



20th Sunday in Ordinary time Year B

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 18 August 2024

Exploring The WORD

Despite the fact that the theme of Mass today continues that of last Sunday, there is a new twist: in recent weeks we have been looking at the Bread of Life in a very figurative or spiritual way: today we come right down to (literally) fleshy realities: food and drink, flesh and blood. As we shall see, this is too much for the Jews to swallow, and they will desert Jesus after what he says today. How far we have come from a few weeks ago when the crowds flocked over the lake to find Jesus after the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand! Despite the complexity of the message, and the reaction of the crowd, there is an elegant simplicity about it all, which the first reading and the response to the psalm highlight: there we hear a simple invitation: "Come and eat, come and drink!" and "Taste and see." Ignorance and folly disappear when they are surrendered to the generosity of God, and we taste the eternal life that Jesus gives us in himself.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me ."

O
Christ,
be manna
for our journeys:
the food that gives us life.

You are the strength we need
for all that blocks our way,
every moment of
every day.

Be our love-source,
our life-source,

Let us live
with you forever. Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

Becoming Food

The Eucharist is a sacrament of unity, primarily the unity of Christ with the Christian: "The [one] who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him; by this sacrament you make us one with Christ." This unity reflects the unity of the Son with the Father in the Trinity. The reading from Ephesians encourages the Church to reflect in its life the unity of the Trinity: Christians are to walk in the Spirit and give thanks to the Father in the name of Jesus Christ. The alternative opening prayer speaks of a larger unity, the unity of the whole human race: "May the walls, which prejudice raises between us, crumble." Prejudice and discrimination destroy the unity that the Trinity and the Eucharist symbolize for us and challenge us to achieve. The Christian commitment is clearly on the side of unity: that is the wisdom revealed in scripture. The divisive wisdom of the world is really foolishness, and the author of Ephesians warns us not to act like fools. *Gerald Darring/ liturgy.slu.edu*



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

A Journey of Faith

Are you or do you know anyone who is thinking about becoming Catholic? Or perhaps has missed receiving the Sacraments since their baptism?

If so, invite them to join us on a remarkable journey of discovery, discernment and study about the Catholic faith and how to live it.

The RCIA programme for adults and children starts soon. Invite them to any one of the informal inquiry sessions **18 Aug** from **3:30-4:30pm** in the parish hall to seek clarification, to know more about the programme or to enrol for it.

Following on from that, formal weekly sessions will start during Sunday 10 AM Masses. **For more information contact the Ghassan Emmanuel (021 23 44 339)**

Parish Seniors Group



Our next gathering will be on **Tuesday 20th August 2024**

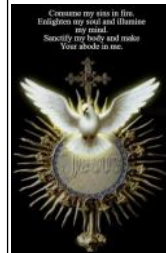
There will be morning tea and fellowship in the Hall after the morning Mass. All Welcome

Contact **Elizabeth Auger 021 201 8914**

NORTH SHORE DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN



invites all women to our meeting on **Tuesday, 20th Aug 2024, 7:30 p.m** at St. Thomas More Church Hall, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield.



Scripture: 2 Cor 3:18 *And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.*

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

LAPTOP OPERATORS NEEDED

If anyone is willing to do this once a month, please contact Sylvia Hartley on 021 088 22990 or email: aldonsylvia@gmail.com



URGENT CALL FOR SUPPORT.

De Paul House food bank has been hit hard. Can you help refill our empty shelves?

We have no stock of:

Flour, sugar, Coffee, honey, vegemite, crackers, muesli bars, biscuits, school lunchbox snacks,
Personal care: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, Hand soap, toilet paper
Cleaning Products: dishwashing liquid, laundry liquid, spray and wipe, cleaning clothes

Running out of:

Pasta, rice, pasta sauce, jam, 2-minute noodles, long life milk, coconut milk
Meat – mince, sausage, chicken
Or Supermarket voucher.

We have had a 100% increase in demand for food support compared to 2023.

Thank you for your kindness.

CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Automatic Payments similar to your regular Planned Giving donation, could be set up through your bank using the following details.

Account Name: **GLENFIELD FUNDRAISIN**
Account Number: **02-0108-0708668-003**
Reference : **Parishioner's name and Pledge Number**



Thank you for your generosity!!

Donations Received
\$49,674.30

THE WORD OF GOD
20th Sunday of Ordinary time

Proverbs 9:1-6
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Monday

Ezekiel 24:15-24
Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday

Ezekiel 28:1-10
Matthew 19:23-30

St Bernard, Abbot D

Wednesday

Ezekiel 34:1-11
Matthew 20:1-16

St Pius X, Pope

Thursday

Ezekiel 36:23-28
Matthew 22:1-14

The Queenship of the Blessed
Virgin Mary

Friday

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday

Apocalypse 21:9-14
John 1:45-51

St Bartholomew, Apostle

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



Filipino
Community

**PARISH ONLINE
REGISTRATION!**

All new and existing
parishioners are humbly
urged to register your
family online. To Register,
please log on to
www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz.

Thank you for the
registrations thus far



**Baptism
Preparation
Courses 2024**

8 September 2024
6 October 2024
3 November 2024

Contact the parish office to book
Ph: 444 8624
Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz

**Please pray for our sick
parishioners & their families**

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

Raffle Tickets are on sale in the foyer
\$3 per ticket/\$5 for 2.
The draw will be early September.

Beautiful prizes to be won.

Thank you for your
support!!



Holy Cross Seminary, Ponsonby would like to
invite you to join in our celebration of the Feast of
the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Bishop Steve
Lowe will be presiding. Mass will be celebrated at
7pm on Monday, 02 September 2024 at

Sacred Heart Parish, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby,
Auckland. Light refreshments will be served at Holy Cross
Seminary, 44 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland after
Mass. Any Parishioners who wish to join us, are most
welcome.

The weekends we would like this in are:

- 10/11 August
- 17/18 August
- 24/25 August

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

**Ulm Minster - The highest church building in the
world** with Beate Matthes

A journey through the history and architecture of the
German Ulm Minster from the laying of the foundation
stone in 1377 to today.

Monday, 02 September 2024, 7-8.30pm (Zoom). Koha
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/ulm-minster-the-tallest-church/>

YouTube Recordings

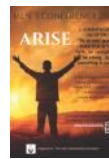
YouTube and Muffin Talk recordings are available
online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/video-clips/>
For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

The **Lamb of God Community** would like to invite all
men to a Men's Conference from 23 – 25 August at
Willow Park Christian Camp as we equip ourselves to
stand firm in the faith. It will be a great time to
rejuvenate and uplift your spiritual life by joining other
brothers walking alongside you in faith. The theme this
year is **"ARISE"** and is founded on the scripture from
1 Corinthians 16:13-14 "Be on your guard;
stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be
strong. Do everything in love." For more
details, please feel free to get in touch with
Patrick Amaral

patrick_amaral@hotmail.com / 0210381984.

Register on <https://bit.ly/3LaqD2b>



PROLIFE FACTS

An Auckland VFL committee member
recently met with the current CEO of
Right to Life in Britain, Kiwi Alasdair Hungerford-Morgan.
Right to Life works across education, politics and the
media, and has many supporters in England, Wales,
Scotland and Northern Ireland. Alisdair explains: "Our
digital strategy enables us to reach very large audiences
with smart, relevant and viral-focused content. Our social
media uses Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube,
Pinterest and TikTok to reach a new generation on a
massive scale." Lobbying MPs in the nearby House of
Parliament is an important part of the work, which, no
matter how difficult in modern secular Britain, results in
small but noticeable gains. **For more pro-life
information, visit Voice for Life at**

www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Celebrating-Twenty-first-SUNDAY-ot.pdf>

Parents pondering: My Busy Day
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/My-Busy-Day.pdf>

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

The Diocesan Faith Formation Team are
offering refresher education sessions across the
regions of the diocese for the ministries of 1st
Sacraments for Children and Baptism
preparation. This is open to all educators and
volunteers involved in these ministries.
Regional sessions in West Auckland, East
Auckland, and Northshore will be occurring
through August and early September Please
register on <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/formation/> to attend for your parish.
For any further information please contact Dcn
Steve Fraser on stephenf@cda.org.nz
or 021439407.

Look forwards to seeing you all there!

—oOO—

**Young Adults Ball / Saturday 14th September
7pm at McHugh's of Cheltenham**

Back by popular demand, we are excited to bring you
The Young Adults Ball 2024! The theme for this
year is 'Wonderland'. Here's your chance to put
on your best formal attire and fall down the
rabbit hole and into a world of whimsy, where
the fantastical realm of Alice in Wonderland
awaits! Throughout the evening, be enchanted
by the melodies of our live band, whose music
will set the tone for a night of dancing and
revelry. Indulge in canapes fit for a tea party,
and select some of your favourite beverages
available at the bar (With one free drink included
in your ticket). Capture memories that will last a
lifetime with our professional photographer, who
will be on hand to snap photos of you and your
friends against the backdrop of this magical
event. Don't be late for this very important date!
- secure your tickets now: tickets \$120 (Ticket
sales close 31st August or if sold out). *This is
an 18+ event. **Tickets:** [https://
YoungAdultsBall.eventbrite.com](https://YoungAdultsBall.eventbrite.com)

—oOO—

ALONE AGAIN ? A weekend away to help
those suffering the heartache of Separation,
Divorce, or Widowhood on 6-8 September.

The Beginning Experience is a non-profit
organization that provides support for the
grieving single again, and offers an opportunity
to turn the pain of loss into an experience of
positive growth. The cost for 2 nights
accommodation, meals, and materials and
follow up event is \$350. For further information
please phone Lynda 0274898003 or Kelly
evenings on 0276864416 or
www.beginningexperience.org.nz

—oOO—

The Catholic Diocese of Auckland promotes for
a strong and inclusive communities for
missionary discipleship. Come to the **Ethnic
Chaplaincies Rise Up and Shine Festival** to
be held on Saturday 21 September to Sunday
22 September at the Malaeola Samoan Catholic
Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place,
Mangere. A time of celebration with Food,
Music, and Cultural Shows on Saturday
9am - 3pm, and Thanksgiving Mass in the
various languages and culture on Sunday at
1pm. Be involved, Be there.

—oOO—

**The Churches of Auckland Celebrate
Christian Unity.** Join us at this annual Prayer
Service 5:00 PM Sunday 25th August 2024 at St
Elias Melkite Catholic Church, 5 Mt. Lebanon
Crescent, The Gardens Manurewa.
Light Refreshments provided.

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