

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 30 October 2023

Exploring The WORD

When you look at something like the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and see its 691 pages, or look at the 2,000 pages of the big Jerusalem Bible, you can be forgiven for thinking that Christianity is a complicated affair. But Jesus reminds us today that it is essentially very simple: everything can be summed up in two basic rules: love God, love your neighbor. Exodus backs this up, by talking about the simple love that we must show to each other. Not that this is easy - love is always costly, and involves some degree of sacrifice. We will have to change, to become perfect in love; but it is possible, and when we do, like the people of Thessalonica, we become a great example to people everywhere.

Prayer of Love by St. John Vianney

I love You, O my God
and my only desire is to love You
until my last breath.

I love You, O infinitely lovable God,
and I prefer to die loving You
rather than to live for a single moment
without loving You.

I love You, O my God, and I long for heaven
only to know the bliss of loving You perfectly.

I love You, O my God,
and I only fear going to hell
because there I will never experience
the sweet consolation of loving You.

O my God, if my tongue is not able to say
at every opportunity that I love You,
at least I want my heart to repeat it to You
as many times as I take a breath.

My God, give me the grace of suffering
out of love for You, of loving You while I suffer;
give me the grace of one day
breathing my last breath out of love for You
and at the same time feeling how much I love You.

The closer I come to my final end,
the more I beseech You to intensify
and perfect my love for You.

Amen.

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY EXPAND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

The greatest commandment is clear: "You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart." The second greatest commandment is equally clear: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

What is not clear, perhaps, is what these commandments mean. The juxtaposition of these two commandments, both chosen from the Hebrew Scriptures, would seem to clarify at least to some extent what it means to love God: one way we humans express our love for God is by loving our neighbor. Today's liturgy attempts to clarify the matter of loving one's neighbor by another juxtaposition, preceding the Gospel with the passage from Exodus about treating justly the most vulnerable people in society. The implication is that loving our neighbor means more than being kind to our friends and relatives, or to the person who lives next door.

Loving one's neighbor means doing right by any widow or orphan: seeing that the hungry are fed and the homeless sheltered, that the poor have their basic needs met, that the unemployed do not suffer from want, that the young are educated and the old are cared for.

To do less is to fail in our love for neighbor. To do less is also to keep us from singing with joy: "I love you, Lord, my strength."

Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu

Christmas Giving Tree 2023

Our Parish Annual Christmas Giving Tree drive begins on the weekend of **NOVEMBER 5TH**.

If you would like to help, please take a gift tag. After purchasing the gift, return and place them with its tag attached under the Christmas Tree at the back of the Church.

Your generous donations of gifts, food items/vouchers and gift cards will be distributed in the form of Christmas Hampers to our parishioners in need, St Vincent de Paul and Little Sprouts Charitable Trust.

All gifts and donations must be returned by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 2023**



ALL SAINTS' DAY
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
9:15 am Mass
6:30pm Eucharistic Adoration
7:30 pm Mass

ALL SOULS' DAY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
9:15 am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration
7:30 pm Mass



"There is no saint without a past, no sinner without a future"

- Saint Augustine -



ANNUAL NORTH SHORE ROSARY PROCESSION

This Sunday, 29th October at 2:00pm followed by Benediction and shared cuppa.

Those unable to walk in the procession are welcome to remain in the Church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We desperately need to pray for the Church our families, nation and for the world in these times.

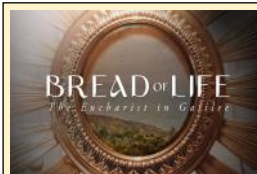


WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

"HEARTS ON FIRE, FEET ON THE MOVE" (CF. LK. 24:13-35)

World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world. It is first and foremost the celebration that all baptized are missionaries. We participate in the Mission of God – to bring the Good News that God is here and wants to give life abundantly (Jn 10:10). Mission Sunday is also a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence and oppression. Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event, and every penny, pound and prayer you give to Missio helps missionaries everywhere continue their work.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER
Support World Mission Sunday to help people enduring poverty, violence and oppression around the world.



FORMED
FAITH AT HOME

FORMED THIS WEEK

Bread of Life: The Eucharist in Galilee

The Eucharist sustains us on our spiritual journey. Our participation at Mass through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist is an offering of thanksgiving to God. We are then sent forth to share what we have received.

THE WORD OF GOD
30th Sunday Ordinary Time

Exodus 22:20-26

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Matthew 22:34-40

World Mission Sunday

Monday

Romans 8:12-17

Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday

Romans 8:18-25

Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday

Apocalypse 7:2-4

John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

ALL SAINTS

Thursday

Psalms and Readings for each Mass are selected from the Lectionary

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Friday

Romans 9:1-5

Luke 14:1-6

St Martin de Porres, religious

Saturday

Romans 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-29

Luke 14:1, 7-11

St Charles Borromeo, B

NZCatholic



Just \$4

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



Youth Group

Baptism Preparation Courses



Last one for 2023

5 November

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@stthomasmore.org.nz



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Catholic Diocese of Auckland positions available:

University Ministry Coordinator — Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who can be the driving force behind a new project? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time **University Ministry Coordinator**. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. —oOo—

Youth Ministry Officer — Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who wants to make a meaningful positive impact in the lives of young people? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time **Youth Ministry Officer**. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. —oOo—

Marriage and Family Life Administration Assistant We are seeking a methodical, cheerful, dedicated, and efficient person with a passion for marriage and family to share the work of marriage preparation. The role involves liaison with Marriage Educator couples and engaged couples, administration, preparation of course material, and some hosting at courses. This is a part time role of 16 hours per week, with occasional evening and weekend work. —oOo—

Mt Eden Corrections Facility - Catholic Prison Chaplaincy We are seeking to employ a suitably qualified person to work as a member of Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa Chaplaincy Team, which delivers Ecumenical Chaplaincy services to men in prison at the Mt Eden Corrections Facility. The position is a permanent part-time position of 32 hours per week – Monday to Thursday with the expectation of some Sundays per month for Sunday Services. Applications close 17 November 2023. To learn more about these positions, please visit:

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

—oOo—

Parish Coordinator Vacancy — The Parish of St Luke's in Flat Bush is on the hunt for a Parish Coordinator to join the team. As one of the largest growing parishes in Auckland, we wish to employ a person for 25-30 hours a week as the parish coordinator. This role is to assist the Parish Priest to ensure that the pastoral and administrative needs of the parish are met. The role provides pastoral assistance and is responsible for the coordination of the Parish Education Programs (RCIA, Baptism program, sacramental program & children's liturgy) and assisting with Sunday Masses. Ideally the applicant would have a good grasp of social media. Applicants should be active Catholics and able to partake in the full sacramental life of the church, with theological formation (preferred). Good communication, strong planning and organization skills are essential. Applicants must have the right to work in NZ and have a NZ drivers licence. For more information, please contact the Parish Priest, Fr Craig Dunford by email office@flatbushcatholic.org.nz —oOo—

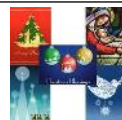
Requiem Mass for All Souls

All are welcome to attend a Mass for the Faithfully Departed - All Souls, 7 pm Thursday, 2 November, at St Patrick's Cathedral, 43 Wyndham Street. The Book of Remembrance will be available to sign in the front of the Cathedral by Our Lady's Chapel for the month of November. Please feel free to write down the names of your loved ones who have died. —oOo—

You are warmly welcomed to join us for our final Auckland Divine Renovation event for the year. We will be watching the recorded session of Revival and Renewal – **Watch Party** This promises to be excellent with speakers Including Fr James Mallon, Hannah Vaughan-Spruce and Bishop Andrew Cozzens. 6pm at 30 New St – Ponsonby Monday 4th November. Dinner provided. Please register at Divinerenovation/events. For more information, please contact Cheryl Surry on Cheyl.surrey@divinerenovation.org or Stephenf@cda.org.nz



Columbian Calendars 2024 - \$12
St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards \$5 per pack



for sale after Mass

Testimony Night

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

SEARCHING FOR SUNRISES

Bring a Plate

Sat 4 Nov 2023 6.30pm

St Thomas More Glenfield

Instagram

Website



Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 3rd November 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 veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome .

PROLIFE

Safe zones around Thames hospital were effective from October 5th. Not to be deterred, the group now assembles at the entrance to town, which in fact provides the opportunity to witness to many more people because of the increased traffic. There has been very little dissent from passing motorists, with the group instead receiving lots of waves and supportive toots. To ensure they are not posing a distraction to motorists, the group take care to remain inside the 50 kph sign, and space out the signs, so effectively this is no different from a motorist passing a billboard. It is marvellous to see how the Lord works, providing an opportunity to witness to more people in a more general way, so that hopefully expectant mothers and society in general become aware of the pro-life message and where to seek help before even approaching abortion providers. **For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Korner : **Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time:** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Thirtieth-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

Parent Pondering : **The Seasons of Life** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/THE-SEASONS-OF-LIFE.pdf>

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