



# 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 1 February 2026

## Exploring The WORD

Last week we heard Saint Matthew describing the beginnings of Jesus’ public ministry. This week Saint Matthew begins the most important summary of the proclamation of the kingdom of God – what we refer to as the “Sermon on the Mount.” This great collection of Jesus’ teachings begins with the Beatitudes – the Charter of the Kingdom. It is essential to understand these, if we are to understand what we will read in Saint Matthew during the rest of this year: the key, as underlined by the First Reading, is that the values of this world are not the values of the Kingdom of God – the Kingdom will see things turned upside down: happiness and blessing belong to those whom this world would ignore or mistreat. If we truly wish to live out the Gospel, we would do well to reflect on the virtues laid out in this familiar passage.

## PRAYER THIS WEEK

*“When Jesus saw the crowds he went up the mountain. He began to teach them.”*

Christ, our teacher,  
you are a peacemaker.

You hunger and you thirst for justice.  
Yet you are meek and merciful  
and strong and powerful  
in all that counts.

Please be a blest beatitude  
for each of us.

Let us live in you and be beatitudes  
for one another. Amen

## GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY

### Justice and Love

Today’s liturgy is about love: help us to love you with all our hearts and to love all persons as you love them. It is also about justice: we are to seek justice, following the Lord, who “secures justice for the oppressed,” ([Responsorial Psalm](#)) and following Christ, whom God has made “our wisdom and also our justice.” ([Second Reading](#)) But God’s love and justice are different from ours. The Gospel teaches us that in the just world of God, the sorrowing are consoled, the lowly inherit the land, the hungry have their fill, and the persecuted rejoice at being insulted and slandered. The children of God are different from the children of the world: God chose those whom the world considers absurd to shame the wise; he singled out the weak of this world to shame the strong. He chose the world’s lowborn and despised, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who were something. ([Second Reading](#)) The love of God is more powerful than all the sin we can muster, and the justice of God overcomes all the world’s injustice, its poverty and hunger, its oppression and war, its alienation and domination of others. “The Lord sets captives free.” ([Responsorial Psalm](#)) . *Gerald Darring/ www.liturgy.slu.edu*

**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**  
On **Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026** is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.  
Please bring **your labelled candles** and place them on the table to be blessed during the 9.15 am Mass.

**First Friday Mass**  
**6 February 2026**  
Mass **7.00pm**

**COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE ELDERLY WITHIN MASS**  
**Saturday, 14 February 2026 at 9:15 am**

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
will resume on **Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**, 10 am to 4 pm.  
Can you spare a half hour of your week to sit and pray before our Lord exposed in the Monstrance?  
Please put your names down on the roster at the back of the church.

**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, 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2026.** There will be **NO** collections after this date

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**Mass Times**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
Begins the Season of Lent  
**18 February 2026**  
**9:15 am and 7:30 pm**

*“Lent is a season in which we especially focus on examining our hearts, confessing our sins, and reflecting on the significance of Christ’s death.”*

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY**  
We need someone to lead the Children’s Liturgy at the 5.30pm Mass on the 2nd Saturdays of each month.  
If you can help, please contact Sylvia Hartley on **021 088 22990 / aldonsylvia@gmail.com**

**PLEDGE ENVELOPES**  
Pledge envelopes for the following numbers have not been collected yet—**12; 20; 35; 100; 109; 115; 117; 124; 170; 290; 316; 339; 345 and 346.** Please collect them from the office.  
If you no longer require envelopes or donate through automatic payment please notify Trevlyn at the Parish Office. Thank you

**CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE**  
*A gentle reminder that for every dollar you donate to the parish through your pledge or fundraising, you are entitled to a 33 cents tax refund*  
**Donations Received thus far — \$188,932.13**  
Account Name: **ST THOMAS MORE GLENFIELD**  
Account Number: **02-0108-0708668-003**  
Reference : **Parishioner’s name and Pledge Number**  
**Thank you for your generosity!!**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### 4th Sunday in Ordinary time

Zephaniah 2:3;3:12-13  
1 Corinthians 1:26-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

#### Monday

##### Candlemas Day

Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 2:22-40

#### The Presentation of the Lord

#### Tuesday

2 Samuel 18:9-10,14,24-25,30-19:3  
Mark 5:21-43

#### Wednesday

2 Samuel 24:2,9-17  
Mark 6:1-6

#### Thursday

1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12  
Mark 6:7-13

#### St Agatha, V.M.

#### FRIDAY—WAITANGI DAY

Ecclesiasticus 47:2-11  
Mark 6:14-29

#### Saturday

1 Kings 3:4-13  
Mark 6:30-34

#### St Paul Miki & Companions, p.M..

## All welcome to share

in a cuppa after the 10am  
Mass hosted by the

## South African Community



## GROUP BAPTISMS

Group Baptisms are  
celebrated on 3rd & 4th  
Saturdays of the month.

There will be **NO BAPTISMS**  
during Lent. Next Baptism  
date is **18th April 2026**.  
Thank you



## Baptism Preparation Courses 2026

**1 February 2026**  
**8 March 2026**  
**12 April 2026 - No Session**  
**3 May 2026**  
**7 June 2026**  
**5 July 2026**  
**2 August 2026**  
**13 September 2026**  
**4 October 2026**  
**1 November 2026**

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

Margaret & Alan Skinner,  
David McNeill, Anselmo Salazar,  
Gaye and Ciara Rhodes, Israel  
Nathan, Tamar Mathews,  
Mark Delaurier

Contact the Parish office  
if you wish to add names  
office@stthomasmore.org.nz

## Columbarium at St Francis de Sales and All Souls Devonport, opening Feb 22nd

With Fr Pio's approval, members of the Columbarium  
Committee will be present at all Masses on the  
weekend of **February 14th and 15th**, to speak  
briefly and follow up any expressions of interest from  
St Thomas More parishioners. We look forward to  
meeting you all. For more information contact  
[office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

## Friday, 6 February 2026

Waitangi Day has been a  
significant day on New Zealand's  
calendar since the Treaty of  
Waitangi was first signed in  
1840. The flagstaff which stands  
on the Upper Treaty Grounds  
marks the location of the first  
Treaty signing by representatives of the British Crown  
and over 40 Rangatira (chiefs) on **6 February 1840**.

Designated as a Special Day of Prayer

Mass in commemoration will be celebrated at 9:15am



## IMPORTANT: PARISH ONLINE REGISTRATION!

All **new** and **existing** parishioners please register your  
family online. To Register, please log on to  
[www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz](http://www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz)  
Thank you for the registrations thus far.

**Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday  
6th February 7:00pm** at St Mary's Parish,  
20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung,  
Benediction, Mass, followed by Veneration of  
St Faustina's relic. All Welcome



## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

**Kids Corner:** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/CELEBRATING-The-Fourth-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>

### Parents pondering:

#### POPE FRANCIS BEATITUDES

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Pope-Francis-BEATITUDES.pdf>



### PROLIFE FACTS

Voice for Life will hold a national conference  
on Friday, March 6, at the Reformed Church  
of the North Shore, 72 Trias Road, Totara, Auckland,  
from 9 am-4 pm. It's designed for all pro-life people,  
whether they are already familiar with pro-life issues, or  
wanting to learn how to start making a difference. The  
event takes place the day before the 2026 March for Life,  
also in Auckland. The conference features speakers Simon  
O'Connor, Ellie Whitaker, and Maryanne Spurdle, covering  
euthanasia, effective pro-life conversations, conscience  
rights, and practical ways to help. Attendees will gain  
knowledge and resources to engage confidently in their  
communities. Food is provided, and tickets are available at  
[voiceforlife.org.nz/shop](http://voiceforlife.org.nz/shop). For pro-life info, visit  
[www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz).

## TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Franciscan Renaissance with Patrick Carolan  
Monday, 16 February 2026, 7-8pm. Zoom (Koha/  
Donation). Register to receive the Zoom link:

[www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/08/franciscan-renaissance/](https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/08/franciscan-renaissance/)

**Crisis Pregnancy & Healing.** Interview with Catherine  
Gillies.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/18/crisis-pregnancy-healing-muffin-talk-with-catherine-gillies/>

For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

Please **DO NOT** park along St Thomas More Lane - the  
residents are inconvenienced by the weekly  
congestion. Your vehicle will be towed away.

Please be mindful of noise levels when congregating  
in the parking area's at night. Thank you

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

### Ordination of Ryan – Livestream Invitation

Parishes are warmly invited to share the livestream  
link for Ryan's Ordination on their social media  
pages. Ordination: 11.00am, Saturday (Flatbush)  
First Mass: 9.30am, Sunday (Good Shepherd)  
Link: [Ordination to the Priesthood - Deacon Ryan Sy](#)  
Thank you for helping us spread the word and  
support this special occasion.

### Celebrating Marriage & Family Life. St

Valentine's vigil Mass **Saturday 14th February  
5.30pm** at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph  
43 Wyndam Street CBD for married, engaged,  
dating, widowed and families all are welcome to  
celebrate the joy of families. Further info contact  
Gerry 021 02247442

### Parish Finance Committee Refresher.

Parish Finance Committee members are warmly invited to  
an evening to refresh your understanding on the  
roles and responsibilities of finance committees.  
The session will be held at the Pompallier Centre,  
30 New Street (on-site parking available), from 7.00  
-9.00pm on **12 February**. It will be a fast moving  
and dynamic evening touching on finance,  
property, safeguarding, people, and  
fundraising. Please RSVP to [EurekaM@cda.org.nz](mailto:EurekaM@cda.org.nz)  
by 6 February. Whether you are new to a Parish  
Finance Committee or an experienced member, we  
hope the night offers something to support your  
knowledge and contacts in the role.

**CALLING ALL TERTIARY STUDENTS!** There is  
a LARGE, VIBRANT and RAPIDLY growing  
Catholic STUDENT COMMUNITY present across  
University of Auckland and AUT campuses. JOIN  
US in 2026! To find out more please contact  
Daniel Story at [dans@cda.org.nz](mailto:dans@cda.org.nz) and/or check out  
the Auckland Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC)  
socials. Search "aucklandcatholicchaplaincy"

### The Dominican Friars of the Province of the

**Assumption** invite you to the 2026 Aquinas  
Conference in Auckland held at Holy Family Parish,  
Te Atatu on **21st February**. It will begin with the  
Holy Mass at 9AM followed by four talks exploring  
the life and teachings of St Thomas Aquinas. It is  
open to all ages so please invite your family and  
friends. The Conference will be FREE of charge but  
donations ([https://www.givenow.com.au/  
stdominicspriory](https://www.givenow.com.au/stdominicspriory)) will be greatly appreciated!

### Young Leaders Masterclass | 1pm Sunday 22nd February at Pompallier Diocesan centre 30 New Street Ponsonby

If you're a youth ministry leader  
or young adult ministry leader, you're invited to our  
quarterly event designed to equip, empower, and  
energize you for ministry. Whether you're a  
seasoned leader or just starting out, Masterclass  
offers practical tools, spiritual nourishment, and a  
supportive community to help you thrive in your  
ministry. And did we mention plenty of time to  
connect with other young leaders while enjoying  
a free barista coffee on us?! As always,  
Masterclass will feature relevant workshops led by  
experienced guest speakers: Stay tuned for topics  
and speakers to be announced soon!

Register here: [https://events.humanitix.com/  
masterclass2026](https://events.humanitix.com/masterclass2026)

**WYD 2027 Webinars** To support the preparation  
for this great event with the Holy Father Leo XVI,  
the Catholic Theological College has organised a  
series of webinars for the Youth in NZ. We have  
invited prominent theologians and those involved in  
pastoral work locally and internationally to be our  
guest speakers.

**New Zealand Catholic Medical Association  
(NZCMA) Retreat and Seminar** The New Zealand  
Catholic Medical Association provides community,  
support and chaplaincy for those involved in health  
care in Aotearoa. The association welcomes  
doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists,  
physiotherapists, psychologists, dentists, health  
administrators, counsellors, social workers,  
chaplains, lawyers, and anyone in allied roles. The  
next nationwide event is a retreat and seminar at  
the St Francis Friary & Retreat Centre, Auckland on  
**March 20 and 21**. For more information or to  
register, visit <https://bit.ly/NZCMA2026> or email  
[newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com](mailto:newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com)