

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 27 August 2023

Exploring The WORD

“You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”

There is a very simple theme to this Sunday's readings: it is the principle of authority in the community of the Church: we are introduced to the idea that God gives authority to someone in the first reading, where Shebna is dismissed by God and replaced. This is a prelude to the Gospel story of Peter being given authority: not because he is powerful or wise in the world's sense, but because he was able to profess his faith in the one sent by the Father. This is the principle of all authority in the Church: it is to spring only from God and our faith in God, professed by our way of life and rooted only in Christ, for to him all authority, in heaven and on earth, has been given.

Prayer This Week

O Glorious St Peter

O Holy Apostle, Peter,
you are the Rock
upon which Almighty God has built His Church.
Obtain for me I pray to you,
a lively faith, firm hope, and burning love,
complete detachment from myself,
contempt of the world, patience in adversity,
humility in prosperity, recollection in prayer,
purity of heart, a right intention in all my works,
diligence in fulfilling the duties of my state of life,
constancy in my resolutions,
resignation to the will of God
and perseverance in the grace of God
even unto death;
that so, by means of your intercession
and your glorious merits,
I may be made worthy to appear
before the Chief and Eternal Shepherd of Souls,
Jesus Christ, Who with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns forever.
Amen.

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY AUTHORITY

“You are ‘Rock,’ and on this rock I will build my church, and the jaws of death shall not prevail against it.” The Catholic Church has always looked up to today's Gospel as the cornerstone of the Petrine ministry, the special role played by the successor of Peter. Catholics believe that the Bishop of Rome exercises a special authority over the church. Authority within the context of the People of God is a special kind of authority. The reading from Isaiah is about removal from office for abuse of authority and replacement by someone who shall be a father. The purpose of authority in the church, authority at any level, is not to control the lives of others but rather to help us to seek the values that will bring us lasting joy in this changing world. Those with any authority in the church should reflect on their exercise of that authority, and those under authority should reflect on their attitude to the leaders of the church. All of us should join in praying that the Lord grant peace and unity to the Church. *Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*



First Wednesday - 6 September 2023
Exposition 6.30pm
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help 7pm
Mass 7.30pm



First Friday - 1 September 2023
Exposition 6:30pm
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Novena 7pm
Mass 7.30pm

“I, the Lord, am your healer.” Exodus 15:26

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE ELDERLY
9 September, 9:15 am.
All are welcome to attend!

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



Sacramental Preparation

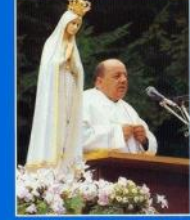


Sacramental Programme 2024

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 to the Parish Office.

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 - This Sunday 27 August

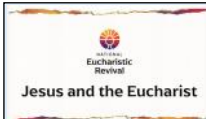
St Vincent De Paul Group requests for donation of can goods and other non-perishable food items to replenish its food stocks. Please bring along: breakfast cereals, coffee, tea, pasta, rice, tin fruit/vegetables, tuna, spaghetti, soups, pasta sauces. Leave them in the Church foyer in the boxes provided

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



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.



Jesus and the Eucharist - features interviews with American bishops and influential Catholic speakers, authors, and cultural leaders. It uses segments from *Presence and The Search*—two award-winning Augustine Institute series available on FORMED—to inspire devotion to the source and summit of the Catholic faith: the Eucharist. 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



THE WORD OF GOD 21st Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Monday

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; 8-10
Matthew 23:13-22
St Augustine B.D

Tuesday

Jeremiah 1:17-19
Mark 6:17-29

Passion of John the Baptist

Wednesday

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13
Matthew 24:42-51

Friday

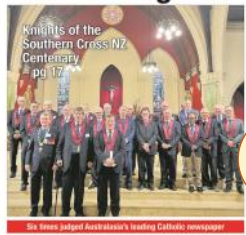
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Matthew 25:1-13
Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

Saturday

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11
Matthew 25:14-30



Good Knights



Just
\$4

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



Indian
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



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz



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 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.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Holy Cross Seminary, Ponsonby
would like to invite you to join in our
celebration of the Feast of the
Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Bishop Michael Gielen will
be presiding. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on Mon-
day, 11 September 2023 at Sacred Heart Parish, 16
Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland. Light
refreshments will be served at Holy Cross Seminary, 44
Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland after Mass.
Parishioners who wish to join us, are most welcome.



Friday September 1 marks the beginning of the
month-long Season of Creation. The theme for 2023 is
"Let Justice and Peace flow like a river," inspired by
the prophet Amos who cries out "But let justice roll on
like a river, righteousness like a never-failing
stream!" (Amos 5: 24). The National Liturgy Office has
prepared extensive resources for both the World Day of
Prayer for Creation (September 1) and the Season of
Creation, including a prayer card and notes from Pope
Francis for a homily.

Go to: www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/season-of-creation-4/ And www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/son-of-creation-5/

ADULT CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Saint Joseph's Takapuna is offering a preparation course
for the adult reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
The course will be on Thursday evenings at 7pm (7, 14,
21, 28 September 2023). For those interested to
participate please contact the parish
office 09-4896486 or email pastoral@stjoseph.org.nz

PROLIFE FACTS

In 1959, Professor Jerome Lejeune
became world famous when, as a
young doctor and scientist working in the field of genetics,
he discovered the extra chromosome that causes Down
syndrome or Trisomy 21. Pioneering this research, he was
made the first professor of Fundamental Genetics at the
Faculty of Medicine in Paris. To his great grief, the discov-
ery of Trisomy 21 was used to diagnose and then abort
babies with this condition in the womb. Writer Francis Phil-
lips, herself the mother of a child with Down syndrome,
writes that Lejeune abhorred abortion: "Not because he
was a Christian, but because he knew as a geneticist that
life starts at conception." Jerome Lejeune once told his
family that he had met a little boy with Down syndrome
who had seen a programme about pre-natal testing. The
boy somehow understood what the testing meant and
begged the professor to save him from "those who want to
kill us." Lejeune was white with horror: "If I don't protect
them, I am nothing." He dedicated the rest of his life to that
purpose. **For more pro-life info, visit [Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz)**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Korner & Parent Pondering

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Twenty-Second-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>
The Pearls: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/The-Pearls.pdf>

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Masterclass 16th September 3:30pm

Auckland Catholic Ministries to Young People
is excited to bring you our third Masterclass
of 2023. Masterclass is a quarterly event ded-
icated to equipping, empowering and energis-
ing young leaders for ministry. Get ready for
keynote speakers, workshops, praise and
worship, adoration, and plenty of opportuni-
ties to network with other leaders. Plus free
coffee and some fantastic kai!

Keep an eye on our socials as we announce
our awesome workshop presenters! If you're
a youth or young adult leader, you NEED to
be at Masterclass. Due to venue space, reg-
istrations are limited, so don't miss out on this
fantastic formation opportunity. We can't wait
to have you join us! Go to @AKCYM on Fa-
cebook to register, or contact felicitym@cda.org.nz with any queries.

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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

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Social Justice Week begins on Sunday 3
September, with the focus on peace and
responding to conflict. The National Liturgy
Office has relevant information here: <https://nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/social-justice-week-3/> Substantial resources
are available to download from Caritas
Aotearoa NZ here: www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

Liberal Arts Weekend for students 16+.
University students and young adults are
welcome. Fri 8 - Sun 10 Sep \$60 per student.
Come to learn about Literature, Theology,
Critical Thinking, and Philosophy. For more
info <https://bit.ly/liberalartsweekend>

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 1st Sept 7:00pm at

St Mary's Parish,
20 Kiteui 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

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