



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 29 March 2026

Exploring The WORD

On Palm Sunday the long reading of the Passion dominates the celebration, and in a sense its meaning is obvious. Do not allow this, however, to detract from the other readings, which give the vital context necessary for understanding the Passion as more than just a long story. It is our story – the tale of how God achieved OUR salvation by the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ.



PRAYER THIS WEEK

"The whole city was shaken and asked, "who is this?"

A very large crowd before
and behind cried out with
"Hosanna to the Son of David,"
as they spread their cloaks
and strewed leaves from the palm trees,
preparing the way for the king to enter Jerusalem.

The city's people were dazed and they cried out.

Who can this be, this great one?

Now we cry out too!
Who can this be?

We wave psalms in welcome, but we ask,
Jesus of Nazareth, who are you to us?
Our God who walks alongside us?
A king, crowned with thorns?
A light that shows our way to
the truth? Amen

LENTEN SPIRITUALITY

Suffering

Today we celebrate Jesus, the suffering Messiah. He is the one of whom Isaiah foretold: "My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. He is the Christ who took the form of a slave, ... obediently accepting even death, death on a cross." He is the savior who "suffered willingly for sinners" and whose suffering makes us pleasing to God. We all suffer in our own way. We experience physical pain and hardship. We suffer watching our friends and relatives suffer. We are often offended or abandoned by others, and we add to our suffering by our own sinfulness. The world around us is filled with suffering: the victims of war and poverty; people living in streets or in shantytowns; starving children; lonely elderly; people dying of AIDS, cancer, or some other disease. Today's liturgy teaches us "to welcome our suffering," to bear witness to God by following Christ's example of suffering. We pray that the world "united with him in his suffering on the cross may share his resurrection and new life." .
Gerald Darring/ www.liturgy.slu.edu

SECOND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY, 3rd April 2026
This collection goes towards the upkeep of the Holy Places in Christendom



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

PALM-PASSION SUNDAY, 29 March 2026
5.30pm Saturday - 8.00am and 10.00am Sunday

TUESDAY, 31 March 2026
CHRISM MASS
7.00pm St Patrick's Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, 1 April 2026
7.30pm Chaldean Washing of the Feet Mass

HOLY THURSDAY, 2 April 2026
NO MORNING MASS
7.30pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Adoration after Mass at the Altar of Repose
Collection for the Caritas

GOOD FRIDAY, 3 April 2026
9.00am Stations of the Cross
followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet
11.30am Chaldean Good Friday Mass
3pm COMMEMORATION OF LORD'S PASSION
Collection is for the upkeep of Holy Places, Jerusalem

EASTER VIGIL, 4 April 2026
7.30pm THE LORD'S RESURRECTION
Parish to provide T-light candles. **DO NOT** bring your own.
Second collection for upkeep of Auckland Clergy

EASTER SUNDAY, 5 April 2026
(Daylight saving ends — clocks go back 1hour)
9am Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection
Second collection for upkeep of Auckland Clergy
11.30am Chaldean Easter Mass

Sacramental Programme 2026

Enrolment Forms are available in the church foyer.
Please submit completed Form together with a copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate to the Parish Office.



Deadline: 24 April 2026



Parents and Caregivers

For the safety and well-being of your tamariki, please supervise them at all times when they are visiting the parish.

CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Donations Received thus far — \$226,599.87
Account Name: **ST THOMAS MORE GLENFIELD**
Account Number: **02-0108-0708668-003**
Reference : **Parishioner's name and Pledge Nr**

Thank you for your generosity!!

THE WORD OF GOD
PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27,66

Monday

Isaiah 42:1-7
John 12:1-11

Tuesday

Isaiah 49:1-6
John 13:21-33,36-38

Wednesday

Isaiah 50:4-9
Matthew 26:14-25

Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-8,11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-15

GOOD FRIDAY

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16,5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

Easter Vigil

Genesis 1:1-2:2
Genesis 22:1-18
Exodus 14:15-15:1
Isaiah 54:5-14
Isaiah 55:1-11
Baruch 3:9-15,32-4:4
Ezekiel 36:16-28

Romans 6:3-11
Matthew 28:1-10

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



Sione & Waterlily
Tolu's family



Baptism
Preparation
Courses 2026

12 April 2026
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

Ghassan Emmanuel, 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



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz

Sunday, 5th April 2026



clocks go back 1hr



SVDP are desperately low on food supplies in the shed. We are in need of pasta, rice, cereals, tin spaghetti/baked beans, tin soups, tin tuna/corned beef, tea/coffee, museli bars, biscuits/crackers, hygiene products, etc.

We thank you for your generosity.

Can you help?

Cold weather is fast approaching, and De Paul House needs your help to restock our warm bedding and towel banks. You will be helping homeless and low income families and senior citizens stay warm this winter. De Paul House has had a huge increase in calls for help both with housing and support services. Please share the message with friends, family and work colleagues.

Matthew 25:40 The King will reply, 'Truly I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' admin@depaulhouse.org.nz or phone 09 4805959

Food bank shelves are empty

De Paul House needs food and especially personal and household care products. Shampoo, soap, hand wash, deodorant, dish wash, clothes wash, spray and wipe. Basics like crackers, biscuits, pasta sauce, tinned fish and meat, coconut milk and cream, Jam, vegemite, milk powder, long life milk, Milo. Every little contribution makes a difference. If you want to run a food drive, please contact Lesley Farmer lesley@depaulhouse.org.nz or call 09+4805959

Thank you.

Looking ahead our regular **Taizé prayer** will be offered on **Friday 10 April in the Chapel at 7pm.**



The following day **11 April**, we are pleased to offer once again our popular **Card Making day with Meg Hills rsj**. This will take place in the meeting room of our Administration Centre. The day will begin at **9.30am and finish at 3pm**. Please register early as there are only 8 places available for this workshop. Participants are always pleased to have a number of cards to take away with them! Please see the flyer for more details.

PROLIFE FACTS

SaveOne is dedicated to helping women and men recover mentally, emotionally, and spiritually after the choice of abortion. If you would like more information about SaveOne or to enquire confidentially about upcoming programmes, please contact Gina regarding programmes for women at gina@voiceforlife.org.nz or Graham at graham@voiceforlife.org.nz for men.

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

NZCBCIR – Muffin Talk with Bishop Michael Dooley. 60 years of Nostra Aetate and why interreligious dialogue is important.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/03/21/nzcbcir-muffin-talk-with-bishop-michael-dooley/>

Baptism & Lent with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin (UK). What is the connection between Lent and Baptism?

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/02/25/baptism-lent/>

For more resources and information: www.studyjoy.nz

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/CELEBRATING-PALM-SUNDAY-1.pdf>

Parents pondering: THIS PALM SUNDAY
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/This-Palm-Sunday-1.pdf>



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

For more details, please see posters on the parish noticeboard

BISHOPS' LENTEN APPEAL: The appeal supports the work of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, which through its global network serves some of our world's most vulnerable and needy communities. The Bishops explain that acts of Christian charity can change the lives of those who benefit from that charity, but also can transform those who give with generosity — according to their own circumstances. Find out more at www.caritas.org.nz/lent

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship ALL MEN are invited to the Joshua 40-Year Celebration Weekend! **When :** Fri pm 14 August to Sun midday 16 August. **Venue:** Keswick Christian Camp, 5 Cooper Ave, Holden's Bay, Rotorua. **Keynote Speaker:** Robert Falzon, Leader of Australia's menALIVE and Author of "Importance of a Present Dad". **Cost:** \$247pp including accommodation and meals. **To Register:** Follow the link below OR Scan the QR Code on porter Link: <https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>

Good Friday Stations Of The Cross :9am-11am 3 April 2026 | Gathering at albert park rotunda & Concluding at St. Patrick's Cathedral Join us for the 18th Annual Stations of the Cross Procession through Auckland CBD this Good Friday! For more details and event updates please see our Facebook page: @AKCYM

Diocesan Youth Mass Last Sunday of each month 4:30pm February – November At St Patrick's Cathedral For more info contact the Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry Team: youthmin@cda.org.nz

VACANCY - CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER The Diocese of Christchurch is seeking an experienced and forward-thinking Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to lead a passionate and committed team and contribute meaningfully to the strategic direction of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. We invite applications from leaders who share the Diocese's sense of purpose, who value meaningful work, and who are energised by contributing to a mission-driven organisation. For more information, or to apply, email applications@cdoc.nz Applications close at 9.00pm on **Apr 12**.

Divine Mercy Feast Sunday **12th April** 5:30pm at St Benedict's Parish, 1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace. You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Free parking is available at Wilson Carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

Prayer Retreat for Women Prayer and the Interior Life' Friday **17th April** 6pm to Sunday 19th April 3pm 2026 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. Location: Hillsborough, Auckland. Early bird registration and details here: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

Diamond Jubilee - The Catholic Parish of Wellington South. All former and current parishioners are invited to a celebration of several historical milestones on Sunday, **19th April** 2026. The first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on **17th April** 1966, 60 years ago. The weekend of celebration will also acknowledge 100 years since the opening of the St Madeleine Sophie primary school, the forerunner of the current primary school of St Francis de Sales. A special Mass of remembrance and thanks featuring past and present priests will be followed by a lunch at the Pines Cabaret, Houghton Bay. Registrations of interest are welcomed by providing contact details at: office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

LENT 2026 with FOOD FOR FAITH. Visit www.foodforfaith.org.nz and sign up to receive daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor. Prepared especially for those seeking greater maturity of faith.