



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 26 January 2025

Exploring The WORD

After our brief excursion last week into Saint John's Gospel, we are back on track this week with Saint Luke - whom we will follow for the rest of the year. Today is about beginnings: the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. It begins with the Word of God, in the synagogue. Jesus reads from the Old Testament, as we do every Sunday, and tells the people that it is fulfilled in him. Everything that God has said to his people, through his prophets, comes together in Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God. Today is an ideal Sunday to think about the ministry of reader - about how as readers we make present' the same fulfilment, Jesus, when we read the word of God in our Churches.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor."

Jesus, rise, spread out the scroll
—like Ezra, your priest-scribe
—and declare to the people and to
us that God is in our
midst this day.

Earth, you are holy now.

Holy Spirit, touch our being
and our doing.

Let us feed and shelter the poor,
welcome immigrants,
free the prisoners,
fix climate crisis.

Brush our days,
with grace. Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

A Right to Justice

Jesus stood up in his home town and announced his program: to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners. It may not sound particularly religious to some, but it was a program established by one who had returned to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." Sunday's liturgy juxtaposes the story of Jesus reading in the synagogue with the story of Ezra reading the law to people upon their return from exile. The suggestion is that Jesus' program is a kind of law, a rule that should govern our lives. Bringing good news to the poor, liberating people from all their oppressions, this is not some optional activity that one can engage in only if one is inclined. It is "the law of the Lord," it is the program for which we have all been anointed. The unity and peace we pray for at the beginning of Mass will only come if Jesus' followers accept his program as their own. In his plan of salvation. God gave Israel its law. ... Of this collection of laws, love of God above all things and of neighbor as oneself already constitute the center. But the justice which must govern relations between people, and the law which is its juridical expression, also belong to the sum and substance of the biblical law. ... It is in this context that one should appreciate the biblical law's care for the poor, the needy, the widow and the orphan: They have a right to justice according to the juridical ordinances of the people of God. *Gerard Darring/liturgy.slu.edu*



First Friday on 7 February 2025

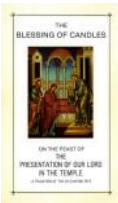
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Novena 6.30pm
Mass 7.00pm

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE ELDERLY WITHIN MASS

Saturday, 8 February 2025
at 9:15 am



PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE



Please bring your **NAMED** candles to be blessed on **SUNDAY, 2nd February 2025** for the feast of the Presentation of the Child Jesus.

Please place them on the table at the bottom of the Sanctuary.

Candles will be blessed at Vigil and Sunday Masses.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Thursday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on **THURSDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY 2025, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Please fill your name in the roster at the back of the church for 1/2 hour Adoration.



Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship North Shore

A warm invitation to all men to the January meeting.

Date: Wed 29 Jan 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

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

The evening will include a very encouraging talk entitled "**The Apprentice**" presented by Peter-John Carelse and Kevin Farrell. So what is the 'Apprentice' all about ... come and find out. Invite a mate and come to be enriched and challenged and to meet other men of faith in fellowship as we share supper together. Jeffrey from Peoples Worship Ministry will be the worship leader together with support from Been Ueriti. To know more **contact Jerome 027 233 4380**

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**ONE-DAY RETREAT for ALL

on Saturday 15 FEBRUARY** hosted collaboratively by the *Auckland Joshua and Dove Fellowships*

All are invited to this One-day Retreat, directed by **Fr Carl Telford** and titled "**The Prayer Journey of St Teresa of Avila**".

This will be from 8am to 4pm on Sat 15 Feb at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield, Auckland and will be a special time of formation, prayer, worship, fellowship.

Morning Tea will be provided.

Bring a packed lunch or buy from the local shops.

Suggested Koha of \$20pp to cover costs.

Everyone is welcome.

Register using the QR code below or text/call Greg on 021 437747.

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"AS IRON SHARPENS IRON..." *Proverbs 27:17*

All men are invited to **Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship**. Join this great bunch of God-fearing guys monthly in both Glenfield (last Wed of the month) and Pakuranga (2nd Monday of the month) for fellowship, and to worship, pray and grow together.

Upcoming meetings

Wednesday 29 January : 7.15pm for 7.30pm start at St Thomas More Church Hall, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield. Contact Jerome (027) 2334380 for more information.

Monday 10 February : 7pm for 7.30pm start at St Marks Church, 334 Pakuranga Rd, Pakuranga. Contact Dakshi (022) 0397212 for more information.



OLD PALMS

Please bring your old, blessed palms (**WITHOUT any wrappings, plastic, clips or paper**) and place them in the green bin to prepare ashes for Ash Wednesday.

LAST DATE FOR COLLECTION IS SUNDAY, 25th FEBRUARY 2025.

CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

**Donations Received thus far
\$85,753.12**

Account Name: **GLENFIELD FUNDRAISIN**

Account Number: **02-0108-0708668-003**

Reference : **Parishioner's name and Pledge Number**

Thank you for your generosity!!

THE WORD OF GOD

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4 4:14-21

Monday

Hebrews 9:15.24-28
Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday

Hebrews 10:1-10
Mark 3:31-35

St Thomas Aquinas, p.D

Wednesday

Hebrews 10:11-18
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday

Hebrews 10:19-25
Mark 4:21-25

Friday

Hebrews 10:32-39
Mark 4:26-34

St John Bosco, priest

Saturday

Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19
Mark 4:35-41

Morning Tea

after the 10am Mass
will resume next
Sunday, 2 February



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Classes will resume in February
2025.



Baptism Preparation Courses 2025

2 February 2025
2 March 2025
6 April 2025
4 May 2025
8 June 2025
6 July 2025
3 August 2025
14 September 2025
5 October 2025
2 November 2025

Contact the parish office to book
Ph: 444 8624

Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz

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



Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

David McNeill, Margaret Russell,
Anselmo Salazar, Gaye and
Ciara 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

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Story of the Stations of the Cross Across the diocese people will gather throughout Lent to walk and pray the Stations of the Cross. But why has this become such a popular devotion? How come there are 14 stations and not 6 or 23? You are invited to prayerfully consider these and other questions as we explore with Sr Sian the meaning and history of the Stations of the Cross. To register please email pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz to be sent the online link.

Theology of the Body Courses

Human Love in the Divine Plan: Adult and Young Adult Beginners Course: **Sat 15 and Sun 16 February 2025**. Mission Bay, Auckland. Young Adult Book Study on Dr Edward Sri's Men, Women and the Mystery of Love - Wed evenings starting 12 February 2025; Hillsborough, Auckland. To register please visit: theologyofthebody.nz.

3-day Prayer Retreat for Women Friday 28 February 6pm to Sunday 2 March 3pm 2025 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. All women are welcome. There will be sessions on "What is prayer?" "Why should I pray?" "How do I pray?" and "Humility & Forgiveness". Early bird registration and details here: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

Incense — A Taste of Heaven? Beate Matthies is the founder of Titipounamu Study & Joy. She has a background in linguistics, history of art and business management. She has a special interest in Scriptures, Cultures and Interreligious Dialogue. **Monday, 24 February 2024, 7-8pm (ZOOM)** Fee: Koha. Donations are appreciated. For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz

Bishop Steve Speaks tune into the diocesan YouTube channel playlist *Bishop Steve Speaks* to hear him reflecting on the readings of Sunday and other moments of conversation. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYVVDAh6gEBFpCzZxCTLhlpW-gsxny4e>

The Diocese is seeking a talented and creative **Multimedia Journalist** (part time – 20 hrs per week) to create engaging digital multimedia content (stories, photos, videos) that shares the news of the Diocese, Bishop, Parish, Schools and Agencies. These stories will also contribute to supporting the national CathNews platform which delivers news, analysis, and commentary of interest to the Catholic Church community. For full details, please visit our website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz – Diocesan Services – Staff Vacancies.

Commissioning Mass | Sunday 23 February 7pm | St Patrick's Cathedral. Join us as we begin another grace-filled year of youth ministry with our Young Leaders' Commissioning Mass! Bishop Steve Lowe will be celebrating the mass and commissioning our young leaders as they are sent out for ministry in 2025. If you're a youth ministry leader or young adult ministry leader, you're an essential part of this mass! We want to pray with you and for you, as you begin your ministry year. Please invite your whānau, your friends, and your wider faith community to join us as well. We invite Catholics from across the Diocese to join us for this celebration. Unite with our young leaders in faith, hope and joy as we commence another incredible year of youth ministry in the Diocese of Auckland! Go to www.facebook.com/AKCYM or email youthmin@cda.org.nz for more info.

Ethnic Chaplaincy Officers and Leaders Formation Day | Sat. 22 February 2025 | Pompallier Centre 9:30am - 12:00pm. Inviting all officer bearers, leaders in ministry, pastoral associates, and all chaplains to your Formation Day as we provide you updates on the Migrant Chaplaincies Norms on Community Establishments, Finance, Safeguarding. Registration is essential - follow the link on the diocesan website event page [here](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz). Email us at pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz if you have any questions, we can email you the specific link.

This weekend Holy Name Parish in Warkworth will move from their current church to a new church at Matakana. A commemorative book has been commissioned. People, parishes and groups are invited to share stories and photos and/or to place advertisements. For more information go to: <https://write-on-publishing.com/ascension/>

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE (cont.)

Jubilee Sing Jubilee Pope Francis has called us to celebrate a Year of Jubilee in 2025. Join Tony Alonso, a Grammy nominated composer of sacred music and a scholar whose work responds to the diverse realities of contemporary culture.

The following events are taking place to celebrate the Jubilee of Song:

Evening with Tony Alonso, Thursday 29 May 6.30pm, St Francis Xavier Church, Park Ave, Whangarei. Suggested Koha \$10.00 per person. Please visit the following link for registration: [An Evening with Tony Alonso - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](http://AnEveningwithTonyAlonso-CatholicDioceseofAuckland)

Conversation with Tony with drinks and nibbles, Friday 30 May 6.30pm, Pompallier Diocesan Centre \$20.00. Please visit the following link for registration: [A Conversation with Tony Alonso - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](http://AConversationwithTonyAlonso-CatholicDioceseofAuckland)

Retreat Workshop with Tony, Saturday 31 May 1.30 - 4.00pm, Baradene College Auditorium, Victoria St. Koha. Please visit the following link for registration: [Retreat Workshop with Tony Alonso - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](http://RetreatWorkshopwithTonyAlonso-CatholicDioceseofAuckland).

Concert with Tony Alonso, Saturday 31 May 6.30pm, Baradene College Auditorium, Victoria St., \$10.00 per person. Please visit the following link for registration: [A Concert with Tony Alonso - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](http://AConcertwithTonyAlonso-CatholicDioceseofAuckland).

We are also called to be pilgrims of hope as local and domestic Church. Check out some ways this can be through our first Jubilee Jottings <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/JubileeJottingsDEC-2024.pdf>

And if you have your own ideas about how Jubilee Year can be celebrated, please let us know through pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz

PROLIFE FACTS

What will be the situation with abortion at the beginning of the second Trump Administration? The main provider of abortion in the United States is Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood has enjoyed federal and state funding, plus large private donations from wealthy supporters of abortion. However, new Vice President J.D. Vance has put Planned Parenthood on notice that the Trump Administration intends to "defund" their organisation. Time will tell how this aim and to what extent the "defunding" will take place. The Trump Administration is also expected to support the many pregnancy support centres around the USA that provide much-needed support and care for pregnant women as an alternative to abortion. **For more pro-life information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**



TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Incense - A Taste of Heaven? with Beate Matthies

Monday, 24 February 2024, 7-8pm (Zoom).
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2025/01/14/incense-a-taste-of-heaven/>

YouTube Recordings:

Check out our overview of recordings:
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/12/21/video-recordings-overview/>

New: Short articles on diverse events: [News & Opinions](http://News&Opinions)

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

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