# St John the Baptist Catholic Church Parnell

**Sunday Mass Times** (Winter timetable): Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 9.30 am.
No 7 am Mass May–August. Saturday 9 am Mass & 9.30 am Reconciliation.
Public holidays 9 am. No weekday Masses until further notice.

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 Carpark

Many have noticed an increase in parking infringements since AT rolled out their no. plate recognition cameras. Those attending Sunday or weekday Mass do not need to pay if using St John's carpark. On a Sunday you may leave your car in the carpark for 1 hr after Mass without payment (till 11.30 am). Cars left longer could be towed away. On weekday/Saturday mornings, you have 15 mins after Mass.

## 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.

## Upcoming Safeguarding workshop

Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding a workshop at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, 43 Wyndam Street, on Wednesday 5th August at 7 pm. 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

## Monte Cecilia Housing Trust

supports whānau who are struggling with housing challenges, including those living in overcrowded or unhealthy conditions such as garages. Our Sustaining Tenancies team also helps families in private rentals who are at risk of losing their homes, working with landlords & tenants to find solutions that keep whānau housed & supported. To learn more, visit www.montececilia.org.nz or call 0800 624 848.

## St Vincent de Paul Society Foodbank

Our parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods & 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 & generosity.
Contact the SVDP Food Support team:
Phone: 0800 680 090/815 6122.
Email: foodbank@svdpak.org.nz

## 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/

## 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 №: 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."*

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time—19th July 2026

In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers a series of parables that reveal the hidden and surprising growth of the Kingdom of God. The parable of the weeds among the wheat is central: good seed is sown, yet an enemy plants weeds alongside it. The instinct to uproot the weeds immediately is resisted; instead, both are allowed to grow together until the harvest, when the separation will be made clear.

This teaching speaks directly to the complexity of the present world. Good and evil coexist, often intertwined in ways that are not easily untangled. Jesus cautions against premature judgment, reminding us that the fullness of truth will only be revealed at the proper time. The Kingdom is already at work, even when its presence is not fully evident.

The accompanying parables of the mustard seed and the yeast deepen this vision. What begins as something small and almost unnoticed grows into something expansive and transformative. The Kingdom does not arrive with overwhelming force, but with quiet persistence, gradually reshaping the world from within.

In light of the coming judgment, the present is not a time of paralyzing nail-biting, but a time of risk, of joyful ventures taken, of discovering what is really valuable, of a boldness not intimidated by the fear of failure, and of a persistence in pursuit of the coming reign of God. These parables encourage active, hopeful participation rather than anxious waiting.

At the same time, Jesus does not dismiss the reality of judgment. The harvest will come, and there will be a separation between what endures and what does not. Yet this judgment is entrusted to God. The Son of Man who sends his angels to effect judgment is the same one who, during his earthly life, forgave sins freely, welcomed the outcast, and endured suffering at the hands of betrayers.

This is the heart of the Gospel's reassurance: the judge is also the saviour. His life reveals that God's justice is inseparable from mercy. Therefore, we are invited to live with confidence, trusting that God's gracious promises are faithful, and that the quiet work of the Kingdom will, in time, be brought to its fullness.

*—Fr Stephen Berecz*

## Liturgy of the Word

**Wisdom 12:12, 16–19** You have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.
**Psalm 85 (86):5–6, 9–10, 15–16** Lord, you are good and forgiving.
**Romans 8:26–27** The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.
**Matthew 13:24–43** Let both of them grow together until the harvest.

**Next weekend:** 1 (3) Kings 3:5–12; Psalm 118 (119):57, 72, 76–77, 127–130 ℟. 97; Romans 8:28–30; Matthew 13:44–52.

**Presiding Priest this Sunday**

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| Sat 5 p.m. | Dr Michael McCabe |
| Sun 9.30 | Dr Michael McCabe |

**Mass Times this week in Parnell**

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| Sat | 9 a.m. |

**Reconciliation Times this week in Parnell**

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| Sat | 9.30 a.m. |

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**St Michael's Remuera Parish Mass Times this week**

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| Sun | 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m. |
| Mon–Fri | 7 a.m., 12 noon |
| Sat | 8 a.m. |

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**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.

**Parnell Parish Sunday Roast**

Sun 2 Aug, 1.30 pm, at Notting Hill café, Parnell. Roast pork, lamb & potatoes w sautéed broccoli, mint & apple sauces, horseradish cream & rich, dark, gravy. Apple crumble w custard & cream. Tea, coffee & filtered water. 50 seats @ $80. Buy tickets at the parish office or email office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

**Caring Foundation Sunday – 19th of July**

For Caring Sunday, please support Bp Steve's Caring Foundation's annual appeal & help those in poverty be seen, heard & helped. A donation to Bp Steve's Caring Foundation is needed more than ever this yr as our brs & srs battle w the cost-of-living crisis, job losses & food & housing insecurity. To make a donation, please scan the QR code; use a donation card; donate through their website www.caringfoundation.org.nz ; use a special collection envelope; or donate directly to BNZ 02-0100-0242648-00 using your surname & initials & your ph № as references. You can also donate directly into the parish bank account w your pledge № & 'Caring' as reference.

**Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry Meet Ups**

North Region: Lulu Café, 8 Link Dr, Wairau Valley, Sun 19 Jul, 1 p.m. Connect, share knowledge & enjoy good vibes w other youth leaders. Free coffee! Don't miss it! More info: joshuad@cda.org.nz

**Reflect & Renew Weekend Retreat**

A gentle, spacious w/end designed for rest, prayer & renewal. Led by our spiritual directors, this event offers time to step away from the noise of daily life & reconnect w God in the beauty & stillness at the friary. Fri 24, 7 p.m.–Sun 26 Jul, 3 p.m. www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or 625 6651.

**Fr Paul Turner *Ars Celebrandi* Workshop**

The NZCBC warmly invites clergy, parish liturgy teams, school staff, deacons, & all involved in the preparation of the sacred liturgy to a special workshop with international liturgist Fr Paul Turner. Inspired by Pp Francis's Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi*, this workshop will explore the *ars celebrandi*, the art of celebrating the liturgy with reverence, understanding, & fidelity to the mind & heart of the Church. Fr Turner will lead practical & enriching sessions aimed at deepening our understanding of the Eucharist & strengthening the celebration of Mass in our parishes & schools. Fr Turner is pastor of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri & director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome. He is a consultor for the Dicastery for Divine Worship & the Discipline of the Sacraments. His numerous publications include "Guide for..." The Liturgical Ministry series of books & dozens of other titles. As pastor of diverse parishes, he spent many years ministering in a state prison, serving an Hispanic & multiethnic community, & providing assistance to the homeless. Sat 25 Jul, Christ the King Church, Ōwairaka, 260 Richardson Rd, Mt Roskill. Parish Mass @ 9 a.m., sessions 10 a.m.–2.30 p.m. Morning Tea provided. BYO Lunch please. Register at www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/paul-turner/

**Grandparents Mass**

Marriage & Family Life warmly invites you to a special Grandparents Mass as we give thanks for the love, wisdom, & faith that grandparents & older people share with our families & communities. We especially encourage grandchildren to bring their grandparents, & everyone is welcome to bring an elderly person in their life whom they would like to honour. St Pat's Cathedral, 43 Wyndham St (cnr Federal St). Sun 26 Jul, 4:30 p.m. Reduced parking fees apply. Come & celebrate together as one family in faith.

**World Youth Day Auckland 2026**

10 a.m.–8:30 p.m. Sat 1 Aug at Victory Convention Centre. Join over 1,800 young Catholics at Victory Convention Centre for WYD AUK 2026—a massive, joy-filled day of faith, community & witness. Inspired by the Scripture chosen for the 40th WYD, "You also are my witnesses, because you have been w me" (Jn 15:27). This yr's event is about fixing our gaze on Jesus & becoming courageous witnesses of Christ in our world. For more info & to register go to events.humanitix.com/world-youth-day-auckland-2026

**Overcome Addictions by Fr Robert Steele**

Fr Robert Steele, who struggled with alcohol addiction before his ordination but has just marked 25 years of sobriety, has published *A Journey of Hope: Combating Pornography on the Internet*. He says his book, described as a Catholic approach to healing & freedom, comes from a place of empathy, not judgement. Tue 28 Jul, 7–8 pm. St John the Baptist Church, Mairangi Bay.

**Delargey Awards 2026**

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Delargey Awards, which recognise significant & outstanding ministry w young people. In addition to identifying key contributors to youth ministry, the awards provide a chance to highlight the Church's outreach to teens & young adults. The awards are named after Reginald Card Delargey, former Abp of Wellington & Bp of Auckland. Nominations cl on 31 Jul. Find out more at: bit.ly/Delargey2026

**Part Time Parish Receptionist**

St Anne's Church in Manurewa is seeking a friendly & organised p/t Parish Receptionist to be the welcoming face of their parish community. This role involves greeting visitors, supporting the parish office, assisting w events, & helping create a warm & welcoming environment for all. They are looking for someone who enjoys working w people, is well organised, & appreciates the mission & values of the Catholic Church. If you're passionate about community & service, they would love to hear from you! Please view the SEEK link below for more details & how to apply. https://nz.seek.com/job/92934322

**Retreat Day for Women**

Women of all ages are warmly invited to join the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, visiting from Sydney, for a retreat day centred on the Eucharist. Sun 2 Aug, 12:30–6 p.m. at St Luke's Catholic Church (260 Chapel Road, Flat Bush). Cost: $10, including afternoon tea. Register at https://events.humanitix.com/retreat-for-women

**The Dark Night of the Soul**

Thu 6 Aug; 1.30–3.30 or 7–9 p.m. $25 or koha. Facilitated by Ron Lang. . To register for any events at Hou Mana Wai Mercy Wellsprings, email Rebecca: office@mercywellsprings.org.nz

**Celebrating M MacKillop: Vigil Ritual & Light Tea**

Fri 7 Aug, 5.30 p.m. onwards. Venue: Chapel. Leaders: Josephite Companions & Srs. A time of prayer to honour M MacKillop & how her life is an inspiration for us today.

**Parish Coordinator**

St Joseph & Joachim Parish in Ōtāhuhu is seeking a capable & motivated individual to join the team as a Parish Coordinator. This is a p/t role of 20 hrs/week, working Tue–Fri 9–2.30 pm. The successful candidate will play a key role in supporting the Parish Priest & ensuring the smooth & efficient operation of the parish office on a day-to-day basis. Responsibilities include: Reception; Secretarial services; Office administration; Executive Assistant support to parish priest; Parish communications, incl website; Parish records & Mass preparation. For full details, please visit the CDA's website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz – Diocesan Services – Staff Vacancies.

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

**Jim Brown, Matthew Newman, Teresa Gabriola, Lynnette Salvador, Luke Sebastian Catiben, Scott Hickey, 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 Coughey, 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:

**Felipe Navarro Jr, Fr Michael Bancroft, Tess Keenan, Gloria Alder, John Cardozo, Joseph Tan, Manuel Lundon, Brucie Ngapera, Philip Daniels, Sandy McInnes, Savio Louis Pinto, Brian Farrell, Bonny Bonifasius, Brendan McFadden, Akash Anthony, Teofilo Damasco, Murray Addlington, Jennifer Spencer, Mary Matijasevich, Lyn Wolfgram, Gordon Russell, Selwyn Winters, Albie Wiggs, Cathy Mika, Marietta Brochner, Rebecca Rivers, Glenette Menzie, Anne Shanley, Sr Jean Sinclair, Sr Peggy Browne DOLC, Wenceslas Anthony, Molly O'Keefe, Epiena Lomu, Br Brian O'Kane, Fr Aquinas McComb OP, Harold Plumley, Glennis Manning, Taito Etevise McCabe, Megan Small, Maureen Hammond, Fr Chuck Gallagher SJ, Nena Dizon, Maria Lainez, Mary Neal, Anurag Jose, Fr Patrick McHugh, Mary Kurian, Agnes Pile, Nena De Guzman, Terese Van Damm, Doug Knight, Fr Gerry Cushlow, Jim Whelan, Keith Hamlin, Alphons Mary Joseph, Br Paul Kent, Kevin Murphy, Mabel Hogg, Ruth Dimadulae, Romeo Abcede, Rosa Almeida, Edwin Escandor, Ann Johnson, Elizabeth Price, Geoffrey Walton, Fr MacDonald MHM.**