

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARNELL

"Prepare a way for the Lord."

All Saints—1st November 2026

The Solemnity of All Saints invites us to celebrate those who have lived faithfully in the presence of God and now share in the fullness of eternal life. In today's Gospel, Jesus proclaims the Beatitudes, offering us a vision of holiness that is often very different from the values of our world. The poor in spirit, the gentle, the merciful, the peacemakers and those who hunger for justice are called blessed. Through these words, Jesus reminds us that holiness is not measured by wealth, power or success, but by a heart centred on God and open to others.

When we celebrate All Saints, we remember not only the great saints whose names are known throughout the Church, but also our beloved dead. Under God's grace, they have passed into a new way of life with God. Their earthly journey has ended, but their relationship with God has reached its fulfilment. For those who mourn, this faith can bring deep strength and consolation. We may say that our loved ones have gone only as far as God - and God is very near. In the mystery of communion with the saints, we trust that they remain connected to us in God's love and, in a new way, listen to our prayers and become a source of comfort and help.

Thinking of the saints as people we have known makes holiness something realistic and attainable. They are not distant figures without human weaknesses, but people whose foibles, humour and personality we remember with affection. Perhaps they were parents, grandparents, friends, teachers or parishioners. We knew their imperfections, yet we also witnessed their steadfastness in living Gospel values. They placed God at the centre of their lives through ordinary acts of kindness, forgiveness, service and faithfulness.

The Beatitudes challenge us to recognise that sainthood begins here and now. Every act of mercy, every effort towards peace and every commitment to justice can become a pathway to holiness. On this Solemnity, we give thanks for those who have gone before us, allowing their lives to inspire our own.

May we remember that we are called to holiness, trusting in God's grace and seeking to live the Beatitudes each day. And may the saints, known and unknown, accompany us towards the fullness of life with God.

—Fr Stephen Berecz

Liturgy of the Word

Revelation (Apocalypse) 7:2–4, 9–14	There was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.
Psalm 23 (24):1–4b, 5–6 ℟ 7c, 10b	Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
1 John 3:1–3	When God is revealed, we will see God as he is.
Matthew 5:1–12a	Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

Next weekend: Wisd. 6:12–16; Psa. 62 (63):1–7; 1 Thessal. 4:13–18; Matth. 25:1–13.

Presiding Priest this Weekend

Saturday 5 p.m. Fr Stephen Berecz

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St John the Baptist Parnell is scheduled to be closed for repainting until 6th 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 at 5.00 p.m. on Saturday 7th November.

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.

Various ministries in our parish needed:

readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, greeters, projectionists. Training & support provided. Please enquire at the parish office: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

Bible Diary 2027

For daily prayers, readings & reflections, Saint of the day. $20 each. To order your copies, contact the parish office: office@parnellcatholic.org.nz

Columban Art Calenders for 2027

The office has just received the 2027 Columban Art Calenders. Whether you're looking for a great Christmas gift, or buying for yourself, get in quick, because they won't last long. Contact the parish office—$15 each.

Driveway & Access Closure at St Michael's School

Driveway access is Beatrice Rd only. Bassett Rd exit is closed. This is to advise parishioners attending Mass that access through the school driveway leading to the Bassett Rd exit is completely blocked off. If you park in the school, you will need to come back to Beatrice Rd. Please drive carefully as the driveway beside the church will become a 2-way entry & exit for vehicles. Pedestrians please use the gate & steps on the east side of the church, not the driveway. Park on Remuera Rd for Sunday Mass where possible.

Mass for Deceased Clergy

All parishioners from across the Diocese are warmly invited to the Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy to remember & pray for those who have passed away over the past year. Tue 3 Nov. 11 am at St Patrick's Panmure. Following Mass is the blessing of the gravestones.

Red November 2026 Aid to the Church in Need

Celebrate Red Wednesday Mass at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre on Wed 18 Nov. Further details to be finalised.

Wings: Know your Faith; Share your Faith.

Are you involved with OCIA or Ministry of Word or Eucharist, Sacramental preparation, Children's Liturgy? This is for you! Complete Year 1 Wings.Ngā Parirau over 3 days: Sun 1 Nov, Sun 15 Nov, Sat 28 Nov from 10 am–3 pm, at the Pompallier Diocesan Cntr, 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

Wings: The Catholic Faith Formation Programme

We all need to feel welcomed in our Church, to understand our faith & to recognise Jesus calling each of us into an intimate friendship with him. The hospitality at the heart of *Wings.Ngā Parirau* gives space & time for people to come together, to become familiar w Jesus' teaching in the Gospels, & the Catholic Church's response to this teaching in the light of the Resurrection; to walk by faith in loving communion with Jesus in prayer. Wings is open to all & could also be a welcoming place for those who have come through RCIA/OCIA & Alpha to gather in communion w other parishioners. Join us for monthly meetings at Warkworth Parish—480 Matakana Rd, Matakana—4–5:45pm. Coming meetings on 7 Nov, 12 Dec. For more details contact Teresa Shaplesk teresah57@icloud.com & Dianna Fouhy diannaf@cda.org.nz

Auckland Catholic Youth Ministries Meet Up

1 Nov 1:30 pm, location TBC. RSVP to elisal@cda.org.nz

Administration Assistant Wanted!

Marriage & Family Life Ministry is looking for a highly capable Administration Assistant to contribute to a ministry that supports marriage & family life. We are looking for someone who combines excellent administrative skills w a genuine pastoral sensitivity & a commitment to serving others. This is a P/T role of 16 hrs, working Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10 am–2 pm (with some evening & w/end work) at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre. For full details & to apply please visit www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/ Closing date Mon 2 Nov.

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. Fri 6 Nov, Tue 8 Dec. **24-Hour Quietude**—This is for anyone seeking peace, clarity, or a spiritual reset for one full day. It begins Fri 20 Nov 7 pm w prayer & rest, & continues until Sat 21 Nov 7 pm. Our spiritual directors will be facilitating the sessions.

Charming Parnell flat for rent

Approx 55 m/2, open living area (gas fire), 1 double bedroom, equipped kitchen + washer/dryer, bathroom, storage. Garden. Parking (ACC resident permit). Transport close. Available: Feb 2027. Rent: negotiable. PH 09 37 99 076/ kearneyml@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass Fri 6 Nov 7 pm
at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All welcome.

Liturgical Ministries Lectures
The Mass, consisting of Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are one act of worship…Just as Jesus did with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, he first opens their minds to the scriptures, & then proceeds to feed them afterwards. We recognise the same shape taking place within our Roman Rite liturgy: the Word of God is proclaimed, & then we partake as one in the Body & Blood of Christ. As we approach the beginning of the new liturgical year, the Liturgy Centre is hosting its next series of Liturgical Ministries Lectures. These will cover basic theological foundations for Ministers of the Word & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. To register, please get in touch with your parish office who will then complete a group registration on your behalf. Registration is mandatory for all participants. Ministers of the Word: 10 am–12 pm. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: 1 pm–3 pm. Exact parish location will be made available to those registered. 7 Nov—City & Central deaneries, 14 Nov—Western deanery.

Update from the Mary MacKillop Centre
Our regular **Taizé prayer** will happen on Fri 13 Nov in the Chapel. All are welcome. We offer another reflective session entitled **The Joy of Living Simply** on Sat 14 Nov from 10 am–1 pm led by Jill McLoughlin rsj. Come & pause with us as we explore what it means to live more simply—to loosen the clutter that crowds our days & return to the quiet essence of who we are.

Marriage & Family Life
Invite & welcome all whānau with babies & children 0–5 years to a newly established monthly Catholic Coffee group, starting Sat 7 Nov at 11 am –noon at Sacred Heart Church Hall—16 Vermont St, Ponsonby. Come along & meet other likeminded whānau where God resides. There is lots of parking. Further information call Gerry (Leader of Marriage & Family Life Ministries) on 021 02247442.

OCIA/RCIA Information Evening
All ministers involved in accompanying seekers on the journey of Christian Initiation are invited to an evening of kōrero, shared learning, & resources/support from the diocese. This is also an opportunity to engage & connect with others involved in this ministry. Wed 11 Nov at 7 pm. Pompallier Diocesan Centre (30 New St). Register using the link below: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/rcia-information-evening/

Operations Manager—Mid-North Parishes
The Diocese is seeking a part-time Operations Manager (20 hrs/week, fixed-term for 12 months) to support the Mid-North Parishes & MSC Priests based in Northland. This varied role providing professional operational support includes parish administration, financial oversight, property coordination, communications, planned giving, & health & safety. We are looking for an organised & proactive person w strong business/operations administration & relationship management skills. The position offers an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution by supporting vibrant parish communities & helping ensure the sustainability of parish operations across the Mid-North. For further info & to apply, please visit the Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

St Pat's Cathedral school centenary celebration
at the site, 59 Wellington St, Freemans Bay. Fri 11 Dec, 5–7 pm. RSVP by 20 Nov to Therese at turnock@xtra.co.nz or Rosemary on 0204258456.

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:
Valrae Collins, Caroline McLean, Ada Harris, Leciso Baldo, Eddie Ierenino, Manus Gallagher, Robert Whiting, Anne Mendrano, Vili Filo, Melkiau Thavethoo, Sr Helen O'Neill rsm, Dame Sr Pauline Engel rsm, Margaret Wilke, Stephanie Hoyle, Linda Ward, Oscar Lacuna, Lorenza Inigo, Betty Robinson, Molly Novak, Toni Johnston, Mark Farac, Kevin Ryan, Gerry Dooley, Linda Ward, Tony White, Anthony Yco, Sr Cecilia Maher rsm, James Waldron, Don Gordon, Evelyn McGilly, Michael Goodwin, Gail Layborne, Isabel Acuna, Patrick Keenan, Johnny McCarthy, Zinaida Ponomareva, Fr Hans Bachman, Steve Munro, Br Clarent Glynn FMS, Alfred Santos, Fr Humphrey O'Leary CssR, Richard Tapley, Albert Reardon, Ong Siew Eng, Josebelle Filipo, Fa'asima Muliumu, Fifita Ramaulal, Florence McCarthy, Antonio Guzzo, Fr Dominic O'Neill. Eternal rest grant to them.

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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 № 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 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.

Upcoming Safeguarding workshop

Lisa-May, safeguarding co-ordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, is holding a workshop at Our Lady of Lourdes, 7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden, in February 2027.
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, 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.

9.30 am, 4th Sunday each month. Good Shepherd, Telford St, 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.