

# 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 15 October 2023

## Exploring The WORD

The Church's year is drawing to a close: in a few weeks we will be thinking very clearly about the end of time - but here we have a preview. The parable of the banquet is a link between the Gospels of recent weeks and the looking forward to the end times which will follow. The big danger is complacency: we are baptized, we go to Church, we've got our invites to the wedding.

But when the big day comes, will we be ready for it? Or will our thoughts be on the other things of life? Jesus speaks of himself as the Bridegroom, and today points out to the chosen people that they are in danger of missing the celebration. Our faith is that the Bridegroom will come again; let us be careful that the same parable is not addressed to us.

## Prayer for Synod on Synodality

Lord Jesus Christ, Our God and Saviour, You are the Head of the Church, Your spotless Bride and Mystical Body. Look mercifully upon the profound distress to which Our Holy Mother Church has been subjected.

Doctrinal confusion, moral abomination, and liturgical abuse have, in our day, reached an unprecedented height. "The heathens have come into your inheritance, having defiled your holy temple, and laid Jerusalem in ruins" (Ps 79:1). Churchmen who have lost the true Faith and become promoters of a worldly globalist agenda, are intent on changing Your truths and Commandments, the Divine Constitution of the Church, and the Apostolic tradition.

O Lord, with humble spirit and contrite heart we beseech You, prevent the enemies of the Church from exulting in a victory over the authentic Catholic Church obtained by imposing a counterfeit church under the guise of "synodality." Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come to the aid of Your Church with Your almighty strength. For where sin and apostasy in the Church abounds, the victory of Your grace will abound the more.

We firmly believe that the gates of Hell will not prevail against Your Church. In this hour, in which our beloved and holy Mother Church is suffering her Golgotha, we promise to remain with her. Graciously accept our interior and exterior sufferings, which we humbly offer in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of the Church, as a reparation for our own sins and for the sins of sacrilege and apostasy within the Church.

O Lord, send forth your Holy Angels under the command of Saint Michael the Archangel, to bring your heavenly light to the Pope and synod participants, and to frustrate the plans of your enemies within the synod assembly. O Lord, look mercifully upon the little ones in the Church, look upon the hidden souls who sacrifice themselves for the Church, look upon all the tears, sighs and supplications of the true children of the Church, and through the merits of the Immaculate Heart of Your Most Holy Mother, arise, O Lord, and by Your intervention grant Your Church holy shepherds who, imitating Your example, will give their lives for You and Your sheep.

O Lord, we beseech You: Through the Blessed Virgin Mary, grant us a holy Pope, zealous in promoting and defending the Catholic Faith, we implore You, grant it! Through the Blessed Virgin Mary, grant us holy and intrepid bishops, we implore You, grant it! Through the Blessed Virgin Mary, grant us holy priests, who are men of God, we implore You, grant it! In You, O Lord, we rest our hope: let us never be put to shame.

To You, O Lord Jesus Christ, be given all honour and glory in Your Holy Church. You live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit: God, forever and ever. Amen. **Bishop Athanasius Schneider**

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY THE WEDDING BANQUET

The kingdom has been prepared, and it is coming. Jesus likened it to a wedding banquet to which the invited guests are summoned. Of course, there are some who refuse to come.

They prefer to remain mired in their oppressive attitudes, their discriminatory relationships with others, their violent approach to solving social problems. They prefer revenge to forgiveness.

They prefer the superiority of some to the equality of all. They see victimization and blame the victims. They are the invited guests who are unfit to come. There are those others, however, whose love for God expresses itself in eagerness to do good for others. They are the ones who "live in the house of the Lord," preferring love, forgiveness and equality. They will welcome the coming of the kingdom with the cry: "let us rejoice and be glad that God has saved us!" **Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu**



## St Thomas More Parish Seniors Group

Tuesday October 17 2023  
Join us after Morning Mass in the  
PARISH HALL

All are invited to come to an ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATION by Fr Alfredo on his recent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Rome and Portugal.

Your Seniors Group will serve Morning Tea after the 9.15am Mass and the presentation will follow after.



## NORTH SHORE DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

invites all women to join us on Wednesday, 18th October 2023 at 7:30 p.m. for praise and worship, teaching and prayer ministry at St. Thomas More Catholic Church hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield.

**SPEAKER:** JANE THOMSEN.

**SCRIPTURE:** John 2: 5 – 7

Jesus' mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.

**Contact:** Sylvia Hartley 021 088 22990  
or email [aldonsylvia@gmail.com](mailto:aldonsylvia@gmail.com)



# Testimony Night

Come join us for a truly powerful and deeply moving story of conversion by Nathan Trinham



Instagram



Website



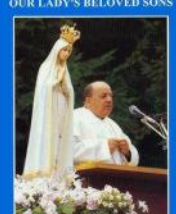
Bring a Plate

Sat 4 Nov 2023

6.30pm

St Thomas More  
Glenfield

## 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.

**THE WORD OF GOD**  
28th Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10  
Philippians 4:12-14,19-20  
Matthew 22:1-14

**Monday**

Romans 1:1-7  
Luke 11:29-32

**Tuesday**

Romans 1:16-25  
Luke 11:37-41

*St Ignatius of Antioch*

**Wednesday**

Timothy 4:10-17  
Luke 10:1-9

*St Luke, Evangelist*

**Thursday**

Romans 3:21-30  
Luke 11:47-54

**Friday**

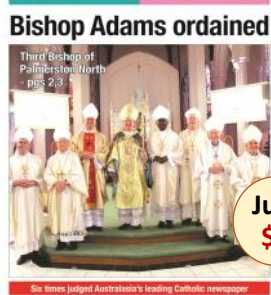
Romans 4:1-8  
Luke 12:1-7

**Saturday**

Romans 4:13,16-18  
Luke 12:8-12



**Bishop Adams ordained**  
Third Bishop of Palmerston North  
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Just \$4

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

**Filipino**  
community



**Baptism Preparation Courses**



**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](http://www.holycross.org.nz)

**TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy**

**The Gospel of Mark** with Kieran Fenn fms.  
Mondays, 13 and 20 November, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free.  
Donations/Koha are appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/10/10/the-gospel-of-mark/>  
**YouTube Recordings**

Muffin Talk radio programmes are available online at:  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>  
For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

**PROLIFE FACTS**

So-called "Safe Areas" were established by law on 19th March, 2022, and came into force in August this year, preventing pro-life people witnessing against abortion within 150 metres of facilities offering abortion services. In December 2012, the Abortion Supervisory Committee alleged that women and staff accessing facilities providing abortion services were being harassed by protesters. The interesting thing is that when Voice for Life and Right to Life requested the Committee provide evidence, the Committee declined to do so. Both groups complained to the Ombudsman that their members and supporters were being smeared. The Ombudsman investigated and was unable to discover any evidence of harassment around New Zealand, except the presence of any peaceful protesters upset abortion clinic staff. Unfortunately, as a result of the "Safe Areas" law, sidewalk counsellors are now much more restricted in their ability to offer support to women who are unsure about going through with an abortion. Many mothers have chosen life for their babies because of pro-life witness and support outside abortion facilities, including in Hastings, where 38 babies were saved within a two-year period. **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 :** Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Twenty-Eighth-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

**Parent Pondering :** Painting a boat  
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Painting-a-boat.pdf>

**Church Life Survey Deadline**

A nationwide survey of church attenders and a confidential opportunity for you to have your say on the life of our church.



**The final Sunday for participating in the 2023 Church Life Survey is 26 November.**  
Please copy and paste this link [bit.ly/STMSurveynz](https://bit.ly/STMSurveynz) and complete the survey online **OR** scan the **QR code** to do the survey online

**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.



**Session 5: God Is With Us**

God's presence in the Old Testament foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist, one of the seven sacraments of the Church. Jesus established the Eucharist to give us strength and accompany us at every moment of our earthly journey.

**How do parishioners register for an account?**

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://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



**IMPORTANT:** Please collect your Pledge envelope packs for 2023/2024 from the church foyer.

**NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE**

**The Upper Room' Young Adults Evening, Thursday 19 October** Young adults, join us for an evening of fellowship and formation on Thursday 19 October, 7pm, at Good George Mission Bay. Our guest speaker for this event is Brendan Malone, who will be speaking on 'The Courage to Be Counter-Cultural.' Tickets are \$10 and you can find all the details at [www.facebook.com/AKCYM](https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM)

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When the Synod Assembly opened in Rome, Pope Francis published **Laudate Deum**, an Apostolic Exhortation building on his 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The Latin title translates to *Praise God*. It is fully titled: **Apostolic Exhortation Laudate Deum of the Holy Father Francis to all people of good will on the climate crisis**. A copy of *Laudate Deum* can be read online at: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/10/04/231004a.html>

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**Hāto Petera Hui-a-Whānau** Saturday 11 November from 3.00pm to 5.00pm at Te Kamaka Marae. For those who wish to stay there will be Miha Māori at 6.00pm.

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Te Kupenga Catholic Leadership Institute is inviting applications for the **Operations Manager position**. Visit their website at <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/uncategorized/we-are-seeking-for-operations-manager/> for the position description and how to apply. Application closes on Friday 20 October 2023.

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**The Pompallier Diocesan Centre**, 30 New St, St Mary's Bay is a service hub for the diocese. And a mystery to many. On the 9 November from 4.00-7.30pm you are invited to an **Open Home** at the Centre. It will be an opportunity to engage with staff, explore some of the archival treasure, enjoy a snack, purchases liturgical resources and more.

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**RUTH MILLER SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY at TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the **Ruth Miller Scholarship** for study at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College. This scholarship will be available for a selected number of people who intend to do one or more theology papers at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2024. For further information about this scholarship and to receive an application form, please email: [scholarships@cda.org.nz](mailto:scholarships@cda.org.nz). **The closing date for applications is 18 NOVEMBER 2023**

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