



32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 12 November 2023

Exploring The WORD

“Watch early for wisdom”: wise words, and ones that the foolish bridesmaids of the Gospel should have taken to heart. This is the ultimate in ‘putting off till tomorrow...’, since the reading is about the end of time, when the Son of Man will come again. Then there will be no tomorrow. If a thing is worth doing, it’s worth doing today. Quite often we contemplate the end of time with anxiety and fear: this is not what God wants. Look at the Psalm, where we hear of desperate longing, a thirst for the Lord, that cannot wait. We should not just wait for the Lord with patient endurance, but with impatient longing: what could we desire more than the coming of the Lord, the rising of the dead and an eternity of joy and glory?

PRAYER THIS WEEK

O God, our loving Father,
Almighty King beyond and above time,
give us a heart of expectation
as we wait for the glorious return
of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Forgive us of our impatience,
of our lack of vigilance, and
for the times of passionless discipleship.

Give us a sense of adventure,
of living on the edge of time
waiting for our Savior to return,
and may we always have the character
that he desires in us so that
we are ready and joyous
when he does return.

Lord Jesus, the divine Bridegroom,
prepare us for the long night of enduring
Fill our lamps for active waiting and trusting

Light the fire when the time is right
to respond to your call
Reveal our true readiness,
Your truth is grace, Your delay is grace
So all may prepare
So none may be lost.
Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY BE WATCHFUL, BE READY

The theme of the Gospel is: “Be watchful and ready.” We are in a condition of awaiting something or someone important, and we don’t know when the arrival will take place. Hence the advice: “keep your eyes open, for you know not the day or the hour.” The liturgy combines this reading with a passage from Wisdom, suggesting that what we are awaiting is the arrival of wisdom: “he who watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed.” When will we finally understand what we need to know in order to live together as brothers and sisters? When will we get the wisdom to place the one true God ahead of our petty gods of power, possessions, and pleasure? When will we be inspired with the wisdom to overcome our social ills? We do not know when, and so we must be watchful and ready, otherwise the moment will pass us by. One thing we do know: wisdom “makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy of her.” Those will not be found worthy who do not listen to the Scriptures, or to their own experiences, or to the sufferings of those around them. The message to them will be tragic: “I tell you, I do not know you.” *Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*

PARISH DONATION MADE EASY

Our parish is offering another way of giving donation to the life and ministries of the Parish. **Eftpos machines** are now available for donation before and after the mass. Its quick, easy, convenient and secure for those of who do not carry cash but have Eftpos, credit-Visa-debit cards with PayWave or mobile devices with ApplePay and GooglePay. Enter the amount you wish to give to make a secure donation. **Receipts will be issued and can be retained for Tax refund.** Eftpost machines are located at the back of the church. Collection baskets will still be pass around during Offertory.



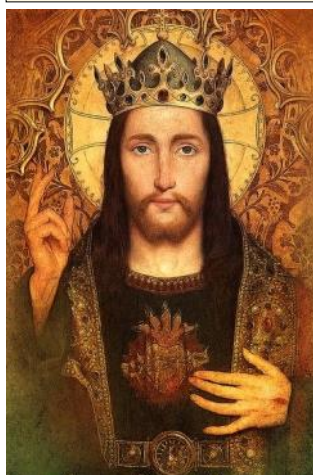
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

PARISH NEW REGISTRATION ONLINE FORM

The Diocese of Auckland is encouraging Parishes to Streamline how they collect and store information for current and new Parishioners. In line with this move St Thomas More have now upgraded their Parishioner Database system. A Registration number will be generated with each registration. The registration number will be the new Pledge giving number for New Parishioners. Existing parishioners will retain their current number.

- ◆ This will now allow us to better manager New parishioner’s joining the parish.
- ◆ Existing parishioner updating their contact details
- ◆ Encourage Parishioners to participate in ministries more readily.
- ◆ Streamline the management of Sacramental records.
- ◆ Allow us to effectively communicate to our parishioners.

Over the next few weeks we will be encouraging our parishioner to register via the online Registration form on our website at www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz.



SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

26 November, 2023
LAST SUNDAY
OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR

**EXPOSITION AND
BENEDICTION**
of the Blessed Sacrament
before each Mass

Saturday, 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, 8.00am Mass
Sunday, 10:00am Mass

Christmas Giving Tree 2023

Support our Parish Annual Christmas Giving Tree drive. Your generous donations of gifts, food items/vouchers and gift cards will be distributed in the form of Christmas Hampers to our struggling parishioners, St Vincent de Paul and Little Sprouts Charitable Trust. All gifts and donations must be returned by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 2023**



St Thomas More Parish Seniors Group

Our special Christmas gathering will be **on Tuesday, 12th December 2023.** Join us for morning tea, music, singing and Secret Santa



Sacramental Programme 2024

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.



THE WORD OF GOD
32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Monday
Wisdom 1:1-7
Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday
Wisdom 2:23-3:9
Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday
Wisdom 6:1-11
Luke 17:11-19

Thursday
Wisdom 7:22-8:1
Luke 17:20-25

Friday
Wisdom 13:1-9
Luke 17:26-37

St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious

Saturday
Wisdom 18:14-16, 19:6-9
Luke 18:1-8

NZCatholic

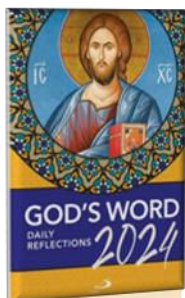


Just \$4

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



Tongan Community



Purchase your copy from Rosa or Parish Office
Price \$28

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@stthomamore.org.nz



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Life Teen Aotearoa Summer Camp is for you, and it is for your teens. Throughout the week we aim to support parishes to walk alongside their young people and get to know them on a deeper level. Every year we deliver more mess, more fun and more amazing opportunities to connect with Jesus in a personal way. We do this through thought provoking keynote sessions, small group discussion times and lots of opportunities to just have fun with your teens. Registrations are closing! So if you are ready to help lead your teens closer to Christ and have the #bestsummer ever then go to www.lifeteen.nz to register your group or to apply as a Summer Missionary. Contact samuelb@cda.org.nz
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Marriage & Family

Are you passionate about the Sacrament of marriage? Would you be interested in training to become Marriage Educators through the Marriage and Family Life Ministry at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland? We are looking for couples who have been married for 5 plus years and have about 2 - 6 hours a week free to guide couples through a Catholic marriage preparation course.
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Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course:

Are you getting married? Please book your Diocesan Marriage Preparation course here:
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>
Please book 1 year (if getting married in NZ) or 18 months (if getting married overseas) in advance of your wedding date. The 3-part course takes about 32 hours to complete and is usually spread over 3 months. For more information email: marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz or call Gerry on

M:021 02247442.
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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.

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.

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.

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/
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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 license. For more information, please contact the Parish Priest, Fr Craig Dunford by email office@flatbushcatholic.org.nz

Carmel College Christmas Market by the Lake

Saturday 18 November
10am-3pm
108 Shakespeare Road,
Milford.



Come along and wander around over 65 stalls, get some Christmas shopping started and help one of Auckland's Catholic schools fundraiser. Indulge in great food from our food trucks, sausage sizzle and delicious home baking stand and enjoy live performances throughout the day. There will be plenty of chances to win, with some amazing prizes up for grabs in the raffle and a Christmas Tree Decorating Contest to view.



Holy Cross Seminary, Auckland Seeking part-time Chef

Our much-loved, long-standing chef is retiring, so we are seeking a part-time chef for 30-hours per week over 5-days (Sunday-Thursday non-negotiable), commencing early February 2024. Duties will include responsibility for the weekly grocery shop, working within budgets, as well as x1 evening meal preparation for the Seminarians and Seminary Priests. Holy Cross Seminary follows a university term schedule, and the successful applicant will be required term-time only (x32 weeks per year). If you have the necessary qualifications/experience and are interested in this role, please send your CV with Cover Letter to office@holycross.org.nz by Wednesday, 15 November 2023.

PROLIFE

The latest annual abortion figures were released on 1st November "with pleasure" by the Director General of Health. 14,164 babies were aborted in 2022, 907 more than in 2021. One third were repeat abortions. The workforce enabling and administering abortions has increased from 162 to 348 men and women. Abortions can be accessed for any reason up to 20 weeks and then on to birth, if her doctor or other qualified clinician 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. While working towards a society that values life from conception to natural death, pro-life Christians continue to pray and work together to provide support and practical help to women facing an unexpected pregnancy. **For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Korner : Thirty Third Sunday of OT
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/ThirtyThird-SUNDAYof-OT.pdf>

Next week: Our Lord JESUS CHRIST
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Our-Lord-JESUS-CHRIST.pdf>

Parent Pondering : The perfect Mistake
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/The-Perfect-Mistake-1.pdf>

Next week: Money dropped in a Shop
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Inspirational-Story-money-dropped-at-a-shop-1.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 - **the residents are inconvenienced by the weekly congestion. Your vehicle will be towed away.** Thank you