



# The Solemnity of Pentecost

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 28 May 2023

## Exploring The WORD

**“As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit...”**

We arrive at the fiftieth day - the completion of the Easter Season, and the completion of the Paschal Mystery: the Lord has died, is risen, has ascended to heaven and now gives birth to his Church, by sending the Spirit upon the apostles. This feast of the gift of the Spirit is so significant for us, because it marks the handing on of Jesus' ministry to the Church - in the Church we are guaranteed the presence of the Lord, in his sacraments, in his ministers, in the Blessed Sacrament and in his Celebrated Word. It also marks the fulfilment of our thoughts about baptism throughout this season: the gift of the Spirit which we receive in Confirmation is the seal of our baptism, guaranteeing and confirming all that baptism achieves. .

## Pentecost Prayer



Spirit of Christ, stir me;  
Spirit of Christ, move me;  
Spirit of Christ, fill me;  
Spirit of Christ, seal me.  
Consecrate in me Your Heart and Will,  
O Heavenly Father.  
Create in me a fountain of virtues.  
Seal my soul as Your own,  
that Your reflection in me may be  
a light for all to see.  
Amen.

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

### Dreams And Visions

In today's Gospel Jesus promises us that "I will not leave you orphaned; I will come back to you and you will have life." Our faith, nurtured in this great paschal season, tells us that God-made-flesh is God-with-us, never abandoning us and always filling us with life. It should be a great comfort to all of us, who share in the pain and suffering of ordinary life, to know that the Spirit of Jesus is with us always. It should be especially comforting to know that Jesus will not leave orphaned all those whom the world casts aside: the poor and homeless, the racial and ethnic minorities, the sick and dying, the prisoner and the refugee. "Thus says the Lord: I will pour out my spirit upon all mankind. Your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall see visions." The coming of the Spirit should fill us with dreams and visions of a better world. Let us dream, in the Spirit, of a classless society in which all people are regarded and treated as equals. Let us dream, in the Spirit, of a nonviolent world in which there is no war, no terrorist attacks on innocent people, no murder, and no death penalty. Let us dream, in the Spirit, of a world of economic justice in which all people have their basic needs met, and no one lives in poverty, hunger, or homelessness. Let us dream, in the Spirit, of a world of love, forgiveness, and service. "Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth." May the Spirit of God guide us to end the suffering we have brought on ourselves and "unite the faces and nations on earth to proclaim your glory."

Gerald Darring/ <https://liturgy.sluhostedsites.org>

**Congratulations to the 33 children who were confirmed by Bishop Steve last Sunday.**



## First Eucharist

Class this Sunday 28 May 2023 at 4.30pm in the parish hall.



## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Combined prayer for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** Friday 26 May, 7pm, Takapuna Methodist Church, 427 Lake Road, Takapuna, Auckland 0622. **All are welcome.**

**Taize Prayer Evening** Friday 9 June 7pm, Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay. *See poster in foyer.*

**Climate Action webinars** in the spirit of Pope Francis' Laudato Si' and 'Letter: A Message for our Earth' are to be held from **14 June to 5 July**. They have been organised by the Religious Diversity Centre (RDC) Climate Action Group with the theme, 'E tū mana o Te Ao, Building a Climate of Hope' especially from a view of the Pacific



Religious Diversity Centre  
Aotearoa New Zealand

region to mitigate the challenges of climate change and to adapt against future disasters. For further information including registration details please go to: <https://rdc.org.nz/rdc-webinar-series-2023/> *See poster in foyer*

**Free Books:** As a result of the cull of the library the Diocese has a number of books available for collection from Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New Street, Auckland. The books will be available for collection between 9.30am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday until Friday 26 May. More details at: [aucklandcatholic.org.nz/books/](http://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/books/)

**G.I.F.T. Pentecost Mass Wednesday 14 June at 7pm** at the G.I.F.T. Centre, 28 Telford Ave, Mt Eden. Intellectually disabled people, families, and support workers **welcome**. Supper afterwards. *See poster and events list in foyer.*

**St James' Catholic School 65th Jubilee**, 304 Albert Street, Palmerston North. We are celebrating 65 years on the weekend of the 10 September 2023, and we invite all past and present students, staff, families, and supporters to celebrate this wonderful occasion. Register your interest by emailing [office@stjamescatholic.school.nz](mailto:office@stjamescatholic.school.nz) with your details.



**Friday 26 May 2023** after the 10am Mass we will have a morning tea to celebrate **Fr Alfredo's anniversary of 11 years of priesthood.**

All welcome to share in this joyous occasion. *Please bring a plate to share.*



**Reflecting on St Luke's Gospel** A Social Justice Retreat focusing on social justice aspects of the Gospel of Luke will be held 9.30-4pm on Saturday 10 June 2023 at St Francis Retreat Centre 20 Hillsborough led by Bible Scholar Br Kieran Fenn, FMS who has taught the Scriptures in New Zealand and overseas for more than 40 years. Cost: \$30 including lunch. Applications Peter Garrick phone 022 1300 730 or email [peterg@cda.org.nz](mailto:peterg@cda.org.nz) by 31 May.

## Mums & Bubs

Socialise / cuppa / play / songs / fun

Mums and Grandmas bring along your preschoolers for some fun social time together.



St Thomas More Hall, Glenfield  
Wednesday 7 & 21 June 10am to about noon.  
For information contact Sylvia: 021 088 22990

**Kids Korner** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PENTECOST-SUNDAY.pdf>

**Parent Ponderings** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Shays-story.pdf>

If you have received this newsletter via email you should be able to right click on the link and then click Open Hyperlink.

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Pentecost

Acts 2:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,  
12-13

John 20:19-23

### Monday

Genesis 3:9-15-20

John 19:25-27

*Mary, Mother of the Church*

### Tuesday

Ecclesiasticus 35:1-12

Mark 10:28-31

### Wednesday

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Luke 1:39-56

*The Visitation of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary*

### Thursday

Ecclesiasticus 42:15-25

Mark 10:46-52

*St Justin*

### Friday

Ecclesiasticus 44:1-15

Mark 11:11-26

*Sts Marcellinus & Peter*

### Saturday

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31

John 21:20-25

*St Charles Lwanga &  
Companions*

**NZCatholic** \$4

The national Catholic newspaper

Sensitive negotiations over state-integrated schools 3

How to live through change in your parish 14

Cardinal Dew retires

See times judged Australia's leading Catholic newspaper

Just \$4

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



## Baptism Preparation Courses

11 June & 2 July 2023

To book, phone or email parish office.

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



## Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Simone Choromanski,  
Mary Baker, Israel Nathan,  
Tamar Mathews,  
Mark Delaurier,  
Mary Anne Clark  
Contact the Parish office if you wish to add names  
office@stthomasmore.org.nz



**Holy Cross Seminary**  
www.holycross.org.nz



## Joshua Mens Fellowship

will be holding their monthly a prayer and fellowship gathering at 7pm on Wednesday 31 May in the St Joseph's Centre, 1 Fred Thomas Dr, Takapuna. **All men are welcome.** Inquiries call Greg 021 437 747

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**MASS OF THE NEOPHYTES**

28 MAY 4.30PM

CATHEDRAL OF ST PATRICK AND ST JOSEPH

Come and celebrate the gift of faith and acknowledge the newly welcomed members of our community



**Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 2 June 7:00pm** St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed general blessing of St Faustina's relic. **All welcome**



## Interested in studying Theology?

The Theology Programme at the University of Otago offers a wide range of papers and qualifications, all available via distance learning. For further information go to [www.otago.ac.nz/theology](http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology) or ph 0800 80 80 98 or 03 479 8639. See <https://tinyurl.com/theologyotagovideo> for a brief video or find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/theologyotago](http://www.facebook.com/theologyotago). Details about our Semester 2 papers are available here: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/papers/index.html#second-semester>



**Mary in the Scriptures** with Kieran Fenn fms. Mondays, 19/26 June & 3/10 July, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donation/Koha welcome.

**Focus on Target - Draw Fresh Momentum** with Laetitia Puthenpadath Tuesdays, 27 June & 04/11/18 July, 12.30-1.30pm. ZOOM. Fee: \$20/session or \$70/4 sessions. For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)



## Student Service : Carmel College

Each year our Year 7-13 students carry out service activities

- \* in their own time
- \* unpaid
- \* beyond their immediate family

... as part of living the Mercy values and as part of their personal development as a member of the community. Read more about the programme here : <https://www.carmel.school.nz/student-life/service-programme/> We are always looking for age-appropriate opportunities for our students to be of service. If you have a person or project that needs helpers, please contact us: [service@carmel.school.nz](mailto:service@carmel.school.nz)



## Alpha for Couples via zoom

Are you a dating, engaged or a married couple and want to improve and deepen your communication with your partner/ spouse? Marriage & Family Life are offering an opportunity to improve communication with each other and at the same time deepen our friendship with God. You don't have to be Catholic to attend. **This free course is only available to couples.** Registration open until 20 July 2023.

To register or find out more , see this link: [https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/alpha\\_couples/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/alpha_couples/). Contact Gerry 021-02247442 for more info.



**First Friday - 2 June 2023**  
**Mass 9.15am**  
**Exposition 6.30pm**  
**Divine Mercy Chaplet 7.00pm**  
**Mass 7.30pm**



**First Wednesday - 7 June 2023**  
**Exposition 6.30pm**  
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help **7pm**  
**Mass 7.30pm**  
Novena continues on Wednesdays at 6.30pm

## PROLIFE FACTS

The following information, which portrays abortion as a valuable part of Māori culture, is being given to abortion providers by the Ministry of Health in the document, New Zealand Aotearoa Abortion Clinical Guidelines in Appendix A, Abortion & Māori. It states: "After 1840, the colonising process put an end to the self-determining right of Māori to control their reproductive health and initiate an abortion. As a consequence, whanau, hapu and iwi knowledges about initiating abortions were subjugated. Māori have been deprived of these knowledges for more than 200 years." "The Abortion Legislation Act 2020, in combination with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, provides whanau, hapu and iwi with the opportunity to revitalise their older knowledges and practices for abortion. The intention is for Māori, in the context of abortion, to enact their rangatiratanga or self-determining rights and mana motuhake or autonomy over their bodies and their reproductive health and wellbeing." The Ministry presumably regrets that following colonisation and Te Tiriti o Waitangi, abortion was discouraged and eventually became illegal for a period of time. The aborting of unborn Māori rangatahi (children) is portrayed as commendable - a way for Māori to enact self-determining rights and autonomy over their bodies. The Ministry of Health forgets that two bodies are affected in an abortion - the body of the mother and the body of the unborn child. **Visit [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz)**

## Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course:

Are you are getting married? Please book your Diocesan Marriage Preparation course here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> Please book 1 year (if getting married in NZ ) or 18 months (if getting married overseas) in advance of your wedding date. The 3 part course takes about 30 hours to complete. This is usually spread over 3 months. For info email: [marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz](mailto:marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz) or call Gerry on 021 02247442

## What's happening in the diocese?

Find out what has been happening around the diocese & details about what is coming in the latest edition of the CDA Connect [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/)



## Situation Vacant De Paul House Property Maintenance

Full time position for a team player to support the property maintenance team who oversee 45 properties on the North Shore. Practical skilled handyman to cover all aspects of maintenance to ensure the properties are kept to a high standard. For full job info [amin@depaulhouse.org.nz](mailto:amin@depaulhouse.org.nz) or visit the website <https://www.depaulhouse.org.nz/work-with-us/> Closes 14 June 2023

Please **DO NOT double park** in the main carpark. It makes it impossible for a Disability van to drive down to the church to help our disabled parishioners. Be thoughtful of our neighbours, don't block St Thomas Lane with inconsiderate parking.