



27th Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 8 October 2023

Exploring The WORD

Today we focus on the vineyard: frequently we see the vineyard as an image or parable of the Kingdom of God. A vineyard takes a great deal of work, throughout the year; it must be tended, watered, pruned, cared for if there is to be any fruit - there are no quick results with vines. So the financial and labour investments made would create high expectations for a good crop. How heartbreaking when the fruit is as sour as vinegar! So it was with God and his people: he invested immense care and love on them, tending them and giving them what they needed - but the fruit was rotten and sour. What can God do? Hand the vineyard over to some tenants who will bring in a harvest. That is us, the new people of Israel: but what sort of harvest will we produce?

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

A TRUE VINEYARD

The church is the vineyard of the Lord. It has been placed by God "on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines." Unfortunately, what grows in this vineyard is often not a crop of grapes but wild fruit, of no use to the master.

We have within our community a good share of selfishness, power grabbing, and shortsightedness. The very same social ills that we see in the world at large can be found right here within our own community: racism, sexism, economic injustice, and marginalization. We pray that God "forgive our failings."

We hope that God will "take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted." The challenge is for us to become a true vineyard of the Lord, free of all the sinful conditions that we lament in the world. We work for the day when Christians will form a community of Christ united in love and service. Is it too much to hope for? No, it is not, as long as we maintain our faith in our God, who can "lead us to seek beyond our reach." *liturgy.slu.edu*

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

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE ELDERLY WITHIN MASS

Saturday, 14 October 9:15 am.



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.

MOVIE NIGHT

JUNIOR YOUTH

8-13 YEARS OLD

FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER

7-9 PM

YOUTH ROOM

ST THOMAS MORE



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.

TO THE PRIESTS OUR LADY'S BELOVED SONS



The Marian Movement of Priests

Session 4: Why a Church?

Salvation is a gift from God through Jesus Christ that requires our "yes".

Jesus didn't simply leave us a written message or instruction manual to follow.

He gave us a living, dynamic Church where we encounter him personally and allow ourselves to be transformed into his likeness.

Jesus and the Eucharist Release Schedule

Session 5: God Is With Us – October 12

Session 6: The Story of the Eucharist – October 19

Session 7: Bread for the Journey – October 26

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
27th Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

Day of Prayer to Support Life

Monday

Jonah 1:1—2:1,11
Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday

Jonah 3:1-10
Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday

Jonah 4:1-11
Luke 11:1-4

Thursday

Malachi 3:13-20
Luke 11:5-13

Friday

Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2
Luke 11:15-26

Saturday

Joel 4:12-21
Luke 11:27-28

The Corinthians – who were they?

with Kieran Fenn fms



"Love is patient, love is kind..."

This is maybe the most famous quote from one of St Paul's

Letters to the Corinthians.

Who were the Corinthians and how did Corinth look like in the time of Paul?

Corinth was actually a vibrant city— it was the great cross-road of the ancient world. It was famous for the Corinthian Games, where young people took part in competitions: women were driving war chariots and contested in a 200 metre sprint but also in playing the lyre.

The church cut across socio-economic structure and mixed people together. Paul introduced a new Community of Faith where all members were free.

Kieran Fenn fms is a Bible scholar and has spent more than 40 years in Adult Education, teaching Scripture in New Zealand and abroad.



The Corinthians - who were they? with Kieran Fenn fms
Monday, 09 October 2023, 7-8.30pm (ZOOM)

Fee: Koha. Donations are appreciated.

For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz

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

PROLIFE

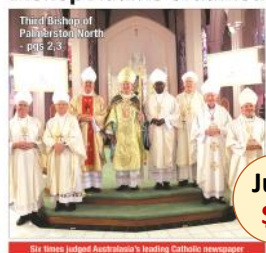
The New Zealand abortion law changed significantly in 2020 with the passage of the Abortion Legislation Act 2020. This law allows abortion on demand up to and including 20 weeks of pregnancy. After 20 weeks a woman may obtain an abortion if her doctor or other qualified clinician (midwife, nurse practitioner, registered nurse) believes the abortion is 'clinically appropriate', and that continuing the pregnancy would endanger her 'wellbeing'. The clinician has to consult with another doctor / appropriate health professional. Both terms, 'clinically appropriate' and 'well-being', are not objectively defined. Therefore, abortion is in effect available on demand up to birth. The previous law that was struck down in 2020 only allowed abortions after 20 weeks in order to save the life, or prevent serious permanent mental or physical harm of the mother. It also required an agreement and approval of two doctors. This new law has widened the parameters for abortion significantly in New Zealand and is now one of the most liberal abortion laws in the world.

For more pro-life information, visit **Voice for Life** at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

NZCatholic

NZ bishops update consistent ethic of life document
Bishops' 2023 general election statement

Bishop Adams ordained



Just \$4

Sorry, there will be **NO morning tea** today due to election set up in the hall.



Thank you

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

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

The Corinthians - who were they? with Kieran Fenn fms. Monday, 09 Oct, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Fee: Koha.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/09/19/letters-to-the-corinthians-who-were-they/>

Muffin Talk - Interviews on radio, podcast, video.

Bible Studies, Ecumenism, Interfaith Relations

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

Family Life Catholic Gifts

We are in the month of October, the month of the Holy Rosary and here at Family Life Catholic Gifts, we would like to celebrate this wonderful and necessary devotion, with a great sale - 20% OFF ALL ROSARIES.

Visit us at our shop - 569 Richardson Road, Mount Roskill, or online at catholicgifts.co.nz. Proceeds from shop sales support the very important work of Family Life International in promoting Life, Faith and Family.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Korner : Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Twenty-Seventh-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

Parent Pondering : Prayer is Being Gazed Upon <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Prayer-is-being-gazed-upon-1.pdf>

There will be pre-election voting in St Thomas More hall

Sat 7 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Mon 9 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tue 10 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Wed 11 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Thu 12 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Fri 13 Oct	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sat 14 Oct	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

2023 General Election



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

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

25th November 2023 Gaudete: Advent & Christmas Carols

Music from Parishes, Schools & Ethnic Chaplaincies across the Diocese. **3pm - 6pm Saturday.** Sir Woolf Fisher Arena (770 Great South Road, Manukau 2104) For All Ages | Donation / **Entry by Koha** | Free Parking Available Caring Foundation Christmas Appeal. —oO—

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. —oO—

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.** —oO—

Your latest **Caring Foundation newsletter** is in your parish. See where your donations are truly making a difference to help so many in need throughout the diocese. A huge thanks to everyone who has supported our appeals – check out the agencies that are bringing our grants to life! Take our newsletter home and share, or check out our website. www.caringfoundation.org.nz/newsletters —oO—

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. —oO—