

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 10 September 2023

Exploring The WORD

“If he listens to you, you have won back your brother.”

No man is an island... How true this is for those who follow Christ: each of us has responsibilities towards each other, based on our debt of mutual love. When we see wickedness and wrongdoing, then because of our privileged position of following the Lord Jesus, we have a duty to speak out. This will not always be easy - remember the prophet Jeremiah last week - but this was the mission of the Lord Jesus himself, and as his followers, it is our mission too. As with everything, love is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Prayer This Week

Prayer for Fraternal Correction

O God, our loving Father,
I am weak and fall often, but you never leave me.
You love me and desire
trust in your forgiveness and mercy.

Help me see myself and others
through your eyes of love.
Help me notice when I judge
and condemn others while excusing my own faults.

Because I know you love me,
Lord, I trust you to show me.
In faith, I embrace Christ's example of trust in you
and love for all humanity.

Grant me the grace to live in humility,
charity, and patience
with those in whom I see faults.

Lord Jesus, make me an instrument
of your healing love and peace.

Give me wisdom and courage
to bring your healing love and
saving truth to those in need
of reconciliation and communion.

Help us to grow in love through our sincerity of heart
for You and our neighbors.
Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY THE DEPT OF LOVE

We are a church, an assembly of people gathered to do the work of God. This work brings us together around the table of the Lord and sends us out to renew the face of the earth. The task that faces us in the world is awesome, and the obstacles are formidable.

The only way we can succeed is by staying together, with Jesus in our midst, and our staying together must involve community efforts to correct our faults. When there is racism or sexism in our church, we must confront them and work to eliminate them. When economic injustice is found in our church institutions, we must speak out against it and work to eliminate it.

When militarism makes its way into the fabric of our community, we must stand up for peace and proclaim the gospel message of nonviolent change. Owe no debt to anyone except the debt that binds us to love one another. An essential component of that love should be the help we give each other in overcoming the shortcomings that get in the way of our becoming a universal sacrament of salvation. **Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu**

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.

Cy Kellet, Catholic Author and Apologist with CatholicAnswers.com,

visits us to share on the 'Cycle of Christian Life'

Meeting Jesus is the beginning of a new life. From this, men choose to follow or return to former lives. If men follow, they are converted to be like Jesus. This allows men to enter into shared lives, which we call communion. Men in communion with Jesus have everything (the summit of the spiritual life), but cannot keep it to themselves, or it will die. From communion men go on mission to help others meet Jesus. In transmitting faith, the cycle begins anew both for sharer and receiver. This is the fundamental cycle of Christian life handed down by the Apostles: Encounter, Conversion, Communion, and Mission.

Breakfast will be served at this ticketed event, which will run in the Parish Office -- door sale of \$25. Bring a friend.

Special Second Collection

Maori Pastoral Care Collection This Sunday, September 10, 2023

This money is used to fund initiatives, schools, projects of the Auckland Diocesan Maori Activity

Cathedral Appeal - Sunday September 24, 2023

This money is used to support long term maintenance of our Mother Church - St Patrick's Cathedral, a precious heritage entrusted to us.



St Thomas More Parish Seniors Group September 2023 Gathering

Join us for Brunch and Fun at MAYFIELD SPORTSHOUSE after morning Mass on Tuesday September 19th. A range of Menu Options from \$14-\$20. Refer Poster on the Church Noticeboard by the Baby Room. Are you coming? Add your name and contact number to the list, and indicate if you require transport.

A gentle reminder that there will be **NO EVENING MASS** and **NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** for the whole month of September.

Evening Mass and Adoration will resume in October



This unique documentary is a soaring tribute to Mother Teresa's singular vision to serve Christ through the poor, a desire that lives on through the Missionaries of Charity available on FORMED 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](https://www.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 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7-9
Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20

Monday

Colossians 1:24-2:3
Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday

Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday

Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 6:20-26

St John Chrysostom, B.D

Thursday

Numbers 21:4-9
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

Exaltation of the Cross

Friday

Hebrews 5:7-9
John 19:25-27 or Luke
2:33-35

Our Lady of Sorrows

Saturday

1 Tim 2:1-15
Luke 6:43-49

*Sts Cornelius, P.M & Cyprian,
B.M*

NZ Catholic
Auckland Catholic college to get \$50m science facility
NZ World Youth Day alumni reflect on their experiences
Hidden angels return
Restoration of Cathedral guardians - 61
Do these angels threaten the leading Catholic newspaper?

Just \$4

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

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 Monday, 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.

Māori Language Week starts on Monday 11 September. The week's theme is "Kia Kaha Te Reo Māori – making the language stronger" and making Māori stronger in your Miha-Mass is something the National Liturgy Office is keen for your parish and school to try. The National Liturgy Office has prepared resources including incorporating responses at Mass in te reo Māori. Go here for the resources: www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/te-wiki-o-te-reo-maori-11-17-hepetema-2023/

Having somewhere to go is HOME, Having someone to love is FAMILY, Having both is a BLESSING.

De Paul House is helping low-income, homeless families rebuild their lives. Can you join with us to make this a reality for NZ families



Urgent call for help. De Paul House has many families due to move to the new housing in Northcote, from our Transitional housing. We are desperately needing quality furniture to help families resettle into the community.

Needed : Beds – Double, Queen and single, dining table and chairs, drawers, sofa and lounge suites. Single duvet inners and pillows are also in short supply. Can you help us?
Please email reception@depaulhouse.org.nz or phone 4805959. A photo of the furniture sent to the email would be helpful.

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/

PROLIFE FACTS Since 2017 pro-life New Zealanders been coming together in our nation's Capital to participate in the March for Life, as a voice for the most vulnerable in our nation, precious unborn children. The National March for Life is an important opportunity to come together in solidarity to stand for life; to stand for mothers and fathers; to stand for love. More than half a million pre-born children have lost their lives to abortion. Countless mothers regret their abortions, and carry the wounds of their experiences. The negative impact on women, men, and our nation's children is personally experienced by so many every single day. Let's continue to stand together for mothers, fathers and their unborn children in 2023. Please make a plan to be in Wellington for the March on 2 December this year and let your voice be heard in solidarity with others who care about this issue. Follow March for Life on Facebook and Instagram for updates. Spread the word and invite all your family, friends, and colleagues to participate. Find out more and register at <https://marchforlife.nz/get-involved/> **For more pro-life info, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND
Kids Korner : <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Twenty-Fourth-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>
Parent Pondering : **Corrie ten Boom :** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Corrie-ten-Boom.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 dedicated to equipping, empowering and energizing young leaders for ministry. Get ready for keynote speakers, workshops, praise and worship, adoration, and plenty of opportunities 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, registrations 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 Facebook 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

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

Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat Centre:

For more info/dates and to book visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or call 09 625 6651

24 Hr Prayer Retreat for Women- Join us for a reflective prayer retreat in the Catholic tradition for talks on prayer, with time for personal prayer, Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration | Sat 7 Oct 3pm- Sun 8 Oct 3pm | Earlybird (before 24/9) \$130 pp | Standard \$150pp (All meals and accommodation included)

Contemplative Prayer Retreat- Want to deepen your faith? Join us to learn about fruits of the journey of meditation in the Christian Tradition | Sat 7 Oct 10am-4pm | Earlybird (before 23 Sep) \$65| Standard (after 23 Sep) \$85

Carmel College Service programme

Carmel students Yr 7-10 are seeking opportunities to be of service in our community. If you have a task for these delightful young helpers, please email service@carmel.school.nz before the school holidays.
We love to serve God through our neighbours.

Please **DO NOT double park** in the main carpark and block access for drop-offs and emergency vehicles. Also please **DO NOT** park along ST Thomas More Lane as the residents are inconvenienced by the weekly congestion. **Your vehicle will be towed away.** Thank you