



8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 2 March 2025

The WORD This Week

We have many sayings about results being more important than promises, such as “the proof of the pudding is in the eating”. Today’s scripture readings are all about this – the ways in which our words and actions will reveal who we truly are. There is a wonderful mosaic of poetic wisdom in the readings this Sunday – images and parables and similes that can sit in our heads and hearts, and make us think about the sort of people we are, and the words we use and the fruits we produce by them. And we should pray that we will always produce good, sound fruit, so that we may keep on working at the Lord’s work always, and so share in Christ’s victory over death itself.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

“For from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks .”

Jesus,
we watch as you
heal the sick, and eat
and then drink with sinners,
or you talk with a Samaritan woman!
We see you visit with Nicodemus;
and you let the prostitute
anoint your feet.

You take our heart of flesh.
You teach us how to love.

Teacher, enlarge our hearts.
Let us heed your call to love tenderly
with hearts and hands and voices. Amen

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

A Good Tree is Known by Its Fruits

In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus says that every tree is known by its fruit. You can tell the difference between the good and the rotten trees by their fruits, he says; but he is really talking about us. But what are the good fruits that you have to bring forth to count as a good tree? They are the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Every person in whom the Holy Spirit dwells has the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Scripture lists nine fruits (see [Galatians 5:22-23](#)), but traditionally the Church has listed twelve. Here is that list: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Longsuffering, Goodness, Benevolence, Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty, Continenence, Chastity. You’ll see that I have divided the twelve into three unequal parts. The first part has five fruits that have to do with your relation to the Lord. When you are a good tree, you have the Holy Spirit indwelling in you. With the indwelling Holy Spirit, you are your beloved Lord’s, and he is yours in love and joy and peace. In that loving relationship, you can also bear better the troubles of this life, and so patience and long-suffering are on the list too. The next four fruits have to do with your attitude towards your neighbor. When you are inclined to wish the good for your neighbor, you have goodness; and when you are inclined actually to help your neighbor in good ways, you have benevolence. You have mildness when you put up with a neighbor who is troublesome, and you have fidelity when you are inclined to forego getting revenge on him when he has been unjust to you. Finally, the last three fruits have to do with your attitudes about yourself. You have modesty when you are inclined to be content even if you are not the center of everyone’s attention. You have continence if you are inclined to discipline yourself with regard to morally acceptable things. You manage to get your exercise in because you got yourself to turn the TV off, for example. And you have chastity if you are inclined to discipline yourself about those things that tempt you but that are not morally acceptable. If you have all these good fruits of the Spirit, it will be easy to recognize you as the good tree that you are! [Eleonore Stump/ liturgy.slu.edu](#)

First Friday Mass



7 March 2025

Divine Mercy
Chaplet Novena
6.30pm

Mass 7.00pm

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

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



Saturday, 8 March 2025 at 9:15 am

ASH
WEDNESDAY



Remember that
you are dust, and to
dust you shall return.
Ecclesiastes 3:20

Mass Times

Ash Wednesday

Begins the Season of Lent

5 March 2022

9:15 am and 7:30 pm

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

PRAY



FAST



GIVE



PARISH LENTEN OBSERVANCES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Thursdays of LENT

7:30pm (Chaldean Community)

Fridays of LENT

9:45 am and 7:00pm

7:45pm (Tongan Community)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS- 9:45 am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THURSDAYS - all day until 4pm



LIVING IN THE DIVINE WILL CONFERENCE

Sat. 22nd March and Sun. 23rd March 2025
at St. Thomas More Church Hall,
336 Wairau Road, Glenfield, Auckland.

SPEAKER: Tony Hickey from Manchester, U.K.
Time: Sat. 10 am. till 4 pm. (Mass at 9:15 a.m.)
Sun. 11:30 am. till 4 pm. (Mass at 10 a.m.)

Donation/Koha requested.
Please B.Y.O. food.

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



2025—Jubilee Year

Upcoming Jubilee events

18th April: Good Friday: Stations of the Cross by Youth (procession in the church grounds)
Tues 6th May, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Talk by Scott Hahn about HOPE and the JUBILEE.
8th June: PENTECOST – Ethnic Food Festival after 10 a.m. Mass

Jubilee pamphlets available in the Foyer

CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Donations Received thus far
\$90,618.32

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

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7
1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

Monday

Ecclesiasticus 17:24-29
Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday

Ecclesiasticus 35:1-12
Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2
Matthew 6:1-6.16-18

ASH WEDNESDAY

Thursday

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Luke 9:22-25

Friday

Isaiah 58:1-9
Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday

Isaiah 58:9-14
Luke 5:27-32

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

CATHNEWS NEW ZEALAND: The Bishops Conference has recently launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnews.co.nz/>

LENT @ ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, REMUERA Lent is fast approaching – are you ready? Let Christ show you how He lived, move beyond the surface of the stories you've heard before. Morning Talks with Dr Dan Stollenwerk – "Who do you say that I am?"
4x Wednesdays from 19 March 10:45 – 12:00pm. No registration required. Evening Talks with Fr Phil Bennenbroek 5x Tuesdays from 11 March 7:00pm – 8:30pm. [Register here](https://www.remuera.catholic.org.nz/lenten-programme) For information <https://www.remuera.catholic.org.nz/lenten-programme>

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offer a beautiful opportunity for healing to anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The next Retreat will be held at Mary McKillop Centre, **April 11-13, 2025**. For more information Contact Wendy Hill on 027 2549222 or email wendy@rachelsvineyard.org.nz

Joshua Auckland presents and invites YOU to....."**How to be Salt and Light in an Age of Crisis and Confusion**" by Brendan Malone. When - **Monday March 10th** Where- St Mark's Catholic Church. 334 Pakuranga Road. Time - 7 pm for a 7.30pm start. Who- ALL welcome

Singles Ministry is holding a Meet & Connect for Single Roman Catholics looking to find a partner on **Saturday 29th March 2025**. For more information kindly contact: Clytie : 021836705, Reena 0278387151.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theology College Webinars in 2025. Each session is unique so you can come for one that may interest you or come to all the live sessions. Fee is \$20 per webinar or \$100 for all 6 webinars. All live sessions are done on Zoom online platform and will be recorded so you won't miss out. For details, please visit <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/catholic-theological-college-2/webinar-2025/>

Pope Francis' Letter to us all on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Wednesday Evenings 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March 7-7.30pm on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Wake Up and Pray. Meditation Mornings in Lent through Easter 5th March – 20th of April, 6.15 – 6.45am on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Prepare Ponder Pray with the Gospels. Saturdays in Lent 7 – 7:30pm on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Wings.Nga Parirau this Lent – an invitation to grow your relationship with Jesus.
Presentation of the First Year Programme of 'Wings' during Lent'. We will be **reflecting** on faith, and our own faith journey; grace and spirituality, and experiences of prayer; and introduced to the Old Testament and New Testament Scriptures.

The **Sunday Gospels** of Lent provide a particular framework for our reflection.
When: **Saturdays in Lent: 2-4pm** 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March 5th; 12th April 2025
Where: **Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New St, St Mary's Bay, Ponsonby.**
Are you interested but cannot make the face-to-face meetings? An online presentation on Zoom may be offered if there is interest. Dates and times to be arranged. Contact Dianna Fouhy diannaf@cda.org.nz

CALLING ALL AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS!
There is a large, vibrant, Catholic student community in the Auckland CBD. Join us this year! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out our socials. Search "aucklandcatholicchaplancy"



Parish Safeguarding

Thank you to all the volunteers who have completed the police-vetting Safeguarding requirement.

Parish Safeguarding contact :

Vidya Furtado

Email: safeguarding@stthomasmore.org.nz

Safeguarding Coordinator CDA

Lisa-May Gray

09 360 3019

Email: Lisam@cda.org.nz

Useful websites:

safeguarding.catholic.org.nz

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/safeguarding/>

<https://safeguardingchildren.org.nz/>

<https://www.childmatters.org.nz/>



TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

News Article:

Interfaith Creek Clean-Up was a full success.

Check out the article about it here:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2025/02/26/creek-clean-up/>

YouTube Recording (2min):

Lent - Why does it start on a Wednesday? -

Prof Thomas O'Loughlin:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2021/02/12/prof-thomas-oloughlin/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz



Join in a great Prayer for Life this Lent!

Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday

- pray for an end to abortion. Sign

up and receive educational

resources and daily prayer intentions. Join the

peaceful prayer vigil near the abortion place on

Wednesdays. Find out more at FLI.org.nz/prayerforlife

PROLIFE FACTS

The New Zealand Centre for

BioEthical Reform (NZCBR) is

an educational human rights organisation dedicated to speaking out on behalf of the youngest and most vulnerable members of the human family. Members of this organisation work on the "front lines", utilising door knocking, street outreach and display, compassionate apologetics and compelling imagery. Volunteers are trained in effective dialogue and receive ongoing mentorship, resources, and have the support of a team leader. **For more pro-life information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: [https://](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Celebrating-FIRST-SUNDAY-OF-LENT.pdf)

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Celebrating-FIRST-SUNDAY-OF-LENT.pdf

Parents pondering: LENTEN REFLECTION week 1

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/LENTEN-REFLECTION.pdf>

House for rent in Unsworth Heights area

3 bedroom plus study, Internal carpeted double garage, 1 bathroom semi-ensuite plus additional separate toilet. All bedrooms and the open living area equipped with modern wifi controlled heat pumps, elevated sunny house with view. Rent is \$720 per week.

Available from 27 March 2025

For details and viewing requests please call 021 833 125 or 022 3272 454

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

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

South African Community



Envelopes are in the church foyer for your donations.



Baptism Preparation Courses 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

Elaine Stanton, David McNeill, Anselmo Salazar, Gaye and Ciara Rhodes, Mary Baker, Israel Nathan, 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