



6th Sunday of Easter Year B

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 5 May 2024

Exploring The WORD

There are two obvious themes to today's readings: Saint Peter summarises many of the ideas of Easter - baptism, the name of Jesus, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit; the other readings talk simply of love, both God's love for us and our love for each other. Our Gospel is taken from the great discourse at the Last Supper, and has at its centre the New Commandment that Jesus gives his disciples - the commandment of love. This love has its origins in the love of the Father, manifested in the love shown by the Son (willing to die for his friends); we, like the disciples, are called to imitate the love we see in Jesus's life and death - not because we are servants, but because we are friends.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"Love one another as I love you. "

They were his close friends.
He had chosen them.
So, sad were they.
And sad was he
that he must
leave the earth.

Yet he loved them so much
he could not lose them from his life.
He would place his Spirit deep within them.

And within the rest of us.

Soul of Jesus,
constant companion,
teacher of all good, remind us
what Jesus said and did, and who he is;
how he loves us and makes his home within us.
And the thing that he asks is that we love one another.
Amen

EASTER SPIRITUALITY

No Distinction

The theme of the two readings from John is love, and in the opening prayer we pray that we might "express in our lives the love we celebrate." The Johannine formula, used in both [1 John](#) and the [Gospel](#), is: "Love one another." One might interpret this formula in terms of a false understanding of the Hebrew law: Love those who belong to your group and stay away from outsiders. The reading from [Acts](#), however, makes it clear that we are to love everyone without exception, for "God shows no partiality" and we are to pattern our love after God's love. The generosity of the Spirit surprised the circumcised believers accompanying Peter. They had grown up believing that God favors some people over others. They are not unlike the people of our day who look down on others, regarding as inferior all those whom they consider "Gentiles" (= outsiders): African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, women, gays, the handicapped, the poor. Such favoritism does not bind the Spirit of God. The Spirit will rescue the "insiders" from their hidden atheism by revealing God's love to everyone. Liberation for the "outsiders" will also come from the Spirit, not from any action by the "insiders."
Gerald Darring/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, 11 May 2024 at 9:15 am

FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

It is our endeavour to push forward with another major project, that being the CANOPY at the front entrance of the Church and an upgrade of the main car park.

The parish can not do this without the support from our parishioners. Please make use of envelopes in the foyer if you would like to donate towards this project.

Every penny counts and we thank you for your generous donations.



NORTH SHORE DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

invites all women to come and learn more about **THE GIFT** over two sessions at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield



There will be two sessions about the Holy Spirit over two Saturdays, 11th and 18th May 2024 at 10 a.m.

Please bring your own lunch.

For more info. please contact Sylvia Hartley
021 088 22990 or email
aldonsylvia@gmail.com



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

We need volunteers to teach primary school aged children during Holy Mass at all three Sunday Masses. The teaching will be about the Sunday Gospel at children's level after the Gloria and will finish before the Offertory. All resources are available from the parish. Please contact the parish office 4448624 or office@stthomasmore.org.nz



Mums & Bubs

A social gathering for women and preschoolers to learn through music, stories and play. A great way for mums to meet other women to fellowship and share a chat.

WHERE: St. Thomas More Church Hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield.

WHEN: On alternate Wednesdays at 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Next sessions are on Wednesdays, 8th and 22nd May, 5th and 19th June 2024.

Contact Sylvia on 021 088 22990



THE WORD OF GOD 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

1John 4:7-10

John 15:9-17

Monday

Acts 16:11-15

John 15:26-16:4

Tuesday

Acts 16:22-34

John 16:5-11

Wednesday

Acts 17:15,22-18:1

John 16:12-15

Thursday

Acts 18:1-8

John 16:16-20

Friday

Acts 18:9-18

John 16:20-23

Saturday

Acts 18:23-28

John 16:23-28

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



South African
community



Baptism
Preparation
Courses 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



Symbol of Hope



Please pray for our sick
parishioners & their families

Michael Wecke, David McNeill,
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

PENTECOST SUNDAY, 19 May 2024

Please wear your ethnic clothing to
celebrate the Catholic Church's birthday at
all three Masses



ROSMINI COLLEGE ENROLMENTS FOR 2025

Enrolments for Year 7 students for 2025 are
open online at www.rosmini.school.nz.

There are also limited spaces available in Years 8-13.
Enrolment enquiries to Eunice 09 488 3750 or email
enquiries@rosmini.school.nz.

We will be holding an **Open Day** at the college on
Thursday 16 May at 1.30 pm. All interested parents and
their sons are very welcome to attend.

PENTECOST SUNDAY
MASS OF WELCOME
19 MAY 4.30PM
**CATHEDRAL OF
ST PATRICK AND
ST JOSEPH**
Come and celebrate the gift of
faith and acknowledge the newly
welcomed members of our
community.

PROLIFE FACTS

Most hospices in New Zealand now allow hospice patients to be assessed for eligibility for assisted suicide in the hospice, although there is no legal requirement to do so. The Registrar for Assisted Dying has revealed eight patients have died through assisted suicide in a hospice setting in New Zealand, but as yet many hospices do not allow assisted suicides on their premises. Right to Life warns that assessing patients for assisted suicide in hospice settings may be a first step towards assisted suicide becoming widespread in hospices. Right to Life currently has a petition request to New Zealand Parliament, that the House of Representatives repeal the End of Life Choice Act 2019. (Google Right to Life Petitions to access the link). Right to Life invites pro-life people to consider taking a moment to add their support to this petition. **For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

Time Out Days – For those who seek a day retreat - 9:30am – 2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch). Wed 15 May; Thu 27 Jun or Tue 9 Jul

Behold the Man - A retreat for men with Fr Michael Therese CSJ. Fri 7 Jun 7pm-Sun 9 Jun 4:30pm. Email retreats@sfrc.org.nz to register your interest and receive more info

24Hr Quietude - For those who seek a short retreat- Fri 7pm - Sat 7pm (\$120pp incl accommodation + food) July 12th/13th

Women's Prayer Retreat - A reflective prayer retreat in the Catholic tradition for Women. 3 nights, 4 days starting Thu 1 Aug 7pm - Sun 4 Aug 3pm. Earlybird (before 2/7) \$350 / Standard \$400



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Celebrating-the-ASCENSION-of-the-LORD-12th-May.pdf>

Parents pondering: A Titanic Story
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/A-Titanic-Story.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

Let's Talk About Mary 8 May 7.30pm Poynton Room, Pompallier Diocesan Centre and on zoom. In May traditionally the month of Mary join Sr Sean for an opportunity to explore **Mary**, missionary disciple. Please register pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz

Homestays for pre-seminary students The Diocese has a few students from Vietnam discerning vocations to the priesthood. They are learning English with a view to entering our seminary at the start of 2025. They need homestay hosts for the next 8-10 months. The Diocese will cover the full cost of their board. If you can offer them a supportive home with a room of their own and would like to find out more, please email alisonm@cda.org.nz or phone 09 360 3003.

The Israel Palestine Conflict – A Perspective from Professor Mazin 18 May, 1pm, St. Mary's Parnell, The talk will be livestreamed. Professor Mazin is a Palestinian Christian and works at Bethlehem University where New Zealander Brother Peter Bray was Vice Chancellor till very recently. Professor has exceptional knowledge about the situation and has a sharp, clear understanding of the issues.

Jubilee Bursary Semester 2, 2024 For Theology and RE courses at tertiary level. Applications close Thursday, 6 June 2024 please contact: michellej@cda.org.nz

University Ministry Coordinator - Catholic Diocese of Auckland.—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. To learn more, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Marriage and Family Life Ministry at the Diocese is seeking married couples of 5 years or more who would like to train as Marriage Educators to prepare engaged couples for marriage in the church. This is a very rewarding and significant role in the church. Enquiries Gerry on 021 02247442 or gerrys@cda.org.nz

Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The Liturgy Centre is offering liturgical ministry workshops across the deaneries, which will cover training/ refreshers for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The last workshop will consist of context, prayer, and practical formation in these areas. All will receive a certificate at completion, which will be posted to their parish and presented at mass on a chosen date/time. The session will be held on Sunday 19 May from 1pm-3pm (with light lunch provided). **19th May | North Shore (St Joseph Takapuna)** Register via the link below or contact your parish office/priest: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/formation/>

CDA Connect Catch up with happenings in the diocese and get the heads-up on upcoming events. The latest edition of CDA connect is now available. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

Mass of Welcome On Pentecost Sunday 19 May at 4.30pm in the Cathedral Bishop Steve and the diocesan community invites all those that were baptised at Easter or incorporated then or at other times in the last 12 months to the Mass of the Neophytes (newly planted in the faith) to give thanks for the gift of faith. All are welcome.

NZSL Week.

This week is New Zealand Sign Language Week. Check out the diocesan YouTube page https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYVVDaH6qEBFD55NT0iVXiH0-7_BXggI which includes prayers in NZSL.

