

# 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 20 August 2023

## Exploring The WORD "Woman, You have great faith..."

Today is one of those occasions when, even though the second reading is not chosen to correspond to the theme of the Gospel and first reading, it does in fact fit very well. Indeed, much of the letter to the Romans is explained in this Sunday's Liturgy of the Word: the whole theme is summed up in this: the Messiah came first of all to the people of Israel, to whom the promises were made in the past - but it could not remain there. The good news had to be taken to the ends of the earth, so that all peoples, indeed the whole of creation could welcome the Messiah and take a place in the Kingdom of God. All nations are welcome on God's holy mountain: Let all the peoples praise you, O God!

## Prayer This Week

O God our loving Father,  
I believe in you, my God.  
You called me into existence from nothingness  
and carefully watch over me.  
You have even numbered the hairs of my head.  
I trust in your infinite goodness,  
and I abandon into your loving hands  
my fears, my hopes,  
my needs, my desires, everything.  
I love you, Lord,  
and I wish to love you  
with all my mind, heart, soul and strength.  
Lord Jesus,  
Help me persevere  
in asking you for the good things I need.  
Help me overcome any shame  
or human respect,  
so that I can increase  
my faith, hope, and love for you.  
Amen

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES

The Canaanite woman was all alone: she was a Gentile in a Jewish world and a woman in a man's world. What makes her special is her determination: she turns to her advantage Jesus' statement about not giving food to the dogs. There can be no doubt that God's "care extends beyond the boundaries of race and nation to the hearts of all who live," and that God's house should become a house of prayer for all peoples (Liturgy of the Hours). It is therefore fitting that we should pray that the walls, which prejudice raises between us, crumble. But we must realize that an end to prejudice will not come easily, and it will be overcome only by the determination of the victims of prejudice. "O woman, great is your faith!" Jesus did not resist the determined woman; rather, he praised her determination. Those of us who work and pray for an end to prejudice must follow Jesus in praising the determination of those who are claiming their rights as human beings.  
*Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*



**ALTAR SERVER FORMATION DAYS**  
Preferably **BOYS**  
who have completed the  
Sacrament of Christian Initiation.  
**All Sundays of August at 4pm in the  
Parish Church.**

## Sacramental Preparation



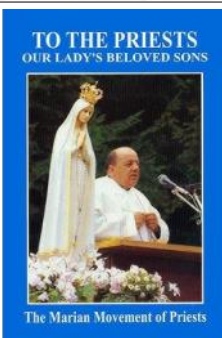
## Sacramental Programme 2024

Registration for our 2024 Sacramental Programme is now open!  
Requirements: Baptized children 8 years old and upwards to receive their First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Registration closes on 31 December 2023.  
Enrolment Forms are available at the church foyer.  
Submit completed Form together with a copy of the Baptismal Certificate Baptismal Certificate to the Parish Office.

**JUNIOR YOUTH**  
8-13 YEARS OLD

# MOVIE AND GAMES NIGHT

FRIDAY 25 AUGUST | 7-9PM  
PARISH YOUTH CENTRE  
ST THOMAS MORE



TO THE PRIESTS  
OUR LADY'S BELOVED SONS

The Marian Movement of Priests

## Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle of Prayer

The Marian Movement of Priests Prayer Cenacle is made up of a group of people who gather together to pray the 5 decades of the holy rosary. It is open to everyone. We meet every SATURDAY after the morning mass in the church on the side of Our Lady's Icon. In addition to praying the rosary, we pray for special needs and special intentions and we consecrate ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## TIN SUNDAY - Sunday 27 August

St Vincent De Paul Group requests for donation of can goods and other non-perishable food items to Replenish its food stocks. Please bring along: breakfast cereals, coffee, tea, pasta, rice, tin fruit/vegetables, tuna, spaghetti, soups, pasta sauces. Leave them in the Church foyer in the boxes provided



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



**The Nativity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Friday, 8th September  
Mass Times:  
09.15am and 07.30pm

**THE WORD OF GOD**  
20th Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1,6-7  
Romans 11:13-15,29-32  
Matthew 15:21-28

**Monday**

Judges 2:11-19  
Matthew 19:16-22

*St Pius X, Pope*

**Tuesday**

Judges 6:11-24  
Matthew 19:23-30

*Queenship of Mary*

**Wednesday**

Judges 9:6-15  
Matthew 20:16

**Thursday**

Apocalypse 21:9-14  
John 1:45-51

*St Bartholomew, Apostle*

**Friday**

Ruth 1:1,3-6,14-16,22  
Matthew 22:34-40

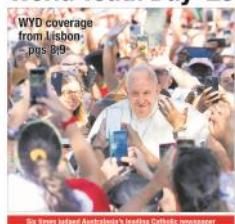
**Saturday**

Ruth 2:1-3,8-11,4:13-17  
Matthew 23:1-12

**NZCatholic**  
The national Catholic newspaper

Exorcisms suspended in Christchurch diocese  
Minor exorcism sought for 'hysterical' conference

**World Youth Day '23**



Just \$4

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

Filipino community



**Baptism Preparation Courses**



6 August  
10 September,  
1 October &  
5 November  
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,  
Lyn Cotter, Tamar Mathews,  
Mark Delaurier,  
Mary Anne Clark  
Contact the Parish office if you wish to add names  
office@stthomamore.org.nz

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

North Shore Dove  
Catholic Women's Fellowship

*Refreshment day*

26th August 10am-4pm  
St Thomas More Church, Glenfield

Psalm 23:2 "Near restful waters He leads me to revive my drooping spirit."

Speaker: Bev McDonald  
Blessing with the Blessed Sacrament  
Praise & Worship  
Prayer Ministry

Testimonies: Iutita Rusk & Nanci Heah  
9.15 Mass (optional)  
Morning tea  
Adoration



BYO lunch  
Mass is available at 9.15 am prior to the event. You're welcome to join us but it is optional.  
Contact Sylvia Hartley for more information: 02108822990

2023 marks 50 years since Sr Jean Sinclair's dream to provide for the needs of those with intellectual disabilities to learn about the Sacraments was implemented.

**G.I.F.T (Grow In Faith Together)**

is celebrating its Golden Jubilee. Bishop Steve and the GIFT family invite you to join in celebrating this important milestone. Sunday 17 September, 11 am Mass at Good Shepherd Parish, Telford Ave, Balmoral followed by a light lunch in the parish hall. RSVP by 11 /09 to [mylene@giftcentre.org.nz](mailto:mylene@giftcentre.org.nz)

**PROLIFE FACTS**

Here is a timely reminder for parents of female school students. Should a schoolgirl find herself

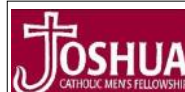
unexpectedly pregnant, she may well confide in the school counsellor, or the public health nurse. The schoolgirl may then be offered the option of an abortion, and there have been cases where the school counsellor personally drives the girl to the abortion clinic during the school day. There is no legal requirement for the schoolgirl's parents to be informed at any stage. It may seem incredible that a young girl can be taken for an abortion during school time without parental consent when parents must consent for their daughter to take a Panadol at school. A few years ago, Parliament debated whether parents should be informed after a mother had discovered that her 15-year old daughter, who was experiencing considerable mental distress and had attempted suicide, had been driven to a clinic by her school counsellor for an abortion. The majority of MPs voted to uphold the status quo, which is that the pregnant schoolgirl's right to privacy is paramount, and overrules a parent's right to know and give consent. **For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz).**

**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND**

**Kids Korner** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Twenty-First-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

**Being and Breathing** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Being-and-Breathing.pdf>

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Being-and-Breathing.pdf](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Being-and-Breathing.pdf)



**Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship North Shore**

All men are invited to a meeting on Wednesday 30 August 7.30pm at St Josephs Centre, Takapuna. Fr Merv Duffy Lecturer in Theology at Catholic Theological College will do a teaching on:

**"What lessons can we learn from the early Christians House Church"**

Do you know the lifestyles of the early Christians lived by? Come and listen to Fr Merv talk, where he will cover aspects of archaeology and history and give us a glimpse of Christian life in the mid-third Century. We look forward to your presence for a time of learning, praying, singing fellowship with supper with other Catholic men. For more information contact Basil 0272612585 or see our Facebook page: Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship Northshore.

**Young Adults Ball 26 August 7pm McHugh's of Cheltenham**

The theme for this year is 'Starry Night'. Here's your chance to put on your best formal attire for an unforgettable evening. Get ready to dance the night away with our live band, The Velvet Tones. Cocktail style canapes will be served throughout the night and your favourite drinks will be available at the bar (with one free drink included in your ticket!). Tickets \$110 \*This is an 18+ event. Go to [facebook.com/AKCYM](https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM) for tickets.

**Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 1st Sept 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish,**

20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by general blessing of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

**TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy**

**Women in the Bible** with Kieran Fenn fms. Mondays, 07/14/21 Aug & 04/11/18 Sep, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session or \$90/series.

All sessions are connect but also stand alone. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/10/women-in-the-bible/>

Liturgical Spaces with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin. Series on Muffin Talk radio programme freely available online at: <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/17/liturgical-space-thomas-oloughlin/> For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

**PARISH NOTICE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER**

There will be **NO evening Mass and NO Adoration/Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** for the whole month of September. Evening Mass and Adoration will resume on October.

**PARISH BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER CHANGE**

A gentle reminder St Thomas More Parish has changed it's bank account number. This change was necessary to comply with the latest banking regulations. From 1 July 2023 St Thomas More's Parish account is **BNZ 02 0108 0708668 000**

Please **DO NOT double park** in the main carpark and block access for drop-offs and emergency vehicles