



Exploring The WORD

The Gospel of the third Sunday is the remarkable conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman by the well, the theme is water - which gives life, which cleanses, which is so necessary. This reading forms part of the catechesis given before Baptism at Easter: the candidates who would go into the water are invited to reflect on what that means. But more necessary than the water which gives life is the water which gives eternal life - the water of baptism, the water flowing from Jesus' side on the cross. Even if your Church does not have any candidates preparing for Baptism, we will all renew our baptismal promises at Easter: we should take this opportunity to reflect on what baptism has given us, and what God has done for us in this gift.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"But whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Lord,
 when
 you declare to
 a woman at the well
 everything about her life,
 we think of our own lives as well.
 You know each
 of our ins and outs too,
 when we sit and when we stand.
 when we
 yearn for light, love, beauty and peace, for
 worship of you in Spirit and truth.
 Still, often we remain dry!
 Come, Lord Jesus,
 quench our thirst
 for life within
 your
 living water. Amen

LENTEN SPIRITUALITY

Softening the Heart

In today's [Gospel](#), Jesus promises the Samaritan woman "living water which shall become a fountain within her, leaping up to provide eternal life." The liturgy on this Lenten Sunday places Jesus' promise within the context of the Exodus account of water coming from the rock of Horeb. The Responsorial [Psalm 95](#) refers both to the "Rock of our salvation" and also to hardened hearts. On the one hand, there is the Rock from which the water of eternal life flows (God). On the other hand, there are rocks (our hearts) which we seek to soften in Lent by "prayer, fasting and works of mercy." We believe, with Paul, that "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit." That love of God should make us a forgiving people, one that enables the world to "be brought together in unity and peace." Our goal is to "harden not our hearts:" to be concerned for the poor and suffering, to forgive the criminal, to welcome the stranger, to love our enemies. **Gerald Darring/ liturgy.slu.edu**

PRAY

FAST

GIVE

PARISH LENTEN OBSERVANCES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fraturdays of LENT

9:45 am and 7:00pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS- 9:45 am

THURSDAYS- 6:00pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THURSDAYS - all day until 7:00pm



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday	13 March	Orewa	7.00pm
Thursday	14 March	East Coast Bay	7:00pm
Tuesday	19 March	Northcote	7:00pm
Wednesday	20 March	Glenfield	7:00pm
Thursday	21 March	Takapuna	7:00pm
Friday	22 March	Beach Haven	7:00pm
Sunday	24 March	Devonport	7:00pm

RCIA Scrutinies of the Elect

The Scrutinies are Rites celebrated on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent for the elect who are preparing to be baptized at Easter. They are important and special rites of the Church. Whenever they are celebrated the Scripture readings of Year A of the liturgical cycle are used.



The Scrutinies are described by the Church as: "rites for self-searching and repentance, which are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good." They are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all."

The Gospels on the three Sundays on which the Scrutinies are celebrated teach the elect about the mystery of sin and fill them with the Spirit of Christ.

1. The first Gospel (*3rd Sunday of Lent : John 4:5-42*) (the Samaritan Woman at the well) tells us that Christ is the Living Water,
2. the second (*4th Sunday of Lent : John 9:1-41*) (healing of the man born blind), that he is the Light of the World,
3. and the third (*5th Sunday of Lent : John 11:1-45*) (the raising of Lazarus from the dead), that he is the Resurrection and the Life.

Jesus described the purpose of his mission as "To give life in abundance" (John 10:10) Each of the Gospels proclaimed in the three Scrutinies illustrate this.

We are all in need of conversion throughout our lives, so we join with the Elect in scrutinizing our lives, and we too pray for the grace to overcome the power of sin that infects our heart.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

You will find the Mass schedule in the church foyer and on our website www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz



THE WORD OF GOD

3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2,5-8
John 4:5-42

Monday

2Kings 5:1-15
Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday

Daniel 3:25,34-43
Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday

Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9
Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday

Jeremiah 7:23-28
Luke 11:14-23

Friday

Hosea 14:2-10
Mark 12:28-34

Saturday

Hosea 5:15-6:6
Luke 18:9-14

All welcome to share

in a cuppa after the 10am
Mass hosted by the



South African
Community



Baptism Preparation Courses 2024

7 April 2024
5 May 2024
9 June 2024
14 July 2024
4 August 2024
8 September 2024
6 October 2024
3 November 2024

Contact the parish office to book
Ph: 444 8624

Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz

NZCatholic

Challenge for living
and for loving our
school members

Pasitama Sangoi
for national offices
in Wellington

New college blessed



Just
\$4

Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Simone Choromanski,
Anselmo Salazar, Gaye
Rhodes, 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

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



COMMUNAL CELEBRATION
OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
AND THE ELDERLY WITHIN MASS
Saturday, 9 March 2024 at 9:15 am.

JUNIOR YOUTH
8-13 YEARS OLD



WATER GAMES + CHALLENGES NIGHT

FRIDAY 15 MARCH
7-9PM

PARISH HALL
ST THOMAS MORE

DON'T FORGET TO BRING SPARE CLOTHES,
TOWELS AND SOME WATER TO DRINK!

Choir Practice
Tuesday 5 March at 7.30pm
for the Holy Thursday
and Easter Vigil Masses.
We welcome all singers and
musicians to join with us.



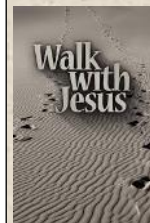
Lenten Talk

presented by Fr Pio Fong

Prayer & Our Walk with Jesus

Monday, 11th March 2024
in the Parish Hall
from
7:30pm—9:30pm

All welcome



PROLIFE FACTS

The New Zealand Catholic bishops have recently updated and released an important document entitled: "Te Kahu o te Ora - A Consistent Ethic of Life". The updated version has been expanded to address not only traditional life issues but new problems we face in today's society. According to Bishop Stephen Lowe, who is bishop of Auckland and president of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, the key message of the document is the interconnectedness of life. The document addresses "Integrity of creation", "Beginning of life issues", "End of life issues", "Poverty", "War and Peace", "Justice and corrections systems", and "Information technology and artificial intelligence". It is available to download from <https://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Consistent-Ethic-of-Life-booklet-final.pdf>
For more pro-life information, visit [Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz)

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Celebrating-Fourth-SUNDAY-of-lent.pdf>

Parents pondering: God makes a DIFFERENCE,
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GOD-MAKES-A-DIFFERENCE.pdf>

Carmel College, Milford

Pre-enrolment Evening for Years
7 to 9 in 2025

Thursday, 14 March 2024 in College
Hall

4.00pm – presentation by staff and students
4.30-5.30pm – tours of the school

View our enrolment information at <https://www.carmel.school.nz/enrolment/enrolment/>



NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

The Upper Room Young adults, this event is a fantastic opportunity to grab a drink, enjoy some (free) bar snacks, meet other young Catholics, and dive into some relevant topics. Our guest speaker for this Upper Room is Danielle Mourits. **Thursday 7th March 7pm** at Good George Mission Bay. Tickets \$10. Go to our Facebook page @AKCYM or email felicity@cda.org.nz for details.
—oOo—

SUMMIT Young Leaders' Weekend Young leaders, are you ready for an incredible weekend of FORMATION, FELLOWSHIP and being spiritually FILLED? We can't wait to see you at the SUMMIT **22-24 March** at Sunshine Ranch Clevedon. Go to our Facebook page @AKCYM or email felicity@cda.org.nz for details.
—oOo—

Parish Renewal Are you a lay leader wishing to learn more about what leadership, renewal and vibrancy in your parish can look like? Then this evening event Monday 11 March, 7pm St Francis Friary and Retreat Centre is not to be missed. Fr Chris Ryan(MGL) Author, Parish Priest and founder of The Arete Mission Discipleship program will be sharing the ways to help in invigorating your parish. Registration is essential <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>
—oOo—

Lenten Evening Reflection Come along to an evening of reflective prayer with readings, music, and meditative silence to enrich your Lenten journey. Lenten Evening Reflection on **Wednesday 6 March 7pm – 8pm**. At the Mary MacKillop Chapel in Mission Bay. *Light refreshments will be served after this time of prayer.* (Graphic attached)
—oOo—

Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession On **Good Friday 29th March**, we will be gathering once again for our traditional Stations of the Cross procession through Auckland CBD. We invite you and your faith community to join us for this powerful public witness of faith through the streets of Auckland. The procession will begin at Albert Park Rotunda at 9am and will conclude at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am. For queries contact Sam from the Ministries to Young People team or email samuels@cda.org.nz.
—oOo—

Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life

The landmark New Catholic bishops' teaching document *Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life* has been reprinted, with paper copies available to schools, parishes, Church organisations and individuals for just \$3 each. *Te Kahu o te Ora* contains a succinct overview of eight key moral areas including creation; the beginning and end-of life; discrimination and abuse; poverty; war and peace; justice and correction; and information technology and artificial intelligence. Published by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference last September, it is a revised and much-expanded version of a 1997 bishops' statement and reminds us that all life is a gift from God. Read more about *Te Kahu o te Ora* and look at electronic and PDF copies of it here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/tekahu/>

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