



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 22 September 2024

Exploring The WORD

The tone of the Gospel begins to grow darker: Jesus is now on his way to Jerusalem, where he will be arrested and killed. Despite this, both this week and next week, there is a lighter contrast in the children that Jesus welcomes and blesses. Perhaps this tells us something about Jesus and his mission: despite the gathering clouds, (and possibly even because of that) he is still the manifestation of God's love for all his children, a love that will be most clearly displayed when he faces that death for our sake. There is one quite chilling phrase which links these together, in the first reading, where the plotters against the good man say, "Let us test him with cruelty and torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his." The cold calculation of this is not far removed from the plotting of those who saw in Jesus a threat to their positions - with all his purity of worship and faith, with all his "reproaches for our breaches of the law". There is indeed a storm gathering. But the last line of the first reading, though meant mockingly, will come true: "God will look after him - we have his word for it." And three days after his death he will rise again.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

Who is greatest? Who is first?

Jesus, you were born in a stable needing everything, having only love.

Then you were on the cross, needing everything, having no life.

Yet you are greatest of all. You taught the disciples as you journeyed through Galilee.

Teach us too. To love you. To care for your children, to serve your poor, to welcome the immigrant, to free the prisoner.

Lord, we ask you, give us only your grace. Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

The Law of Love

Today's liturgy begins with the theme of the law: "guide us according to your law of love because all mankind is in need of your law; the just one ... reproaches us for transgressions of the law." Notice that this is a law of love, and therefore it concerns the rightness of human relationships, in other words, justice: "the perfection of justice is found in your love ... help us to find this love in each other that justice may be attained." The result of following the law of love and establishing justice is harmony within the human family: "the harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace" (Second Reading). There is a direct line, therefore, from love through justice to peace. The recognition of this line constitutes the essence of wisdom, which is "peaceable, lenient, docile, rich in sympathy and the kindly deeds that are its fruit" (Second Reading). It is in this context that we encounter the Gospel, a passage that includes the images of the cross and the child. One way to interpret this would be to say that we approach the triple challenge of love, justice and peace with childlike humility, and we anticipate that our response to that challenge will bring us the cross. *Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*

Special Second Collection—TODAY

Cathedral Appeal - Sunday September 21, 2024

This money is used to support long term maintenance of our Mother Church - St Patrick's Cathedral, a precious heritage entrusted to us.

Sacramental Programme 2025

Registration closes on 31 December 2024.

Enrolment Forms are available at the church foyer.

Submit completed Form together with a copy of the the child's Baptismal Certificate to the Parish Office.

Tentative date for Confirmation is 29 June 2025



MARIAN DAY

You are invited to the MARIAN DAY on Saturday, 5th Oct 2024, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 130 Church Street, Onehunga.



Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship North Shore

An invitation to all men

September Meeting with Guest Speaker **Simon O'Connor** (of Family First NZ)

on **Wednesday 25 September** (7.15-9pm).

Simon's message on **standing up for Christ and for life** in a harsh political environment will be one which will be both challenging and inspiring.

The meeting will be at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield as usual, so join other men for a cuppa to start at 7.15pm.

—oOo—

A One-day Men's Retreat, directed by **Bishop Steve Lowe** will be held on **Saturday 19 October (8am-4pm)**.

The retreat will be titled **"He Emptied Himself"** (Philippians 2:7) and held at St Thomas More Church. This will be a special day of formation, prayer, worship, fellowship, and will end with Mass celebrated by Bishop Steve.

Bring a packed lunch or buy from the local shops. Suggested Koha of \$20 to cover costs. All men are welcome.

Use the link below to register, or contact **Greg Sullivan** on (021)37747.

Click on the link to register: <https://nsjoshua.wufoo.com/forms/z1orcm750bqcubb/>

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 - 11am

Next session is on Wednesday, 25th September 2024.

Contact Sylvia on 021 088 22990 or email aldonsylvia@gmail.com



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**



Donations Received \$61,377.82

Thank you for your generosity!!

THE WORD OF GOD
25th Sunday of Ordinary time

Wisdom 2:12,17-20
James 3:16—4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Monday

Proverbs 3:27-34
Luke 8:16-18

St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest

Tuesday

Proverbs 21:1-6.10-13
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday

Proverbs 30:5-9
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11
Luke 9:7-9

Friday

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11
Luke 9:18-22

St Vincent de Paul, priest

Saturday

Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8
Luke 9:43-45

Daylight savings

Clocks go back 1 hour at 3am
on **Sun, 29 Sept 2024**

All welcome to share

in a cuppa after the 10am
Mass hosted by the

**Iraqi
Community**



**Baptism
Preparation
Courses 2024**

**6 October 2024
3 November 2024**

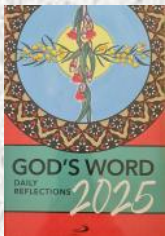
Contact the parish office to book
Ph: 444 8624

Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz



Columban
Calendars
2025 - \$15

Bible Diary for
sale -\$28



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

David McNeill, 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

Volunteers Needed to help with weekly washing of
Church Linen which include Purificators, Altar and
Tables cloths, etc. Instructions will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact **Margaret Russell**
on 027 660 8647 or email i.mrussell@xtra.co.nz

PARISH ONLINE REGISTRATION!

All **new** and **existing** parishioners please reg-
ister your family online. To Register, please
log on to www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz
Thank you for the registrations thus far.



Eftpos is available every
4th Sunday of the month for SVDP collection.
We thank you for your generous contribution.

IMPORTANT: Please collect your Pledge envelope
packs for 2024/2025 from the church foyer or notify the
parish Office if you would require a pack. Thank you

SAFE CHURCH ~ SAFE GUARDING



As Catholics we believe that every person
is created in the likeness and image of
God. Therefore, we continue to ensure that
our parish is a place where everyone is
treated with respect and dignity. We foster an
environment which is welcoming, and in which all our
parish family feel safe. If you have any complaints or
concerns, contact the National Office for Professional
Standards 0800-114-662.

Let your voice be heard and send your confidential
feedback online to <https://forms.office.com/r/a0uNT5q5it>

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Church buildings inspired by Vatican II - with the ex-
ample of St John the Baptist Church, Mairangi Bay
presented by Beate Mattheis

We will hear about Church Councils, the background of
the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) and some of the
changes that resulted from this significant event.

Tuesday, 24 September 2024, 7-8pm, St John the Baptist
Church, 395 East Coast Road, Mairangi Bay. Free.
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

PROLIFE FACTS

Right to Life is organising this year's
March for Life in Christchurch, which will
be held on Saturday 28th September.

The key purposes of the March for Life are to call for the
repeal of both the Abortion Legislation Act (2020) and the
End of Life Choice Act (2019). Participants will start
gathering in Victoria Square from 1 p.m. Placards will be
available for people to carry. The march itself will
commence at 2 p.m., proceeding through the central CBD
for about 30 minutes, before returning to Victoria Square,
where participants will hear from Pro-Life speakers. The
event is family-friendly and entertainment will be provided
for children, including face painting, balloon shows, free
candy floss and popcorn, and arts and crafts. There will
also be live music from a local church worship band. All
pro-life people are welcome to attend. **For more pro-life
information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**



**We pray for all those who have died recently
and all those whose anniversaries occur at
this time.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Celebrating-Twenty-1.pdf>

Parents pondering: DO YOU LOVE ME
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Do-You-Love-Me.pdf>

**Please be mindful of the neighbours when
congregating at night in the carpark area and keep
the noise levels down. Thank you**

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is
accepting **enrolments** for first semester 2025
from 23rd September to 22nd November 2024.

Courses offered are Bachelor of Divinity,
Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma and
Certificate in Christian Studies, and a new
microcredential on Managing Church
Organisations.
—oOo—

St Mary's College Past Pupils Association
Sunday 22nd September 2024. Mass will be
celebrated by Fr Peter Tipene in Old SMC
Chapel, New St, Ponsonby at 2pm. Followed by
afternoon tea and AGM. Please RSVP to
cathiearrop@gmail.com
—oOo—

Positions available St Joseph's Takapuna
Following restructuring of the parish staff, two
positions have become available: Executive
assistant, a 25 hours per week role; and (b)
Property manager, 10-15 hours per week.
For position descriptions and to apply for a
position, contact Fr Mark Napa
fmark@stjoseph.org.nz
Applications close 27 September 2024.
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Please prayerfully consider supporting the
**Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph's
annual appeal**, held 21 September. As the
Mother Church of our Diocese, it stands as an
oasis of peace for all in Auckland. Bishop Steve
invites all in the diocese to make a pilgrimage to
the Cathedral.
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SCHOLARSHIP for Theological Study

Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of
Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for
the **Ruth Miller Scholarship** for Theological
Study. This scholarship will be available ideally
for those already teaching in a Catholic school,
who intend to do one or more theology papers
towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2025.
For further information about this scholarship
and to receive an application form, please email:
scholarships@cda.org.nz. **The closing date for
applications is 15 NOVEMBER 2024**
—oOo—

**The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship
for Medical Students**

If you are a fourth- or fifth-year medical student
in 2025, are an active Catholic and normally
reside within the Auckland Diocese you may be
eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust
Scholarship. **Applications close 15 November
2024. For more information, please email
scholarships@cda.org.nz**
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Liturgy is a quarterly magazine, curated to
support liturgical life in parishes, schools, and
faith communities. The Liturgy Centre, from the
Catholic Diocese of Auckland in New Zealand,
has been producing this magazine for nearly 50
years. Liturgy is available online on the
diocesan website. It is r free: [https://
www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/
magazine/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/magazine/).
—oOo—

Prayers in Te Reo Last week was Te Wiki o te
reo Māori. Manuel Beazley Vicar for Māori
produced a set of videos praying in Te
Reo. These are available [https://
www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/maori-vicariate/
prayer-te-reo/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/maori-vicariate/prayer-te-reo/)

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