



33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 19 November 2023

Exploring The WORD

We must be very careful that the real point of today's first reading is not washed away in genuine concerns over what one can and cannot say about the responsibilities of wives.

This is not, in fact, a recipe for 'the perfect wife', but an illustration, from one age, of the virtue of fully employing the talents God gives us. Some things are timeless, such as holding out a hand to the poor, while other talents shift and change. The point is that all of us are gifted in varying ways and degrees: none of us should begrudge anyone else their talents, for fear that we overlook our own. We work wisely and well, looking forward to the master's return, when we can hand over to him not just what he gave us, but also the fruits that our labours have gained.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

Merciful God, forgive us
when we invest our energies
into increasing our personal prosperity
rather than enriching people's lives
with the good news of Jesus Christ
and when we squander our gifts
by failing to use them to build people up.

Forgive us when we conceal
the wideness of your mercy
by our lack of compassionate behaviour.

Forgive us when we fail to be adventurous
in spreading the gospel around.
Increase our capacity
to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ
in word and deed
even if this means taking risks and
expending whatever energy we may have.

Help us to hear Jesus' words addressed to us
about being eager to share the spiritual treasure
that we have, knowing that as we do,
more, much more, will be given.

This we pray in Jesus' name.
Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY WHAT IS ENTRUSTED TO US

The Gospel parable is about a man entrusting his servants with his property, and the point it makes concerns the need for fidelity in caring for what belongs to the master. God our master has left us with the earth, not to do with it what we want but to care for it even as we live off of its abundant riches. God created the land to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find so much land strip-mined, strip-cleared, eroded, and burdened with toxic waste? God created the waters to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find the oceans and rivers polluted with our garbage and chemical by-products? God created the air to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find smog and holes in the ozone? God created plants and animals to live on this wonderful earth and revel in its beauty: What will happen when God returns to find so many of them driven to extinction by our destructive practices? "Father of all that is good, keep us faithful in serving you." May we learn to care better for the Master's goods so that when the Master returns, we will hear those blessed words: "Well done! Come and share your master's joy."

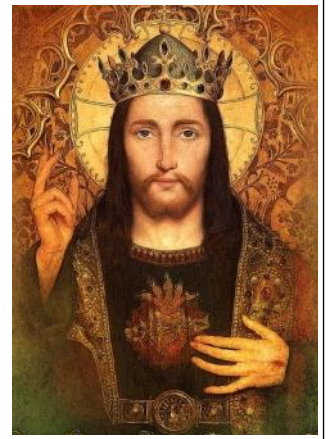
Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu

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



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. Parishioners are encouraged to register via the online Registration form on our website at www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz.



St Thomas More Seniors

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21

All are invited to join us in our Parish Hall after morning Mass for Morning Tea, Reflection, Sharing and Fun. Our Final BINGO Session for 2023 \$1 for one Card and \$2 for 2 or 3



Our Christmas Gathering

will be on TUESDAY DECEMBER 12
High Tea, Entertainment and Christmas Carols
Bring along a small Gift for Santa's Sack- up to \$5
BE CREATIVE!
And yes, Santa will be there!

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. **CORRECTION: NO Receipts will be issued.** Eftpost machines are located at the back of the church. Collection baskets will still be pass around during Offertory.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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

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
33rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Matthew 25:14-30

World Day of the Poor

Monday

1 Maccabees 1:10-15,
41-43,54-57,62-64
Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday

2 Maccabees 6:18-31
Luke 19:1-10

The Presentation of Mary

Wednesday

2 Maccabees 7:1,20-31
Luke 19:11-28

St Cecilia, V.M

Thursday

1 Maccabees 2:15-29
Luke 19:41-44

Friday

1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59
Luke 19:45-48

St Andrew Dũng-Lac, priest & Comp. Mm

Saturday

1 Maccabees 6:1-13
Luke 20:27-40

Midnight Mass choir:

Tuesday 28 November at 7.30pm
in the church. All singers and
classical/orchestral instrumentalists
are welcome.



Family Vigil Mass Choir:

Monday 11 & 18 December at 7pm
in the church. All singers and musicians are welcome.



Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship North Shore

The end of year meeting will be held at **7.30pm** on **Wednesday, 29 Nov 23** at St Joseph's Centre, Fred Thomas Drive Takapuna. It will be a celebratory gathering for the successful year we have had in bringing Catholic men together in a spirit of fraternity, comradeship and learning/growing their faith. We warmly invite all men together with their wives/partners for a shared meal and fellowship. Please bring a plate. Refreshments will be available. You may bring a friend. For more information contact **Russell 022 034 5678**.

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass
on **Friday 1st December 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 FACTS

Jonathon Van Maren of Lifesite News recommends reading George Grant's "Third Time Around: A History of the Pro-Life Movement from the First Century to the Present". There is a long history of Christians responding to the pro-life needs of their time. Christian thinkers of the apostolic era unanimously opposed the practices of abortion and infanticide. In Rome, Christians rescued babies that had been abandoned on the exposure walls outside the city – at great risk to themselves. In 374 AD, Emperor Valentinian issued a decree commanding parents to support any children they conceived, thus making abortion, infanticide, exposure, and abandonment illegitimate for the first time in history. **For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**



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

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

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

Next week: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Celebrating-ADVENT-Week-one-HOPE.pdf>

Parent Pondering : **Money dropped in a shop**
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Inspirational-Story-money-dropped-at-a-shop-1.pdf>

Next week: **Embracing GOD**
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Embracing-God.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

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Gaudete: Advent & Christmas Carols
3pm - 5pm Saturday, 25th November 2023
Sir Woolf Fisher Arena (770 Great South Road, Manukau 2104). For All Ages. **Donation / Entry by Koha.** Free Parking Available

Come and enjoy great singing at this diocesan party. Caring Foundation Christmas Appeal Music from Parishes, Schools & Ethnic Chaplaincies across the Diocese. Music plays a vital role in achieving full, active, & conscious participation, and in lifting our voices in worship of God. Part of elevating the importance of liturgical music is gathering as one in song and celebration, to showcase the rich and vibrant musical styles in our parishes, schools, and ethnic chaplaincies. And of course - who doesn't love Advent & Christmas carols! **For more information Contact:** (09) 360 3061 / liturgycentre@cda.org.nz

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 #bestsummerever then go to www.lifeteen.nz to register your group or to apply as a Summer Missionary. Contact samuelb@cda.org.nz for queries

Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course: Are you are 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 18months (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.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
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.

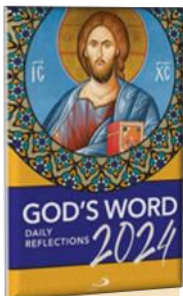
Witnesses of Faith Event – Thursday, 30 November, 7 – 9 pm. Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, Auckland. The Pontifical Foundation, *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN) invites you to a unique and inspirational event in support of the suffering and persecuted Church. As part of the "Witnesses of Faith Tour" across Australia and New Zealand, we will hear from 3 international guest speakers (including the Melkite Catholic Patriarch His Beatitude Joseph Absi from Syria) who will share their own personal testimonies of faith in the face of religious persecution. The evening will include a time to raise our hearts in prayer and solidarity with the more than 200,000,000 Christians globally, who today suffer for their faith. A light supper will be served afterwards where you can meet the speakers. **More info and to register** : www.aidtochurch.org/witnesses or email info@aidtochurch.org



Just \$4

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

Filipino 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