

## The WORD This Week

The tone of the Gospel begins to grow darker: Jesus is now on his way to Jerusalem, where he will be arrested and killed. Despite this, both this week and next week, there is a lighter contrast in the children that Jesus welcomes and blesses. Perhaps this tells us something about Jesus and his mission: despite the gathering clouds, (and possibly even because of that) he is still the manifestation of God's love for all his children, a love that will be most clearly displayed when he faces that death for our sake. There is one quite chilling phrase which links these together, in the first reading, where the plotters against the good man say "Let us test him with cruelty and torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his." The cold calculation of this is not far removed from the plotting of those who saw in Jesus a threat to their positions with all his purity of worship and faith, with all his "reproaches for our breaches of the law". There is indeed a storm gathering. But the last line of the first reading, though meant mockingly, will come true: "God will look after him we have his word for it." And three days after his death he will rise again.

## Today's Prayer

Who is greatest? Who is first?

Lord Jesus,  
you were born in a stable  
needing everything,  
having only life.

Then you were on the cross,  
needing everything,  
having no life.

Yet you are greatest of all.  
You taught the disciples  
as you journeyed through Galilee.

Teach us to love you.  
To care for your children, to serve your poor,  
to welcome the immigrant,  
to free the prisoner.

Lord, we ask you, give us only your grace.

**Anne Osdieck**

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

### The Law of Love

Today's liturgy begins with the theme of the law: "guide us according to your law of love because all mankind is in need of your law; the just one ... reproaches us for transgressions of the law." Notice that this is a law of love, and therefore it concerns the rightness of human relationships, in other words, justice: "the perfection of justice is found in your love ... help us to find this love in each other that justice may be attained." The result of following the law of love and establishing justice is harmony within the human family: "the harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace" (Second Reading). There is a direct line, therefore, from love through justice to peace. The recognition of this line constitutes the essence of wisdom, which is "peaceable, lenient, docile, rich in sympathy and the kindly deeds that are its fruit" (Second Reading). It is in this context that we encounter the Gospel, a passage that includes the images of the cross and the child. One way to interpret this would be to say that we approach the triple challenge of love, justice and peace with childlike humility, and we anticipate that our response to that challenge will bring us the cross.

**Gerald Darring / [www.liturgy.slu.edu](http://www.liturgy.slu.edu)**

**A reminder that the diocese continues to provide and broadcast Sunday Mass.** It is uploaded at 5.30pm Saturday night (as per a Vigil Mass time) to the **YouTube channel Auckland Catholic**  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XyfQet-mOW1mJSzfow>

**PRAY MASS**  
**SUNDAYS @ 2.00pm SHINE TV**  
Free-to-air TV Channel 25  
SKY TV Channel 201

**It is also broadcast on Shine TV Sundays at 2pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV Channel 201.**

**COME LET US Adore**  
AN HOUR OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY WITH BISHOP MICHAEL  
**LIVE FROM SACRED HEART PONSONBY**  
**SUNDAY 19TH SEPT 7PM - 8PM**  
JOIN US FROM BISHOP MICHAEL'S FACEBOOK PAGE  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND  
[WWW.FB.COM/BISHOPGIELEN](http://WWW.FB.COM/BISHOPGIELEN)

## Resources in times of Lockdown

### Outline of Liturgy of the Word for Sunday

with links to appropriate music videos, suggestions for reflection. Accompanied by a PowerPoint for sharing from *Pastoral Services Liturgy Centre* <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/ritual-prayers/>

**On-line Rosary** at 9am daily with the Cathedral of St Patrick's and St Joseph ([anita@stpatricks.org.nz](mailto:anita@stpatricks.org.nz) to join)

**Lectio Divina** reflecting on the daily Gospel readings (contact [anita@stpatricks.org.nz](mailto:anita@stpatricks.org.nz) to join) at 10am and 8pm from the team at the Cathedral Parish.

**Daily Reflections** from Bishops Pat and Michael Reflections from the Bishops on Facebook [Bishop Pat](#) and [Bishop Michael](#)



## THE WORD OF GOD

24th week of  
Ordinary time

### Sunday

1 Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
2 James 3:16-4:3  
Mark 9:30-37

### Monday

Ezra 1:1-6  
Luke 8:16-18

*Sts Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions, martyrs*

### Tuesday

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13  
Matthew 9:9-13

*St Matthew, apostle & evangelist*

### Wednesday

Ezra 9:5-9  
Luke 9:1-6

### Thursday

Haggai 1:1-8  
Luke 9:7-9

*St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest (Padre Pio)*

### FRIDAY

Haggai 1:15-29  
Luke 9:18-22

### Saturday

Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15  
Luke 9:43-45

The Diocese has these wonderful programmes to **Lift you Up/Whakapiki ake** during this time. The programmes are being updated all the time at: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/home-2020-new-design/the-church-and-covid-level-4-2/#programme>

### Sunday 19 September, 7pm

**Come Let Us Adore:** Eucharistic Adoration with Bishop Michael Gielen

In the midst of these challenging times, prayer has never been more important. Join Bishop Michael for a night of intercessory prayer for one another and our nation and we gather together around Our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/532739741158599>

### Tuesday 21 September, 7pm

**Behind the Scenes of The Chosen:** An Evening with Actor Noah James



From the beginning of our first COVID lockdown, many people have experienced a powerful encounter with Jesus through the TV series, **The Chosen**. With more than 100 million views worldwide, this series has become an international phenomenon. You're invited to join us for an incredible evening

with actor Noah James, who plays the apostle Andrew, as he gives us a behind-the-scenes look at **The Chosen** and answers YOUR questions.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/874550270119673>

### Saturday 25 September, 11am

**BLESSED:** A Women's Morning with Emily Wilson

Young women (13-35), join in this beautiful event where we will hear from international Catholic speaker and musician Emily Wilson! Emily will be speaking about overcoming self-criticism, cultivating gratitude, and creating space to listen to the voice of God. Make sure you put this event in your calendar, invite your friends to join in sisterhood, and bring your questions for the Q&A!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/4272295096201837>

**Catholic Diocese of Auckland Connect** issue out now! <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

Registrations are open for Ngā Tapuwāe - Sacred Footsteps  
From 6th January to 9th January 2022



Travel with us as we explore and experience and live sacred places Bishop Pompalier and the early missionaries lived. Contact Deacon Stephen Fraser [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) / Ngā Tapuwāe



Our Parish Filipino Community invites all to the celebration of the Feast of **"The Great Lady of the Philippines, Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary-La Naval"**

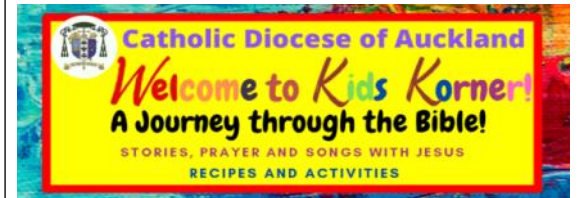
Sunday 10 October at Holy Cross Catholic Church, 2 Lavelle Road, Henderson  
Living Rosary, 12 noon  
Holy Eucharist 12:30pm  
Food Fellowship after the Mass in the Parish Hall.

### St Thomas More Parish donations

While our church is closed you are welcome to make donations online. Our bank account details are: **BNZ RC Bishop Auckland, Glenfield 02 0100 0120966 04**

Please put your name & pledge number (if known) in the reference section. If you don't have a pledge number please send Mary an email at [office@stthomasmore.org.nz](mailto:office@stthomasmore.org.nz) & she will organise one for you so that you can receive a tax donation receipt. **Many thanks for your generous donations at this difficult time.**

The Faith Formation & Sacramental Programmes of the Diocese have these wonderful free resources. **New link each week**



Kids Korner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/25th-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>

Parent Ponderings: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Starting-the-day-with-fun-and-time-with-Jesus.pdf>



Join us for a night of formation, music and Q&A with Fr Rob Galea! Fr. Rob will be joining us on Zoom to share practical ways that we can overcome fear and pursue our God-given potential.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82124381475>

## NZCatholic

Special Lockdown Digital Issue - September 15, 2021

More discussion needed on bills speech legislative proposal

**'Walk behind Jesus'**



NZ Catholic are providing, free of charge, a digital link to the latest issue.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/0c7dd53b-b640-42c7-9b20-ac28de9d0386>

### Baptism Preparation Courses

3 October & 7 November  
Phone office to enrol phone: 444 8624  
or email: [office@stthomasmore.org.nz](mailto:office@stthomasmore.org.nz)

### Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Peter Marshall, Cathy Sigley, Tamar Mathews, Israel Nathan, Eloise McFadden, Mark Delaurier, Troy Angelo Madrigal, Mary Anne Clark  
Contact Parish office for any name changes.

## FORMED

Speaker and author Kimberly Hahn, wife of Dr Scott Hahn and mother of six, is a convert to the Catholic Faith. Although honouring Mary was difficult for her to understand initially, she began to encounter Mary's loving guidance in little ways on a daily basis. In this presentation, Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.

### The Catholic Faith on demand.

St Thomas More, Glenfield has subscribed to Formed.org so that you and your families and friends can study/watch/listen/read for **FREE**.

### How do parishioners register for an account?

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)
2. Select your parish by typing in **0629** & select **St Thomas More, 336 Wairau Road, Auckland**
3. Register with **your name and email address**
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

Unfortunately our concert with Fr Chris Skinner has been cancelled. Once we are in Level 2 you can obtain a ticket refund from the parish office.

with Fr Chris Skinner  
Sunday 3 October 2021 7.30pm - 9pm

**CANCELLED**

## Rejoice

in the joy of the Catholic Festival

**POSTPONED TO 2022**

Saturday 16 October  
St Luke's Church and Sancta Maria College, Flatbush