

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times (until end April) ~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 7 am & 9.30

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 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 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 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.

Engaged/planning a wedding? Catholic Diocese of Auckland

Catholic Diocese of Auckland-Approved Marriage Preparation Course.

Book your Marriage Preparation Course early—1 year for NZ and 18 months for overseas weddings.

Register & Book here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>

For more information contact: Gerry at gerrys@cda.org.nz M: 021 02247442

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

To find out more about what's going on for Catholic tertiary students in Auckland, please contact Daniel Story at 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

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."

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 27TH APRIL 2025

In John's Gospel this week there is a powerful passage that illustrates how the risen Christ transforms lives and inspires faith. The disciples, frightened and hiding behind locked doors, are overwhelmed by fear and uncertainty. Yet, when Jesus appears in their midst, everything changes. His first words, "Peace be with you," are not just a greeting but a profound proclamation of restoration, reassurance, and hope. The presence of the Lord is transforming—it dispels fear, replaces doubt with joy, and brings a sense of mission to those who encounter Him – echoing the Exultet sung last week at the Easter Vigil.

In this passage, we see the disciples transition from fear to courage. Jesus breathes on them, giving them the Holy Spirit, and commissions them to continue His work. This moment reminds us that the presence of Christ empowers and equips us for the mission He entrusts to us. His peace is not merely an absence of conflict but the fullness of life and purpose that comes from being in communion with Him.

The story of Thomas is equally significant. Thomas represents those who struggle to believe without tangible proof. When Jesus invites him to touch His wounds, Thomas proclaims, "My Lord and my God!" This confession of faith, born from an encounter with the risen Christ, underscores the transformative power of His presence. Yet, Jesus' response, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed," extends an invitation to all believers to trust in the witness of others.

Faith is born from the Word, from the witness of those who did see and whose testimony remains. The Gospel itself is a living testament passed down through generations, offering us the opportunity to believe and encounter Christ through the Word. In this way, the apostles' witness becomes our foundation for faith.

As we reflect on this passage, we are reminded that faith is both a gift and a response. The presence of Christ transforms us, and through the Word and the testimony of others, we are called to trust, believe, and live out the peace and mission He offers. - *Fr Stephen Berecz*

Remembering Pope Francis

A condolence book is in the foyer of the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph and you are encouraged to make a pilgrimage of prayer if you can. The Bishop will make known arrangements for a memorial Mass in due course.

Liturgy of the Word

Acts 5:12–16 More than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men & women

Psalms 117/118:2–4, 22–27a **R.** 1 Give thanks, for the Lord is good, God's love is everlasting

Revelation (Apocalypse) 1:9–11a, 12–13; 17–19 I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever

John 20:19–31 A week later Jesus came and stood among them

Next weekend: Act 5:27–32, 40b–41; Psa 29/30:1, 3–5, 10–11a, 12b; Rev'n 5:11–14; Jn 21:1–19.

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

Saturday 9 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30 am
~ ~ ~

St Michael's Remuera Mass times this week:

Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm
Mon–Friday 7 am, 12 noon
Saturday 8 am

No 7am Mass at Parnell May until end of August

This weekend is the last 7am mass for 4 months.

Sacred Heart College Vinnies Pyjama Drive

We are once again asking parishioners to donate warm, brand new children's pyjamas. These can be dropped off at mass or to the Secretary during office hours. These are distributed through Starship Hospital's Ronald McDonald House.

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.

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: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

Are you a catechist or volunteer in your parish?

All catechists, volunteers, and those who serve in their parish are welcomed to share in a day of refreshing with Dianna Fouhy and Dcn Steve Fraser as your retreat hosts. \$25.00 per person. 5 July 10am to 3:30pm. Details and registration at <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/event-1/being-refreshed-1-day-retreat-south/> Registrations essential. For further information please contact Dcn Steve on stephenf@cda.org.nz

Jubilee Bursary Semester 2, 2025

For Theology and RE courses. Applications close Thursday, 5 June 2025 please contact:

michellej@cda.org.nz

The Upper Room Wednesday 7th May 6:30pm

Good George Mission Bay. Young adults, you don't want to miss the first Upper Room of 2025! This event is an awesome opportunity to grab a drink, chat to other young adults, and dive into some relevant topics that don't usually feature in your Sunday mass homily! And did we mention free bar snacks? We are excited to be joined by Fr Frank Bird as our guest speaker! Talk topic to be released soon. Stay tuned for more details on our socials! Join us for an unforgettable evening of fellowship and formation! Free on-street parking is available nearby. *Event is 18 years and over* Tickets: https://events.humanitix.com/upper_room

School Attendance Due Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary & secondary Catholic schools in the Auckland Diocese. Please visit the link <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/> & see document attached for more details

St Joseph's Hāwera - 150 Years

St Joseph's Parish & School, Hāwera, will be celebrating 150 years over Labour Weekend, 24–26 October 2025. All past and present members of the parish & school community are invited to participate in the Jubilee celebrations. Registration Forms & Event Calendar are available at www.stjoeshawera150celebration.co.nz

For further details email:

stjosephshawerajubilee@gmail.com

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. Free parking is available at Wilson Carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

Cathedral Parish Secretary

The Cathedral Parish of St Patrick & St Joseph is currently seeking a highly capable & motivated Parish Secretary for 36 hours per week, Tuesday–Friday 8.30am–5.00pm & half a day on Sundays. Days & hours maybe negotiable for the right candidate. They are seeking a talented person able to ensure the effective & efficient day-to-day running of the Cathedral office & to support the Dean of the Cathedral. This is a varied & busy role, & responsibilities include: Reception; Secretarial services; Office administration, Accounts (MYOB); Cathedral, Wedding & hall bookings; Parish newsletter, Rosters, website/social media management & music ministry administration. Applicants for this position must have NZ residency or a valid NZ work permit. To view the full advert, position description & how to apply, please visit the Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz Diocesan Services, Staff Vacancies.

Singles Ministry is holding a Meet & Connect

for Single Roman Catholics looking to find a partner on Sun 18 May. For more information kindly contact: Clytie: 021836705, Reena 0278387151

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/

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:
Christine McBride, RosaAnne Marshall, 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:

Pope Francis, Joan Ferris, Tom Wiseman, Patrick Bogan, Alan McLeod, Mario Lugtu, Wayne Lynch, Ron Mather, Peter Hynes, Fr Paul Philbert OP, Dorothy Lee, Patsy Dwyer, Joan Evans, Teodora Uyttingco, Theresa Udoye, Tom Hall, Ricardo 'Jim' Castro, Danny Shanahan, Araceli Cruz, Miguelito Son, Barbara McKinney, Henry D'Souza, Leandro Gonzales, Hooi Peng Cheong, Denzil Menezes, Portia Robb, Brother Kevin Hore, Gerard Reid, Apolonia Jumamoy, Glenn Rigg, Sr Elizabeth (Margaret) Findlay, Larry Ross, Ben Abrigo, Maurice Schischka, Marie Stanton, Bonnie McCafferty, Fr Pat Littlewood MHM, Fr Brendan Sherry, Fr Paul Duncan, Brian Cronin, Fr Tony Davies IC, Bruce Christmas, Eileen O'Connor, Kay Black, Cliff Johnson, Michael Veen, Marie Heffernan, Philippa Geaney, Consolacion Mangahas, Apparicion Santiago, Ans Vogels, Clare Bennett, John Fernandes, Peter Ryan, Dominic (Felix) Vaggioli OSB, Luz Dela Cruz, Yun-Ae Kim, Asuncion Lopez, Eileen Malone, Lester Ramos, Tito Guleng, Robert Beveridge, Frank Douglas, Caroline Mitchell. *Eternal rest grant to them.*

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/ **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/ **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/

Invitation to join with Bishop Steve

on a Special Jubilee Pilgrimage Te Ara o te Tūmanako—The Way of Hope—29th September 2025 to 19th October 2025. Every 25 years the Church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope." I invite pilgrims to join me on a pilgrimage from Lyon to Rome as we celebrate Jubilee 2025. On the way we will meet pilgrims of the past, who we now know as saints, but were once pilgrims of the past who have influenced our local and the universal Church and who will inspire us in hope as journey to the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome. For further information and bookings please contact Harvest Journeys NZ Call free 0800 819 156—harvestjourneys.com/pv2566 or info@harvestjourneys.com

Flat mate wanted

To share a three bedroom house with one senior male guy. Royal Oak area next to a bus stop quiet and warm large bedroom available phone Ant 027-4191-300