



32nd Sunday in Ordinary time B

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 7 November 2021

The WORD This Week

God does not have favourites, Saint Paul tells us, but God always makes a special place for the poor, and those whom society would push into second place. In the traditions of Israel God invited the people to have special care for the widows and orphans - so the story we hear in today's Gospel would have a particular resonance.

The paradox of Christian faith is this: in giving, we receive.

Christ gave everything, sacrificing his very life, and in return received a new and unending life. The widow in the first reading gave her last food for the prophet Elijah, and in return received an endless supply. This is a challenge to us in our turn: what are we invited or asked to give, and in what spirit will we do so, and what will be our reward?

Today's Prayer

*Many rich people put in large sums.
A poor widow also came and put in two small coins
worth a few cents.*

Two coins were all she had.

No attention, no reward
no place of honor.

She gave all she had.
Was it trust or love?

Lord Jesus,
give us grace
not to count the cost.

Help us let go of our coins.

Take all that we own
and all we are.

We ask that your grace
be enough for us.

Anne Osdieck

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

Teaching Us Charity

Today's liturgy reveals some important facts about the poor.

(1) The poor are blessed because they have a greater recognition of their need for God. The two widows in the readings give up everything, totally trusting in the goodness of the Lord. (2) The poor are therefore more generous than others. Jesus made it very clear that "this poor widow contributed more than all the others who donated to the treasury." Recent studies in the United States reveal the same phenomenon: relative to their resources, lower income people are the most generous. (3) The poor may or may not have society on their side, but there is no doubt where God stands: the Lord "secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, sets captives free, gives sight to the blind, raises up those that were bowed down, protects strangers, and sustains the fatherless and the widow." (Responsorial Psalm) Those among us who are not poor receive the challenge to be poor in spirit. We pray at the start of this liturgy for freedom of spirit "... so that we may more willingly give our lives in service to all."

Gerald Darring / www.liturgyslu.edu

Christmas Giving Tree

This year we will be making up **Festive hampers** for distribution. Please leave your Christmas themed food items on Fr's deck under the Christmas tree.

Some suggestions: Soft Drinks, Biscuits, Steam Puddings, Chocolates, Chippies, Jams, Honey, Tinned Fruit, Jelly, Fruit Juices, Lollies, Fruit Mince Pies, Brandy Snaps, Crackers, Chutneys, Pickles, Salad Dressings, Sweet dessert Sauces.

If you wish to donate food vouchers/money, please leave them in the box provided on the deck.

*Many thanks for your
generous donations*



End of Life Prayer Day 7 November

On 7 November the Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide (EAS) law, the End-of-Life Choice Act 2019, comes into effect.

Family Life International (FLI) has set aside Friday 5 November as a Day of Reparation, in addition to prayers on Sunday 7 November, and has provided information at <https://fli.org.nz/2021/10/11/large-pay-outs-for-nz-health-practitioners-who-provide-euthanasia-and-assisted-suicide/>

Voice For Life are also coordinating a nation-wide End of Life Prayer Day on Sunday 7 November 2021.

Resources including readings and prayers of the faithful at <https://www.voiceforlife.org.nz/events/end-of-life-prayer-day-2021>. Further information: www.euthanasiafree.org.nz

World Youth Day 2021 21 November

Stand up! and get excited for World Youth Day 2021! Bishop Patrick Dunn, Bishop Michael Gielen and the ACYM team invite you to join us on Facebook Live to celebrate World Youth Day, as we live out this year's theme of "Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen."

<https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM>



ANSWERING COMMON OBJECTIONS

PURGATORY

DR. SCOTT HAHN



FORMED

Covering the biblical evidence for the authority of the Pope, doctrine of purgatory, devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, the Sacrament of Confession, the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist and more, the remarkable set is an essential resource

for answering the various objections that Protestants make to the Catholic Faith.

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**.

Love your neighbour as yourself, get vaccinated

Arohaina koe ki tōu hoa tata, ānō ko koe

THE WORD OF GOD

32nd week of Ordinary time

Sunday

1 Kings 17:10-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

Monday

Wisdom 1:1-7
Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17
John 2:13-22

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Wednesday

Wisdom 6:1-11
Luke 17:11-19

St Leo the Great, pope

Thursday

Wisdom 7:22-8:1
Luke 17:20-25

St Martin of Tours

FRIDAY

Wisdom 13:1-9
Luke 17:26-37

St Josaphat

Saturday

Wisdom 18:14-16, 19:6-9
Luke 18:1-8

NZCatholic
The national Catholic newspaper

Vax to the max



Church facing tough choices over vaccine cards
Symd local phrase opens in NZ dioceses

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

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/313d39d7-5e24-4a5f-b027-31769480dd31>

Baptism Preparation Courses

We will start these again in 2022

Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

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

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 program of events that are available in the diocese during this time.

PRAY MASS

SUNDAYS @ 2.00pm SHINE TV

A reminder that the diocese continues to provide 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>
It is also broadcast on **Shine TV** Sundays at 2pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV Channel 201.

Thanksgiving Celebration Liturgy 2021

On behalf of The Auckland Diocese, and Bishop Michael, we cordially invite all parish volunteers and Lay leaders, to share in our online liturgy of Thanksgiving. We wish to thank and honour you all for your desire to build the kingdom in a year that has been disrupted by Covid. The Liturgy will be held online on Saturday 6 November 2021, starting at 5.30pm www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz
See you all there!!

SCHOLARSHIP for STUDY at TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Bishop Patrick Dunn, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the *Ruth Miller Scholarship* for study at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College. This scholarship will be available for a selected number of people who intend to do one or more Theology papers at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2022. For further information about this scholarship and to receive an application form, please contact Catherine Ryan, Vicar for Education, Email: catheriner@cda.org.nz
Closing date for applications **3 DECEMBER 2021**

World Day of Prayer of the Poor

Sunday 14 November 2021 is the fifth World Day of the Poor, initiated by Pope Francis in 2017 with the theme of **"let us love, not with words but with deeds."** We are called to follow the example of Jesus in loving God and neighbour, especially the most vulnerable. Pope Francis reminds us, "If we truly wish to encounter Christ, we have to touch his body in the suffering bodies of the poor." He challenges us to get to know those who may have been invisible to us and to understand and change the structural causes of the poverty in our midst.

Prayer

God of Justice, open our eyes to see you in the face of the poor.

Open our ears to hear you in the cries of the exploited.

Open our mouths to defend you in the public square as well as in private deeds.

Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to you. Amen. (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Get to know our Spiritual Father and Celebrate the Year of St Joseph!

Patris Corde: With a Father's Heart -
A Festival on St Joseph will run from 14 Nov - 11 Dec 2021. All events are FREE.

Visit www.marriageandfamily.org.nz



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 Thank you & God bless**

Try Alpha Online
Explore life, faith & God
Tue 2nd Nov: 7.30pm
[Visit www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/alpha-online-registration](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/alpha-online-registration)

Try Alpha Online: Message from Bishop Michael: These are challenging days ... what about those who don't know our Lord's love, who don't know the comfort of faith, who don't know the surety of eternal life and the deep forgiveness and peace that Jesus's mercy brings? Alpha is the most gentle way I've found to share the good news of Jesus.

I will be offering Alpha online (via Zoom) for 8 interactive sessions at 7.30pm on a Tuesday night starting 2 November. Who can you invite?

Be courageous and invite people you know who don't have faith, or people who have maybe lost their faith, to come and know him in a new and fresh way. Be assured there's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's an open, informal, and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together. For more information go to: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/alpha-online-registration/> Teresa: 021 649 012 alpha@cda.org.nz



Instead of coming together to March at Parliament on **Saturday 4 December**, we're asking you to be a voice for the voiceless at your home AND to join us online for an exciting, motivating event.

So, while we can't come together to March this year, the great news is that more people can participate than ever before! This exciting opportunity to be a voice for the voiceless is happening on **Saturday 4 December @ 2pm**

Here's how you can be involved.

1. [Head over today to our website](#) to register your participation in the online event.
2. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to keep up with how you can be a voice for the voiceless at your home, enter competitions, and more.
3. Spread the word and invite all your family, friends and colleagues to participate!

Every day, 36 pre-born children lose their lives to the horror of abortion. Countless women and families are wounded physically, emotionally, and spiritually. www.marchforlife.nz/online

Join us - A Career with a Mission!

Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies, Family Life International NZ, is seeking a mature married couple or single woman to live in at our beautiful and well-appointed home in Pukekohe, to provide acceptance, love and care for pregnant mothers in need, and for their babies and perhaps toddlers in a faith-based setting.

A position for a missionary-minded couple or single woman who perhaps have a medical background and who are passionate about the sanctity of life. Supported by a daytime staff member, a reliever for the parents, and volunteers.

Saint Gianna's Home caters for up to four or five mothers and their babies at any one time.

To obtain a Position Description and Terms of Employment, please email: Dame Colleen Bayer col.fli@xtra.co.nz OR Mrs Clare McClean clare@fli.org.nz Co-ordinator Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options & Support.

DIOCESAN PHASE Oct 2021 - Feb 2022

SYNOD - For a Synodal Church. There are number of resources available on the diocesan website to inform people of the background, resources available to support and process of this important moment in the Church's story. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/> This includes suggestions for how individuals might get involved.