

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH PARNELL

Sunday Mass Times (Winter) ~ Saturday Vigil 5 pm, Sunday 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.

Assumption 15th August 2025, 6 pm.

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 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](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 a workshop at St John the Baptist East Coast Bays, 87 Hastings Road, Mairangi Bay, on Tuesday 26th August 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](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz)

### 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](https://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 №: 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."*

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 3RD AUGUST 2025

In this week's Gospel, Jesus is approached by someone seeking help with a family inheritance dispute. Instead of addressing the financial concern directly, Jesus offers a parable that shifts the conversation toward a deeper spiritual truth. He tells the story of a rich man whose land produced abundantly. Rather than using his surplus to help others or to express gratitude to God, the man plans to store up his wealth and "relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God calls him a fool, for that very night his life will be demanded of him.

Jesus challenges the common assumptions that making a living or one's life consists in one's possessions: putting goods in place of God. This parable warns against the illusion of security that wealth can bring. The rich man is not condemned for being successful or having plenty, but for placing his trust in possessions rather than in God. His life became centred around storing things instead of storing grace. His wealth, rather than being a means to serve others or give thanks, became an idol.

This teaching is profoundly relevant today, as society often equates success with material accumulation. We can so easily be drawn into believing that our worth is measured by what we own, or that a full life depends on financial comfort. Jesus' words invite us to re-examine our priorities, to become "rich toward God" by cultivating generosity, gratitude, and trust in divine providence.

True wealth is not found in barns, bank accounts, or achievements—it is found in relationship with God and others. This Gospel reminds us that life is fragile and fleeting, and the only treasure that endures is love lived in faith. Let us place God—not goods—at the centre of our lives.

*~ Fr Stephen Berecz*

## Liturgy of the Word

**Ecclesiastes (Qoheleth) 1:2, 2:21–23** What do mortals gain from a life of toil and strain?

**Psalms 89/90:3–6, 12–14, 17 R. 1** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Colossians 3:1–5, 9–11** Seek the things that are above, where Christ reigns.

**Luke 12:13–21** All these things have been prepared, whose will they be?

**Next weekend:** Wisdom 18:6–9; Psalm 32/33:1, 12, 18–20, 22; Hebrews 11:1–2, 8–19; Luke 12:32–48.

For Sunday and weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.0com](http://mobilegabriel.0com) AND/OR [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz)

### Presiding Priest this Sunday

Saturday 5 pm Fr Stephen Berecz  
Sunday 9.30 am Fr Seph Pijfers

### Mass Times this week in Parnell

Saturday 9 am

### Reconciliation Times this week in Parnell

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

### 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 Programme Parish Feedback

The aim of the New Zealand Dioceses is to provide a consistent vision to create & foster a secure physical, emotional, & spiritual culture in our faith communities, enabling everyone to enjoy the fullness of life in Jesus Christ. Creating safe environments involves active participation & responsibility taken by all parishes. It requires collaboration, vigilance & a proactive approach through policies, procedures, & practices. Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is asking for feedback on the Safeguarding programme in your parish. The form is available from your parish safeguarding co-ordinator Nathaniel Hood at the parish office (email [office@parnellcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@parnellcatholic.org.nz) or phone 09 373 3132). Online responses go straight to Lisa-May: <https://forms.office.com/r/a0uNT5q5it>

### Middlemore Hospital Chaplaincy Volunteering

Are you interested in learning more about Catholic Hospital Chaplaincy including the qualities & understanding important to be effective in the role? All are warmly invited to a Diocesan Information Seminar on Sat 16 August, at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 10am–12.30pm, 30 New Street, Ponsonby. For more info, please contact Deacon Stephen Fraser (021 439 407)/John Metherell (021 086 52 181). Refreshments provided.

### Auckland Inter-Faith Council Dialogue & Learning

Series: "Power of Relationships in a Multi-Faith World". Information | Discussions | Workshops | Entertainment | Socialising Saturday, 9th August 2025, 11am–3pm @ Bahá'í Centre, 712 Beach Road, Browns Bay. Guest Speaker: Elena Villafana Sylvester, Strategic Partnerships Manager, UNICEF Aotearoa. A light lunch will be provided. RSVP by 4th August 2025, Email your attendance to: [nzaifc@gmail.com](mailto:nzaifc@gmail.com). For more information, please visit: [www.aucklandinterfaithcouncil.org.nz](http://www.aucklandinterfaithcouncil.org.nz)

### Pastoral Coordinator St Patrick & St Joseph's

The Cathedral wishes to employ a person part-time for 25hrs/week as the parish Pastoral Coordinator. This role is to assist the Cathedral Dean to ensure that the pastoral & administrative needs of the parish are met. The role provides pastoral assistance & is responsible for the coordination of the Parish Education Programmes & assisting with Sunday morning Masses. Applicants should be active Catholics able to partake in the full sacramental life of the church, with theological formation (preferred) & ministerial experience. Good communication, planning & organisation skills are essential. Applicants for this position must have NZ residency or a valid NZ work permit. To view the full ad, position description & how to apply, please visit [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) Diocesan Services, Staff Vacancies.

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC required—Part Time

Are you (or someone you know) passionate about sacred music & committed to building vibrant, faith-filled communities through music? St Patrick & St Joseph's Cathedral is looking for a dynamic & visionary Director of Music to help grow & shape our music ministry. This is a unique opportunity to work with our talented cantors & organists, choirs, & music groups. The Cathedral plays a vital role in the life of the Church in Auckland, & this position is a meaningful way to contribute to its mission & liturgical life. Whether the applicant's background is in choral direction, liturgical music, or music coordination & leadership, we'd love to hear from you! For more info or an informal conversation about the role, please contact Fr Craig at: [fcraig@stpatricks.org.nz](mailto:fcraig@stpatricks.org.nz) Applications close 15th August.

### Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday 15th August 2025. Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. here in St John the Baptist Parnell Parish.

### Interfaith Peace prayer service for peace

in Gaza, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and all war-torn places. 2pm Saturday 9 August. St Mark's Catholic Church, 334 Pakūanga Rd. All Welcome.

### The Catholic Diocese Pastoral Service Group

warmly welcomes everyone to join us for a day with David Wells on A Pilgrims Journey in the Synodal Church. This will be held at Sancta Maria Auditorium on 6th September 2025 10am–3.00pm. Lunch provided please register. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/event-1/pilgrims-of-hope-in-a-synodal-church/> David is an international speaker and theologian resident in the UK, & will be with us in Auckland to share his thoughts on journeying together as a synodal Church. For further information please contact Dcn Steve Fraser 021439407 or email [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)

### Annual Pilgrimage to Sacred Josephite sites

in Central Auckland will take place on 14 August. In the Jubilee year with the Theme Pilgrims of Hope, this is a good opportunity to Walk in the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop who spent time in Auckland on a number of occasions. Please see flyer in the foyer for more info. If you intend registering for this pilgrimage it is important to book early so that you won't miss out.

### Regular Taizé prayer

will be offered on Friday 15th August at 7pm in the Mary MacKillop Chapel followed by a cuppa.

*Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery, or needing our prayers, especially:* Lynnette Salvador, Kerry Addis, Sr Elizabeth Brown Russell, Lucy Antoci, Elizabeth Wright, 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 Clynnes, 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:* Judy Healy, Arthur Cole, Oralia Sieglar, Anthony Baptista, Stephen Nuimata, Stephen Orbell, Wendy Peters, Don Matthews, Matthew Chen, Fr David Whelan MHM, Bishop Stuart O'Connell SM, Anne Medrano, Kerry Lock, Mary Farmer, Ron Wilkie, Jim Robie, Kevin O'Connor, Myrna Rebancos, Brian Farrell, Kitty McKewen, Margaret Craddock, Nada Druskovich, Nikola Druskovich, Adriana Veronese, John & Ellen Sullivan, Alois Ayan, Pat McKinnon, Regina Tan, Eileen Hall, Marika Abbosh, Jack Toland Snr, Peter Collins, Louise Butler, Wendy Poland, Letizia Napoli, Enrique Ayllon, Fr Neville Browne, Emma Haulsell, Oscar Miranda, Lorna Bergin, Verma Devlin, Peninsula Reuelu, Jeremy Clarke, Hoani Hotene, Fuifu Smith, Leoncio Sambayan, Keanu Michaels, Neptali Marcos, Rosalina Collardo, Anna Mari-yanayagam, Quirino Balujadia, Dennis O'Reilly, Lodewijk Widarma, Ronald Grinter, Mahuika Allison, Yohanes Setio, Marutuna Ranapiri, Michael Murphy, Edmundo Oracion, Jocelyn Quinnell, Patricia Caddell, Maria Mununar, Choluta Miranda-Hipolito, Enrico Domingo, Richard Haslett, Wikitoria Anderson, Corazon Jucaban-Cambroner.

### Auckland Inter-Faith Council Notice of AGM 2025

The Executive Committee members of the AIFC are inviting you to join us for our AGM on Thursday, 21 August 2025, 7.30pm at All Saints Ponsonby, 284 Ponsonby Road Ponsonby. If you haven't renewed your membership yet or would like to become a member of the AIFC, you can do so anytime online or on the day.

### Wings.Ngā Parirau

In this Year of Hope, come to know your faith more fully, & enjoy a deep loving relationship with Jesus the Christ. Gather with others around the table to reflect on life through the light of Scripture. *Wings.Ngā Parirau* Year One starts 9th August 2025, 1–3pm at the Pompallier Centre, 30 New St, St Mary's Bay, Ponsonby. Register with Dianna Fouhy: [dfouhy@cda.org.nz](mailto:dfouhy@cda.org.nz)

### CWL Ōrākei—Eastern Suburbs

Women & men are invited to our Catholic Women's League charitable event on 27th August, 2025. Mass at 10.30am at St. Joseph's Church, Ōrākei. A talk by the two Missionary Sisters of Mary (SISM)'s mission work in Samoa since 1864). Cost includes morning tea & lunch is \$20. Please ring Tina Raines on 021 940 950 / 09-5212499 or email: [tinaraines2703@gmail.com](mailto:tinaraines2703@gmail.com)

### 6 Months in the Pompallier Mission Garden

Exhibition 31 July–16 August, Railway Street Gallery, Newmarket. Auckland artist Peter Atkinson presents a still life exhibition inspired by the heritage gardens of Pompallier Mission & Printery. <https://heritagethismonth.cmail20.com/t-t-l-gihjltk-suhuttiur-ty/>