannot simply remain on the mountain and contemplate divinity; we must also come down the mountain and follow the earthly road of living faith to its conclusion.

This gospel emphasises the need to withdraw for prayer. How important are quiet contemplation and prayer in your journey?

How do you balance prayer and action as you live your faith?

—Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. (2021). Exploring the Word: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C. *The Summit*.

### 2025 Easter Timetables

12–13 Apr Palm Sunday *Regular weekend Mass times at 5pm Sat; 7am & 9.30 Sun*

17 Apr Holy Thurs 7.30pm; *adoration follows after the Mass, with Night Prayer at 9pm*

18 Apr Good Fri *Memorial of the Lord's Passion at 3pm*

19 April Holy Saturday *Easter Vigil at 6pm*

20 April Easter Sunday *Regular Sunday Mass times at 7am and 9.30*

21 April Easter Monday *Regular public holiday Mass time at 9am*

25 April ANZAC Day *Regular public holiday Mass time at 9am*

## Liturgy of the Word

Exod. 3:1–8a, 13–25 Moses, you will tell the Israelites: I AM has sent you.

Psa. 102/103:1–4, 6–8, 11 The Lord is kind and merciful.

1 Cor. 10:1–6, 10–12 Our ancestor's experience in the desert under Moses is recorded to instruct us.

Luk. 13:1–9 Unless you turn back to God, you will perish as they did.

Next weekend: Joshua 5:9a, 10–12; Psalm 33/34:1–6 R. 8a; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

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:

Sun 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.

### Carpark fines Ash Wednesday

Anyone attending the mass on Ash Wednesday 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 plate number to have the fine waived.

### VACANCY NOTICE: St Thomas More Glenfield

Music Co-Ordinator—We are looking for someone to take over the Music Co-ordinator position in our parish. It is largely an administrative role although some basic musical knowledge is required. Training will be provided. Approximately 6 hours per week. Please forward your cover letter & CV by Friday, 28 March 2025 via email to [office@stthomasmore.org.nz](mailto:office@stthomasmore.org.nz)

### Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

offers a beautiful opportunity for healing to anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The next Retreat will be held at Mary McKillop Centre, 11–13th April, 2025. For more info Contact Wendy Hill on 027 2549222 or email [wendy@rachelsvineyard.org.nz](mailto:wendy@rachelsvineyard.org.nz)

### Singles Ministry

is holding a Meet & Connect for Single Roman Catholics looking to find a partner on Saturday 29th March 2025. For more information kindly contact: Clytie 021836705, Reena 0278387151.

### Awaken

THE conference for Rainbow Christians & Allies in Aotearoa New Zealand. Come hang out with other rainbow people of faith & allies from across the country 4–6th April 2025. Keynote speakers Brit Barron (USA) & Stef Fenton (AUS). Tickets available now! Awaken is devoted to creating a space for Rainbow Christians & their allies, a group that has in the past unfortunately been completely cast aside by most church institutions. The conference has been running biannually since 2016 & is put together by an organisation called Diverse Church. This year's conference is being held in Auckland. [awaken.diversechurch.co.nz](http://awaken.diversechurch.co.nz)

### Jesus My Light Ministry

invites you to a Lenten Inner Healing retreat on the following days at St Dominic Church, Blockhouse Bay. Fri 4 Apr 6.30pm–9pm; Sat 5 Apr 9.30am–5pm; Sat 12 Apr 9.30am–5pm. A journey with Christ to release past hurts, nurture your emotional well-being and receive a deep sense of peace. Please bring your Bible, notebook and lunch. Tea & coffee will be provided. For more info please contact: Betsy Rego 021 165 3856.

### Jubilee Sing Jubilee

Join Tony Alonso, a Grammy nominated composer of sacred music & a scholar whose work responds to the diverse realities of contemporary culture. The following events are taking place to celebrate the Jubilee of Song:

**Evening with Tony Alonso**, Thu 29 May 6.30, St Francis Xavier Church, Park Ave,

Whangārei. Suggested koha \$10. Register at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/event-1/an-evening-with-tony-alonso/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/event-1/an-evening-with-tony-alonso/)

**Conversation with Tony with drinks & nibbles**, Fri 30 May 6.30, Pompallier Diocesan Centre \$20. Register at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/retreat-workshop-with-tony-alonso-copy/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/retreat-workshop-with-tony-alonso-copy/)

**Retreat Workshop with Tony**, Sat 31 May 1.30–4 p.m., Baradene College Auditorium, Victoria St. Koha. Register at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/retreat-workshop-with-tony-alonso/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/retreat-workshop-with-tony-alonso/)

**Concert with Tony Alonso**, Sat 31 May 6.30 p.m., Baradene College Auditorium, Victoria St., \$10. Register at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/a-concert-with-tony-alonso/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/a-concert-with-tony-alonso/)

### Bishops' Lent Appeal

The theme for the Lent appeal in 2025 is *Restoring hope: Your compassion in action / Kia puawai te Tūmanako*. The appeal is crucial to our mission. It provides the resources necessary to continue our life-changing work in Aotearoa, the Pacific & around the world. You can either use the single donation envelopes available in the foyer or visit [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz) for further ways to donate.

### Divine Mercy Feast Sunday 27th April 5:30 p.m.

at St Benedict's Parish, 1 St Benedict's St, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Jesus told St. Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day". Free parking is available at Wilson Carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

### Fr Chris Skinner sm

will provide a concert in the Mary MacKillop Chapel (56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay) singing many of his well-loved songs on Sunday 6 April at 2 p.m. There is no need to register for this day. Please see the flyer in the foyer for more details.

### Next Taizé Prayer Friday 11th April at 7 p.m.

in the Mary MacKillop Chapel (56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay).

### Ann Neven rsj is offering a half-day retreat

on the theme, *Creation & the Incarnation*. She will use the book *An Astonishing Secret* by another popular author, Daniel O'Leary. The date for this retreat is Saturday April 12th from 10am–1pm in the Meeting Room—Mary MacKillop Centre, 30 Holgate Rd, Kohimarama. Please see the flyer in the foyer for more details.

### Stations of the Cross

through our City Centre. Good Friday 18 April. Starting 9am at Albert Park. Finishing 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph.

### Divine Mercy Conference 23–25 May, Auckland

Fr Chris Alar—Keynote Speaker. Divine Mercy NZ is excited to be bringing back to New Zealand Fr Chris Alar MIC from the US plus several other international speakers. Divine Mercy Conference 2025 will be in a real sense an encapsulation of all that has gone before, & yet more, & to the point—how that is lived out, witnessed, in the 3rd Millennium. Please join us for this important event in the Jubilee Year. Registrations are essential; [www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz](http://www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz) Pat Barrett 03 359 2087 [info@divinemercy.co.nz](mailto:info@divinemercy.co.nz)

### Parnell food truck night: food & drinks, live music

Join us on Thursday, April 3rd, from 5-7.30 pm for an unforgettable Food Truck Night! Kick off April with a food truck event at our beloved venue—Holy Trinity Cathedral, on the corner of St Stephens Ave & Parnell Rd. Indulge in delicious offerings from Auckland's top food trucks, live music by The Burtones, a pop-up bar, & plenty of seating for a fun, laid-back evening. The event is free and pet-friendly (leashes required). Don't worry about the weather—we've got covered seating, so a little rain won't dampen the fun! Sponsored by the Parnell Business Association, hosted by Holy Trinity Cathedral, & organised by The Food Truck Collective, this night promises amazing food, drinks, music, & entertainment. Make sure you join our Facebook event to stay in the loop with all the latest updates & be notified about any changes due to weather! <https://www.parnell.net.nz/parnell-food-truck-nites/>

*Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:* Christine McBride, RosaAnne Marshall, Hannah Rossiter, Mary Jean Laffey, 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, 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:* Teresa Pope, Joseph Vis-kovich, Mike Collins, Fr Mario Dorado, Geoffrey Ricketts, Sandra Mews, Margaret Fischman, Audrey Hickey, Benito Ang Lim, Kovacs Arpad, Domingos Mascarenhas, Phyllis Geany, Tracy O'Brien, Lamakina Heeney, Thelma Sanchez, Sr Julia MSA, Clara Cabaero, Janet Hackett, Violet Rebello, Jan Borst, Jo Lawson Hitchcock, Frederique Romero, Jack Gifford, Rosaura Rustia, Eva Goodwin, Peter Bowden, Sheila Jennings, Bridget Daly, Rosario Chua Romero, Keri Coutts, Frank Neven, Seamus O'Reilly, Nacita Foot, Elizabeth Widarma, John Curran, Hector Enriquez, Tony Hartigan, Rev William Forde, Maxime Petit SM, Rev Patrick O'Reilly, Estrella Villarante, Winifred Hunt, Dean John Rhymer, Mario Alcantara, Patricia White, Bridget Daly, Kathleen Henderson, Albina Cumabon-Espiritu.