

# 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 3 September 2023

## Exploring The WORD

***"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself."***

A quick glance at last week's Gospel reveals the interesting development of the story: last week, we heard Peter proclaiming that Jesus was the Messiah, and being given authority as a result. This week, Peter gets it wrong: he is rebuked by the Lord because he does not understand who the Messiah is. The Messiah is the one who will give everything for his people - even his own life.

To be a follower of Jesus demands an understanding and acceptance of this fact, and a willingness to take up the cross as Jesus did. Our introduction to this is the prophet Jeremiah - also persecuted for doing and saying what was right.

Have a look at the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, where this twinning of Jeremiah and prophecy of persecution also appears.

## Prayer This Week

### Take Up Your Cross

Take up your cross, the Savior said,  
If you would my disciple be;  
Deny yourself, the world forsake,  
And humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross, be not ashamed!  
Let not disgrace your spirit fill!  
For God himself endured to die  
Upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, which gives you strength,  
Which makes your trembling spirit brave;  
'Twill guide you to a better home  
And lead to vict'ry o'er the grave.

Take up your cross, and follow Christ,  
Nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only they who bear the cross  
May hope to wear the glorious crown.  
Amen.

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

### My Ways Are Not Your Ways

Peter knew that Jesus was the messiah awaited by God's people, but he did not understand that Jesus would be a suffering messiah.

God forbid that any such thing ever happen to you! But it did happen to Jesus, and it happens to those who follow him: "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self (and) take up his cross." Jeremiah had foretold the suffering of those who work for the coming of the kingdom: "All the day I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me ...The word of the Lord has brought me derision and reproach all the day." It is not easy, this business of following Christ. You work for peace, and people accuse you of being unpatriotic. You stand up for the poor, and people write you off as a naive dreamer. You work for nonviolent change, like Martin Luther King, or Ita Ford, or Archbishop Oscar Romero, and they shoot you. Meanwhile, you calmly go about your life, praying that God fill our hearts with love and increase our faith.

"Do not conform yourselves to this age," Paul wrote to the Romans. We pay a price for such an approach, but we do so willingly because of our faith in the "promise of salvation."  
*Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, 8th September

Mass Times:  
9.15am and 07.30pm



## MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE ELDERLY

9 September, 9:15 am.  
All are welcome to attend!

## 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.

## PARISH NOTICES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

There will be **NO EVENING MASS** and **NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** for the whole month of September except on the 8th of September. Evening Mass and Adoration will resume on October.

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Mums & Bubs will resume on **WEDNESDAY 25 October**

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The Cenacles of the Marian Movement of Priests will resume on **SATURDAY, 30th September** after the morning Mass

## Cy Kellett, 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.

**Cy Kellett**  
MEN'S BREAKFAST  
THE CYCLE OF CHRISTIAN LIFE  
TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2023  
6.30AM  
www.evangelion.co.nz  
Catholic Answers  
ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
336 WAIRAU ROAD  
GLENFIELD  
AUCKLAND

**Cy Kellett**  
THE CYCLE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE  
TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2023  
7PM  
https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2023/cy-kellett-the-cycle-of-the-christian-life/maori  
\$25  
www.evangelion.co.nz  
Catholic Answers  
ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
336 WAIRAU ROAD  
GLENFIELD  
AUCKLAND

## Special Second Collection

### Maori Pastoral Care Collection - 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.



## TIN SUNDAY FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent De Paul Society Glenfield would like to thank parishioners for supporting our appeal for food through Tin Sunday. Your kind donations will help households in need in our community.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

## THE WORD OF GOD 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27

### Monday

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Luke 4:16-30

### Tuesday

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6,9-11  
Luke 4:31-37

### Wednesday

Colossians 1:1-8  
Luke 4:38-44

### Thursday

Colossians 1:9-14  
Luke 5:1-11

### Friday

Micah 5:1-4 or Rom 8:28-30  
Matthew 1:1-16,18-23

*Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary*

### Saturday

Colossians 1:21-23  
Luke 6:1-5

## 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.

# QUIZ NIGHT

## Junior Youth

8-13 YEARS OLD

FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

7-9PM

PARISH HALL

ST THOMAS MORE

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/](http://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/](http://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/son-of-creation-5/)

## PROLIFE FACTS

Before the election, Christians may wish to find out where the different parties and their leaders stand on life-and-death issues of abortion and euthanasia/ assisted suicide before deciding how they will vote. David Seymour, leader of the ACT party, introduced the End of Life Choice Bill in 2017, an amended version of which was later passed by Parliament. In a recent interview on NewstalkZB, Seymour identified the Abortion Legislation Bill as the best thing the government has done in the last three years. The leader of the Labour party, Chris Hipkins, voted in favour of both the Abortion Legislation Bill and End of Life Choice Bill, while National leader Christopher Luxon was not in Parliament while these bills were voted on. The majority of Labour MPs voted in favour of the Abortion Legislation bill, and the majority of National candidates voted against it. All current Greens candidates who were in Parliament at the time voted in favour. Please visit <https://www.valueyourvote.org.nz/> to find out how candidates in your electorate voted on pro-life issues. For instance, many voted against the Born Alive Provisions amendment, which would have required medical care to be given to babies born alive in late term abortions. You can also contact the candidate directly if they do not have a voting record and ask their views. **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 :** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/TwentyThird-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

**Parent Pondering : I Am With You Always :** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/I-AM-WITH-YOU-ALWAYS.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 kail! 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week)

## 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](mailto:pastoral@stjoseph.org.nz)

**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>

## Father's Day Prayer

God our Father, you govern and protect your people and shepherd them with a father's love. You place a father in a family as a sign of your love, care, and constant protection.

May fathers everywhere be faithful to the example shown in the Scriptures: steadfast in love, forgiving transgressions, sustaining the family, caring for those in need.

Give your wisdom to fathers that they may encourage and guide their children. Keep them healthy so they may support a family. Guide every father with the Spirit of your love that they may grow in holiness and draw their family ever closer to you. Amen.

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

**NZCatholic**  
The national Catholic newspaper

Forwarded to you free of charge  
The case for women  
Bishops spelled out  
by 16 economists

## Good Knights



Just  
\$4

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



South  
African  
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](mailto: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](http://www.holycross.org.nz)