



23rd Sunday in Ordinary time

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield,
5 September 2021

The WORD This Week

What shows us the presence of God? In the Biblical world it was miracles □ signs, which pointed towards the emergence of a new Kingdom, the Kingdom of God. This had been prophesied from of old: it was said that One would come, and also that certain things would be associated with this Messiah which would display the perfection of the Kingdom God wanted to establish. Jesus, in both his preaching and his mira-cles, proclaims that the Kingdom of God is at hand, in his own person. He fulfils the prophe-cies of the past, as he displays to the people of his own time, and to us, the nature of Gods Kingdom: in it all diseases and afflictions are abolished: so opening the man's ears and eyes tells us two things: first that Jesus is God, present in our midst, and secondly that he calls us into a Kingdom where all is perfect.

Today's Prayer

Lord Jesus,
open our ears
so that we can hear you
in the pleading of the poor,
the cry of the environment,
the war-torn,
the immigrant, the hungry.

Open our ears
so we can hear you
in the crash of waves,
the sound of children laughing,
the call of a friend, in music by Puccini.

We want to know you well;
wherever you are and in all things.

Open our deaf ears
and loosen our tongues.
Let us hear and speak
your love to all the world.

Anne Osdieck

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY At The Same Table

We believe in a God in whom "justice and mercy meet." Our God cares about the plight of the downtrodden (mercy), but also does something about their condition (justice), giving food to the hungry and sight to the blind, setting captives free, protecting strangers, and sustaining the fatherless and the widow. The prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of salvation that will involve opening the eyes of the blind, clearing the ears of the deaf, and even brightening up the environment. Mark presents Jesus as the kind of savior prophesied by Isaiah, one who "makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." Those of us who have a calling from the God of Jacob to be followers of Jesus must combine concern for the downtrodden (mercy) with action on their behalf (justice). We must reject the religion of favoritism for the rich, and imitate God who "chose those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and secures justice for the oppressed." We must combine preaching the Good News of the Kingdom with healing the sick. This is the way to offer "true worship" to the "God of peace and love."
Gerald Darring / www.liturgy.slu.edu

Resources in times of Lockdown

The diocese has a number of resources available on its website to support people during this time
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/home-2020-new-design/the-church-and-covid-level-4/>
This also has a programme of events that are available in the diocese during this time.

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.

HAPPY Father's DAY

LEGION OF MARY CENTENARY
7PM THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
PLEASE LIGHT A CANDLE & PRAY THE ROSARY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LEGION OF MARY
GENARATUS OF NEW ZEALAND

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 & 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 WORD OF GOD

23rd week of Ordinary time

Sunday

Isaiah 35:4-7
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

Monday

Colossians 1:24-2:3
Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday

Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday

Michah 5:1-4
Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday

Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 6:27-38

St Peter Claver, priest

FRIDAY

1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14
Luke 6:39-42

Saturday

1 Timothy 1:15-17
Luke 6:43-49

VOCATIONS ADORATION

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION AND BENEDICTION LIVE FROM ST. PAT'S CATHEDRAL



Live-Streamed Adoration, THIS Friday 3 September 2021 at 7pm

Event link: <https://fb.me/e/SrsHJqxW>

Eucharistic Adoration from Bishop Michael's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BishopGielen>). We're encouraging communities to come together to pray for an increase in Vocations, and now with an extended lockdown, we have a wonderful opportunity to join together to intercede and hold one another in prayer!

Light a candle, invite the kids to join in, make use of the chat box and share your prayer intentions, and grab your bible and rosary beads to help enter into this Holy Hour.

Information from the Diocese 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 to join)

Daily Reflections from Bishops Pat and Michael on their Facebook pages.

Lectio Divina

reflecting on the daily Gospel readings (contact anita@stpatricks.org.nz to join) at 10am and 8pm from the team at the Cathedral Parish

Breaking Open the Gospel of the Day Members of the Diocesan Community proclaim the Gospel of the Day and reflect on its meaning in our lives and this situation [YouTube](#)

The Season of Creation



is celebrated worldwide in the month of September ending with the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi on 4 October 2021.

This year the global Christian family will participate in initiatives of prayer, sustainability, and advocacy to care for our common home. This year's Season of Creation symbol is Abraham's tent.

It expresses the ecumenical call of radical hospitality, safeguarding a place for all creatures, human and non-human in the household (oikos) of God. Further information, prayers and other liturgy resources can be found at [Justice & Peace - Catholic Diocese of Auckland \(aucklandcatholic.org.nz\)](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) at the Environment & Sustainability tab.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
5-11 SEPTEMBER 2021

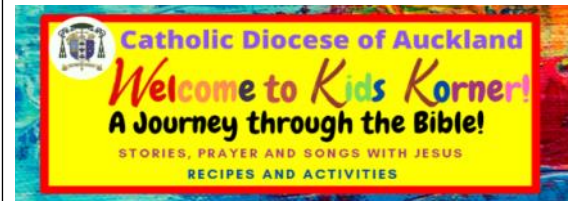
HOW CAN WE ALL ENSURE OUR CHILDREN ARE PROTECTED?
JOIN THE DIOCESE IN ITS GOAL
"A SAFE CHURCH FOR EVERYONE EVERY DAY"
KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE FROM HARM



"That every person has a value and dignity from his/her creation in the image and likeness of God"

The link to further resources <https://safeguardingchildren.org.nz/child-protection-week/>

IC XC High quality icon & sacred art prints for sale. www.sacredart.co.nz



The Faith Formation & Sacramental Programmes of the Diocese have these wonderful free resources. **New link each week** Parent Ponderings <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Some-Ideas-for-Activities-for->

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

PROLIFE FACTS While pro-life activities involving gatherings are prevented during covid, signing the petition calling for the House of Representatives to repeal the Abortion Legislation Act 2020 is one way to continue to be a voice for unborn children ([visit https://www.voiceforlife.org.nz/petition](https://www.voiceforlife.org.nz/petition)). Letters to the editor and use of social media can also help to maintain awareness of this important issue. You could take the time to learn more about the different organisations that work to protect the lives of unborn children, or offer counselling and practical support to expectant mothers considering abortion, or have had abortions, and their whānau, and consider becoming involved and supporting this important work when it is possible. For more pro-life info, visit voiceforlife.org.nz



On Our Lady's birthday the church celebrates the first dawning of redemption with the appearance in the world of the Saviour's mother, Mary. The Blessed Virgin occupies a unique place in the history of salvation and she has the highest mission ever commended to any creature. We rejoice that the Mother of god is our Mother, too. Let us always call upon the Blessed Virgin as 'Cause of our joy', one of the most beautiful titles in her litany. Let us watch Dr Tim Gray & Dr John Sehorn as they discuss the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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
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.

NZ Catholic

Special Lockdown Digital Issue - September 1, 2021

Mandatory sign in or scan in at churches 3 Kiwi goodness impresses judge 5

Answering the call



'PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR' - ARPA AWARDS 2020

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

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/25f770ac-5f43-4534-abc8-db3a6d9c451e>

Baptism Preparation Courses 3 October



Phone office to enrol phone: 444 8624 or email:

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.