



Fifth Sunday of Lent A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 26 March 2023

Exploring The WORD

I am the resurrection and the life

The Gospel of the Fifth Sunday is perhaps the deepest meditation on the mystery of Baptism and membership of the Church. It is a prelude to the events of Easter Sunday, when we celebrate the triumph of life over death. To be plunged into the waters of baptism is to be buried with Christ, only to rise with him from the waters. This paradox of life and death is the content of today's readings. There is no more important part of our faith that the resurrection: that Christ rose from the dead is the very centre and heart of all that we believe - without it, our faith is useless. In the same way our belief in our own resurrection is vital: it is the most deeply needed gift that Christ gives us. This is why the climax of the instructions given to candidates for Baptism was this teaching: that Christ would give them life after death. Look ahead to the 3rd Sunday of Easter, where Saint Peter preaches to the crowds what he teaches them is that life comes after death, as it did for Lazarus, and for Christ himself.

Today's Prayer

They said to him, "Sir, come and see."

*And Jesus wept.
He had cried
"Lazarus, come out of there!"
Lazarus did.*

*"Death, now where
is your sting?"*

Christ weep with us, and for us,

*trapped in burial cloths
with our hands tied,
when we are trafficked,
seized at borders, homeless.*

*Your passion says,
"Untie them."
Let them go free."*

Anne Osdieck

LENTEN SPIRITUALITY

Victor Over Death

Today's Gospel recounts one of the most dramatic stories from the life of Jesus: the raising of Lazarus from the dead. John goes to great lengths to make clear that Lazarus had been dead for some time, and he shows Jesus' power to conquer death. We live in a world that has been caught up in death for a long time. We kill each other in acts of murder, abortion, euthanasia, execution, war, terrorist activities, drunk and reckless driving. We kill ourselves through suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, smoking, overwork, stress, bad eating habits, and physical neglect. We watch calmly as others die from poverty, hunger and malnutrition, homelessness, unemployment, poor education, disease, lack of health coverage, child abuse, arms proliferation, discrimination, pollution, destruction of the environment, unsafe working conditions, and all the laws, policies, practices and attitudes which contribute to these conditions. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He is the God who "will put my spirit in you that you may live." Our Lenten celebration must serve to remind us that the paschal mystery represents a victory over death. **Gerald Darring/ <https://liturgy.sluhostedsites.org>**



Encounter God in awe and wonder in the Mass: each **Wednesday** during Lent, Zoom 7 – 7.40pm to reflect on Pope Francis' letter: *Desiderio Desideravi*.

Pray with the Sunday Gospels this Lent: each **Sunday** during Lent, join us on Zoom 7 – 7.40pm to reflect on Pope Francis' letter: *Desiderio Desideravi*.

To register for either event, contact Dianna Fouhy at the Diocese Email: diannaf@cda.org.nz



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday	28 March	Mairangi Bay	7:00pm
Wednesday	29 March	Takapuna	7:00pm
Thursday	30 March	Beach Haven	7:00pm
Sunday	2 April	Devonport	7:00pm

PRAY



PARISH LENTEN OBSERVANCES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent
9:45 am and 7:00pm

FAST



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays- 9:45 am
Thursdays- 6:00pm
Fridays- 6:00pm

GIVE



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

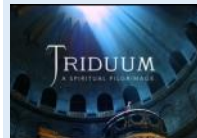
Thursdays - all day until 7.30pm Mass
Fridays - 6:00pm

ADDITIONAL WEEKDAY EVENING MASS

Fridays of LENT - 7:30pm

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

You will find the Mass schedule in the church foyer and on our website www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz



Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage - a beautiful, 30 minute contemplative documentary. This film cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, re-presenting the most important days of human history.

The Catholic Faith on demand. You can study / watch / listen / read for FREE. Ongoing Faith Formation and Evangelisation.



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

Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession

On Good Friday, the Diocese will continue our traditional Stations of the Cross procession through Auckland CBD. We will begin by gathering at Albert Park Rotunda at 9am. The procession will conclude at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am. We would love you, your family, and your faith community to join us in this powerful public witness through the streets of Auckland.



TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Online Sessions (Morning): Creation of Adam from Whēnua... with Dr Christopher Longhurst.

Saturday, 01 April, 9-10.30am. ZOOM. Fee: \$25

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/22/the-creation-of-adam/>

YouTube Recording The Notion of 'Church' with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/03/02/muffin-talk-with-prof-thomas-oloughlin/> For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

THE WORD OF GOD

5th week of Lent

Sunday

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

Monday

Daniel Ch. 13

John 8:1-11

Tuesday

Numbers 21:4-9

John 8:21-30

Wednesday

Daniel 3:14-20, 24-2, 28

John 8:31-42

Thursday

Genesis 17:3-9

John 8:51-59

FRIDAY

Jeremiah 20:10-13

John 10:31-42

Saturday

Ezekiel 37:21-28

John 11:45-57



Confirmation/First Eucharist

Classes Sunday

26 March at 4:30pm in Hall

Pilgrimage to the HOLY LAND

with Fr Alfredo Garcia - 7-26 September 2023

For expression of interest please contact **Fr Alfredo Garcia**
email: alfred5garcia@gmail.com

To book: **Sijo Abraham** sijo@sehiontours.com



Joshua meeting

Wednesday 29 March 2023

7.30pm

St Joseph Centre, Takapuna

Speakers: **Kevin Farrell & Peter John Carlese**

All men are invited to spend time with prayer, song, reflection and fellowship. Our speakers will share a reflection on scripture passage from Ephesians 2:10.

Contact **Russell 022 034 5678** or see Facebook page for more information.

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

We are hoping for a visit from the Oceania Responsible in July 2023 and he would like to know if your parish has any MMP members. Please contact Sylvia Hartley via email aldonsylvia@gmail.com or 021 088 22990



If you are able to volunteer 2 hours per week and willing to **train as Marriage Educators**, then you are just the married couple we are looking for to join our Marriage Educators Team. We are looking for couples married for more than five years with strong Catholic faith to journey with couples preparing for marriage. We are especially interested in couples fluent in English or Māori, Samoan, Tongan, Mandarin, French or Spanish. For more information contact gerrys@cda.org.nz

Choir Practice this **Tuesday 28 March** at 7.30pm for the **Easter Vigil Mass**.

We welcome all singers and musicians to join with us.



Thank you everyone who has already given to the **Caritas Lent Appeal 2023**, helping Caritas deliver aid and development, and advocate for justice, around the world.

Donations to the Lent Appeal can be made online: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/lent> or collect the Caritas envelope in the church foyer.



Caring Foundation Emergency Flood Response Appeal

to make a donation, please visit our website www.caringfoundation.org.nz

Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

Caritas are in contact with partners on the ground as they assess the scale of damage. They are also accepting donations for this www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online



Calling all Rosmini College Old Boys!!

Rosmini College is planning two events to celebrate 60th Jubilee on **Friday 31 March & Saturday 1 April 2023**. The event on Friday at the RNYZS (7-9pm) is a 'Beer & Bites' and the cost is **\$40.00** per person.

Tickets can be booked via the following link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/rosmini-college-60th-jubilee-tickets-433206330797> or by visiting the school website - www.rosmini.school.nz

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic schools in the Auckland Diocese. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest or the ACFL Operations Manager on 09-360-3069 at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland for further information. Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>



Divine Mercy Sunday 16 April

5.30pm Good Shepherd Parish, 27 Telford Ave, Mt Eden.

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic.

Reflection Day Mary MacKillop Retreat Centre, Mission Bay

The Senses as Thresholds to the Soul
Sr Ann Neven, Saturday 1 April 10am - 3pm
\$30 waged/\$20 unwaged. Registrations to Sr Julian Langton by 30 March marymackillopcentre@sosj.org.au Ph: 09 528 1801

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

is offering the course **PM501 Prayer and Liturgy** on Saturdays 1 April, 6 May and 3 June in Ponsonby. This course is ideal for people in the ministry or wanting to grow their faith. It can be credited towards a Certificate qualification or solely for personal interest. For schedule of fees, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/Fees. Call 09 3611053 to enquire or email admin@ctc.ac.nz

NZCatholic

The national Catholic newspaper Mar. 26 - Apr. 8, 2023 - No. 637

Youth evangelisation in Christchurch 2 Remediated seminary buildings opened 3

Pope Francis 10 years



Just \$4

Looking back at Francis' pontificate pgs 7-9

All welcome

to share in a cuppa after the **10am Mass** hosted by the **Iraqi community**



Baptism Preparation Courses

2 April & 7 May 2023

To book, phone or email parish office.

Ph: 444 8624 or office@stthomasmore.org.nz

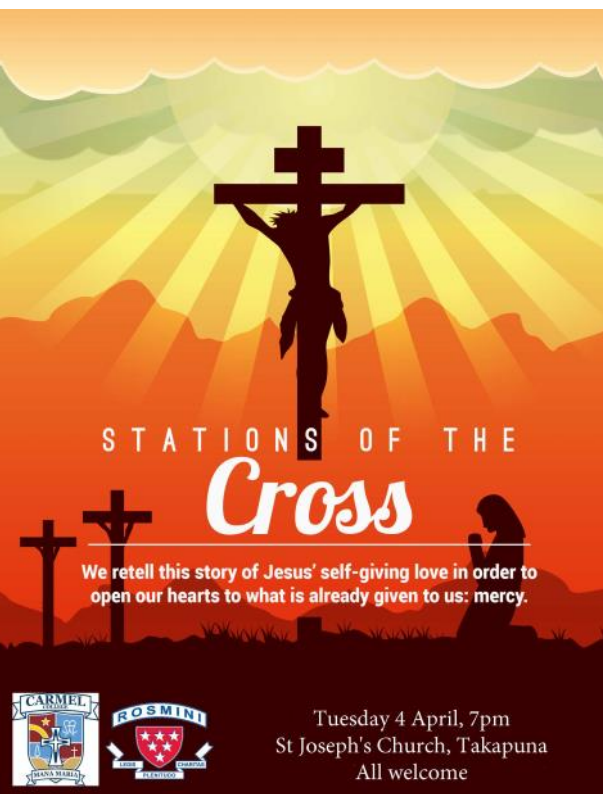


Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Mary Baker, Elena David, Tamar Mathews, Israel Nathan, Mark Delaurier, Mary Anne Clark
Contact Parish office for changes.



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz



STATIONS OF THE Cross

We retell this story of Jesus' self-giving love in order to open our hearts to what is already given to us: mercy.



Tuesday 4 April, 7pm
St Joseph's Church, Takapuna
All welcome

Kids Korner & Parent Ponderings

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Fifth-SUNDAY-of-LENT.pdf>

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/A-24-hour-life-death-discernment.pdf>