St John the Baptist Catholic Church Parnell

is scheduled to be closed for repainting until 2nd November. During this time, there will be one Parish Mass, celebrated at 5.00 p.m. on Saturday evenings at our neighbouring parish, St Michael's Remuera. The usual Mass schedule at Parnell is expected to resume on Saturday 7 November. parnellcatholic.org.nz

Parish Priest: Father Stephen Berecz. Email sberecz@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Nathaniel Hood. Phone (09) 373 3132. Email: office@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 a.m.). 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 Maria Assumpta Parish, 198 Beach Haven Road, Beach Haven, on Wednesday 7th October 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."

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time—4th October 2026

In our Gospel this week, Jesus tells the parable of the tenants in the vineyard. The landowner carefully prepares the vineyard and entrusts it to others, expecting that, in time, it will produce good fruit. The vineyard is a powerful image of God's love and generosity. God gives us what we need to grow, flourish and bear fruit in our lives.

Jesus concludes by speaking of the "**Kingdom of God**" and the fruit that it should produce. That fruit is evident in all our lives, at least to some extent. We have all experienced kindness, generosity, forgiveness and compassion from others. We have also, at different times, been able to offer those same gifts to others. These are signs of the Kingdom of God already present among us.

Yet, if we are honest, we also recognise that our lives could bear much more of this fruit. There are times when we are impatient rather than patient, self-centred rather than generous, resentful rather than forgiving, or indifferent when another person needs our care. The vineyard of our lives does not always produce the harvest that God hopes for.

The good news is that God does not simply plant the vineyard and then abandon it. God continues to work within us. God keeps investing in us through grace, through other people, through Scripture, through the Eucharist and through the experiences of everyday life. Even our failures can become opportunities for growth when we allow God to work within us.

Without God's ongoing investment in us, our lives cannot become all that God desires them to be. The question is not whether we have failed to bear perfect fruit, but whether we are willing to allow God to continue cultivating our lives.

May we open ourselves to God's grace so that the fruit of the Kingdom—love, kindness, generosity, forgiveness and compassion—may become increasingly evident in us and through us.

—Fr Stephen Berecz

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 5:1–7	The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.
Psa 79 (80):8, 11–15, 18–19 ℟. Isa 5:7	The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.
Philippians 4:6–9	Keep on doing these things, and the God of peace will be with you
Matthew 21:33–43	The landowner will lease the vineyard to other tenants.
Next weekend:	Isaiah 25:6–10a; Psalm 22 (23); Philippians 4:10–14, 19–20; Matthew 22:1–14.

Presiding Priest this Weekend

Saturday 5 p.m. Fr Stephen Berecz

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St Michael's Remuera Parish Mass Times this week

Sunday	8 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m.
Monday–Friday	7 a.m., 12 noon
Saturday	8 a.m.

Reconciliation Times this week at St Michael's Remuera Parish

Sunday	4.30 p.m.
Saturday	8.30 a.m.

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.

The Square Gift Store (Catholic Shop)

With grateful hearts & trust in God's providence, we are delighted to announce that The Square Gift Store has now moved to a new location: Suite 2, Level 1, 9 Teed St, Newmarket.

Community Feast Day Programme

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi falls on 4 Oct, & a no. of special activities are planned at the St. Francis Retreat Centre & across the community. All are warmly invited to join the Franciscans' Triduum of prayer & celebration: **3 Oct** at 6pm—Transitus at the St. Therese Parish, Three Kings; **4 Oct** at 9:30am—St Francis Feast Day Mass to be celebrated by The Most Rev Peter Brown, Bp Emeritus of Samoa–Pago Pago at St. Therese Parish; **4 Oct** at 4:30pm—Blessing of Animals at St Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Rd.

Exploring Sacred Spaces

organised by the Auckland Inter-Faith Council. Next event: Sun 4 Oct, 10–11.30 am, 40 Eaglehurst Rd, Ellerslie. For more info & all events in this series, please see poster in foyer or www.studyjoy.nz/2026/05/21/interfaith-events-coming-up/

Merle Abbot Art Exhibition

Bishop Selwyn Chapel, Holy Trinity Cathedral, 446 Parnell Rd. Opening Night Thu 15 Oct 6.30–8.30; exhibition 16–17 Oct 10 am–3 pm. www.artbymerle.co.nz

Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Q Theatre. 26 Sept–10 Oct. Book tickets at https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2026/sep/joseph-and-the-amazing-technicolour-dreamcoat

St Patrick's Cathedral Office Clear Out

St Pat's Cathedral Office is clearing out a range of office furniture, household items & more, & we'd love to see these items put to good use rather than go to waste. Office chairs, desks, book cases, fridges, washing machine, dryer, microwaves, books, religious items, Christmas decorations +so much more. You might find a hidden gem at a great price! Sun 4 Oct (10 am–6 pm) Liston Building (directly opposite St Patrick's Cathedral). Wilsons Car park options: 1) Hobson St (Old Farmers): $4.50 via the ParkMate App only. Promo code STPATS to receive discount. 2) Durham Lane (City Centre): $3 validate physical ticket in the parking machine located by the notice board.

Opportunities at Mary MacKillop Centre

Monthly Taizé Prayer is on Fri 9 Oct at 7 pm in the Chapel followed by a cuppa. The following day, Sr Meg Hills will offer her popular **Card-making workshop** on Sat 10 Oct from 10 am–3 pm. Please read flyer in foyer for more info. It is recommended that you register early for this day so as not to miss out, as only 8 people are able to attend this day. Sr Ann Neven is offering another morning session based on Daniel O'Leary's book *The Astonishing Secret*. This reflection time is entitled **Humanity & Nature through the Lens of the Incarnation**, on Sat 17 Oct, & will begin at 10 am through to 1 pm.

Events at Hou Mana Wai Mercy Wellsprings

Spring has sprung in our gardens & we are revelling in its beauty. Come & enjoy it with us sometime! 104 The Drive, Epsom. **Spring Reflections Retreat Day**, Tue 6 Oct, 9.30 am–2.30 pm. $35 or koha. Facilitated by Rebecca Gane & Cathryn Wiles-Pickard rsm. The seasons offer us 4 opportunities to pause & consider the different experiences of our lives, & how we respond to them. This retreat day will begin & end with a short time of teaching & reflection, with 4 hrs in the middle of the day for personal prayer & solitude. **Between the Harbour & the Mountain** Sat 10 Oct 10 am–noon. $25 or koha. Facilitated by Patricia Williams. In this workshop, Patricia will share how she came to write her award-winning manuscript which weaves together reflections on nature, te reo Māori, faith, & global challenges. She will encourage participants to pause & notice the "magical moments" that shape our lives, & provide guidelines to "explore a more thoughtful, contemplative way of living." 638 6769 www.mercywellsprings.org.nz

***Wings*: Know your Faith; Share your Faith**

Are you involved with Ministry of Word or Eucharist, Sacramental preparation, RCIA, Children's Liturgy? This is for you! Complete Year 1 *Wings.Ngā Parirau* over 3 Sundays. 4 Oct, 18 Oct, 1 Nov 10 am–3 pm, at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New St, St Mary's Bay, Ponsonby. Meet Jesus in his Word, in others & in yourself. Come & see! Contact Dianna Fouhy: diannaf@cda.org.nz

Events at St Francis Retreat Centre, Hillsborough

Register at www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz **Time Out Days**—For those who seek to take a day off. Cost is just $35. It includes lunch, prayer times, mediation & reflection 9:30 am–2:30 pm. Wed 7 Oct, Wed 6 Nov, Wed 8 Dec. **Prayer Retreat for Women: Prayer & the Interior Life**—Fri 9 Oct, 6 pm–Sun 11 Oct, 3 pm, w time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer & Spiritual Direction.

Property Manager—Education (Secondary Schools)

Join the Diocese & help shape safe, future-focused learning environments across our secondary schools. This exciting role involves leading property projects, managing maintenance and compliance programmes, & partnering with school leaders to support Catholic education throughout Auckland & Northland. A relevant tertiary qualification &/or significant industry experience is required & experience in the education sector & knowledge of Ministry of Education property standards & funding processes would be advantageous. To view the full ad & position description, please visit: https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Manager—Ministries to Young People

Are you a Catholic leader with a heart for young people? The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to serve as our full-time Manager—Ministries to Young People. You'll lead a multidisciplinary team, oversee major diocesan initiatives & shape of youth & young adult ministry in NZ's largest Diocese. To learn more, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

General Manager: Catholic Diocese of Auckland

An exceptional leadership opportunity has arisen to join the Diocese of Auckland as General Manager. Reporting to the Bishop & Diocesan Administration Council, this influential role provides strategic & operational leadership across finance, property, people, IT, governance support, & organisational performance. Working alongside senior leaders across education, pastoral care, social services, & Māori ministry, the successful candidate will help shape & deliver a significant renewal agenda for NZ's oldest & largest Catholic diocese. We are seeking an experienced senior leader w strong commercial & financial acumen, excellent stakeholder management skills, & a genuine empathy for the Catholic faith, ethos, & mission. This is a rare opportunity to make a lasting impact in a values-driven organisation serving communities across Auckland & beyond. For more info & to apply, visit: https://www.sheffield.co.nz/Job-Search?Id=729

Eastern Bays Coffee Morning

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Riddell Rd, Glendowie, in the grounds of St. Andrew's Village. 10 am 21 Oct.

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery, or needing our prayers, especially: **Greg Newman, Cameron Russell, Teresa Gabriola, Lynnette Salvador, Luke Sebastian Catiben, 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**: Teresita Hontiveros, Br Gerard Mahony, Msgr Terry Leslie, John Fay, John Griffin, Chrissy Jacobs, Gregory Cambie, Andrew Afeaki, Stephen Nobilo, Mary Kemp, Wanda Ellis, Alma Tadman rsm, Kevin Gould, Peter McLeavey, Dolly Nursanti Tjandra, Hugh Laracy, Maria Leite, Rosario Jose, Basil Mayer, Msgr Vincent Hunt, Gloria Court, Mark Pye, Kumi Masui, Senia Auva'a, Erin Griffin, Florence Gomez, Dennis Mannex, Anna Noh, Wilhelmina Arnet-Schumacher, Colette McCarron, Alejandro Chan, Paul Lao, Iwona Konarkowska, Pedro Bautista, Dorothy Leuschke, Patricia Faire, Sarah Caulfield, Marie Green, Gregory Mascarenhas, Pat Hendry, Phyllis Revel, Eric Athaide, James Hurley, Thean Chuan Ong, Jimmy Kelly, Patricia Borg, Mary Hyland, Cameron Murphy, Louisa Potter, Guillermo Rabno, Kaz Wisniewski, Colleen Green, Margaret Stewart, Park Dong Hyun, Paul Shanahan, Shane & Allan Brewster.**