



# 3rd Sunday of Easter Year A

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 19 April 2026

## Exploring The WORD

During the Season of Easter we walk with the Risen Lord, enjoying his appearing to his disciples. Today's gospel is one of the loveliest accounts of his appearing - and one especially important for the reader. Jesus appears and teaches the two disciples, by reference to the Scriptures, the meaning of his death. This is very close to the way in which the neophytes (newly baptised) would continue to be taught, through hearing the scriptures, during Easter. The reader should take to herself or himself the words of the Gospel Acclamation: "Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us."

## PRAYER THIS WEEK

Almighty Father, in your great mercy  
you gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained  
by his risen life and serve you continually  
in righteousness and truth.

Open our eyes, Lord Jesus.  
Without the gift of your revelation,  
our eyes are kept from recognizing you.

Appear before us, suddenly, unexpectedly, in all  
your glory. So that we, too, may proclaim to a world  
in despair, that we have seen the risen Lord.

Meet us, Lord Jesus, on the road to Emmaus,  
Guide us on the path toward our destination,  
and renew our strength  
as we continue to walk  
and commune with you. Amen

## EASTER SPIRITUALITY The Encounter

The two disciples are leaving Jerusalem. They had been caught up in the experience of following Jesus, and they were devastated by his crucifixion. Moreover, they were undoubtedly frightened by the prospect of what might happen to them as followers of the executed master. On their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they have an unusual encounter. The man they find themselves walking with seems to understand much about the scriptures, but they aren't able to make the connection between what he says and who he is. It is only in welcoming him into their house and sharing a meal with him that they realize who it is they are facing: it is Jesus, the risen Lord. So moved are they by the encounter that they turn around and head back to Jerusalem, to join up with the other disciples but also to face risk and uncertainty. They may very well have headed straight into martyrdom. The Easter event can also turn around our lives. It can cause us to "rise and come forth into the light of day," but we must be prepared for the risk and uncertainty such a conversion would entail.

Gerald Darring/ <https://liturgy.sluhostedsites.org>

## Sacramental Programme 2026

Orientation : Saturday, 2 May 2026 at 2pm in the Parish Hall

Lesson 1—Sunday, 10 May 2026 at 2pm in the Parish Hall



## Vocations Sunday Seminarian Appeal (26 April 2026)

Bishop Steve Lowe asks us to support our seminarians studying towards their priestly vocations at Holy Cross Seminary. Your contribution will positively influence the future of the Church here in Auckland. Donate at [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate). Please continue to pray for our seminarians.

Vocation Appeal envelopes in the back of the church



## Seminary Appeal

With 11 men currently discerning the priesthood for the Diocese of Auckland in 2026, we are blessed to see men generously answering God's call to serve the Church. Each of these men is undertaking years of prayer, study, and formation as they prepare for a life of service to the people of our diocese.

Please keep our seminarians in your prayers and, if you are able, consider supporting their formation as they prepare to serve the Church in Auckland.



SCAN OR CODE TO  
DONATE ONLINE TODAY  
[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate)



## 2026 Seminarists



## Parish Morning Tea Tuesday April 21st



All are welcome to our Parish Hall after morning Mass.

Let us meet in fellowship and celebrate being an Easter People.

We will finish with Bingo and prizes.

Any queries contact Elizabeth Auger 0211208914



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.

*They shall not grow old as we who are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
we will remember them.*

**ANZAC DAY**  
Saturday  
25 April 2026



**We will remember them.**

## Parish Safeguarding

Safeguarding emphasises creating **safe, welcoming parish environments** where everyone — especially tamariki and rangatahi — feels protected. It highlights the importance of **raising awareness about how to report concerns**, particularly around harm or abuse. It encourages **sharing safeguarding messages in accessible ways**, including for those with language or disability barriers. Finally, it stresses treating every person with **dignity and respect**, recognising that all are created in the image of God.



## CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Donations Received thus far — \$229,537.21

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

### 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14,22-28

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

### Monday

Acts 6:8-15

John 6:22-29

### Tuesday

Acts 7:51-8:1

John 6:30-35

### Wednesday

Acts 9:32-43

John 6:35-40

### Thursday

Acts 8:26-40

John 6:44-51

### Friday

Acts 9:1-20

John 6:52-59

### Saturday ANZAC DAY

Wisdom 3:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 12:23,28

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE (cont.)

**Head of Pastoral Services - Catholic Diocese of Auckland.** The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is seeking a committed, faith-filled leader to support the Bishop's pastoral mission and provide strategic leadership across diocesan pastoral ministries. The role works closely with parishes and communities to strengthen evangelisation, formation, and pastoral life. Applicants must demonstrate a strong Catholic faith, senior pastoral leadership experience, and strategic capability. Full details and application information available via the Diocesan website - [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz), under Diocesan Services and staff vacancies. Applications close **30 April 2026**

**Reshaping Facilitator - Catholic Diocese of Auckland** The Diocese seeks a mission-focused Reshaping Facilitator to support parishes on the reshaping journey. This role will equip parishes with resources, facilitation, and professional support. This is a three 3-year fixed term role, full-time or two part-time roles considered. For full details and to view the position description, please visit our website [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) under Diocesan Services and staff vacancies. Applications close **24 April 2026**.

**St Joseph's Catholic School** Centenary Celebration! Join us as we celebrate 100 years of our Mission Sister's school! Past students, staff, and families are warmly invited to reconnect and give thanks for shared memories. When: **23-25 October** Register: [Click here](#). Stay updated and follow the celebration on our [Centenary Facebook page](#). We can't wait to welcome you back!

**Lent Reflection at St John's Church, Mairangi Bay** Tuesday, **28 April**, Bible Society with CEO Neels Janse van Rensburg

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

For more details, please see posters on the parish noticeboard

**Diocesan Youth Mass** - Last Sunday of each month 4:30pm February - November. At St Patrick's Cathedral, 43 Wyndham Street, Auckland For more info contact the Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry Team: [youthmin@cda.org.nz](mailto:youthmin@cda.org.nz) or see their Facebook page: @AKCYM

**Auckland Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Network** Everyone is invited to a 7 week Seminar, The Holy Spirit-our Helper. Tuesday evenings, Sacred Heart Hall, Ponsonby, 7.30pm, with cuppa from 7.15pm. **Starts April 21<sup>st</sup>**. No charge. Register at <https://forms.gle/pDameRsdUYnhrbb7A> For more info email [aucklandccr@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandccr@gmail.com)

**Rise up and Shine Festival** Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture! **30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2026**. Starts at 10am with Thanks giving Mass. Followed by Social Entertainment until 3pm.

**Mass of The Neophytes** Bishop Steve invites all those who will be initiated into the Church at Easter, their families, and friends to return to the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph for the Mass of Welcome on Sunday **24 May 2026** at 4.30pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of faith and share with Bishop Steve in the celebration of the Eucharist.

**Wings.Nga Parirua** Welcome to Wings.Nga Parirua, the *Catholic Faith Formation Programme*. We all need to feel welcomed in our Church, to understand our faith and to recognise Jesus calling each of us into an intimate friendship with him. The hospitality at the heart of "Wings" gives space and time for people to come together, to become familiar with Jesus' teaching in the Gospels, and the Catholic Church's response to this teaching in the light of the Resurrection; to walk by faith in loving communion with Jesus in prayer.

**Wings.Nga Parirau** is open to all and could also be a welcoming place for those who have come through RCIA and Alpha to gather in communion with other parishioners. Please contact: Dianna Fouhy, [diannaf@cda.org.nz](mailto:diannaf@cda.org.nz) and see the poster for details.

**The Graduate Choir NZ** FRANCISCVS - a special recital presented by The Graduate Choir NZ that commemorates the papacy of Pope Francis in song and spirit. Tuesday **21 April 2026** - 7:30 PM - St Michael's Catholic Church, Remuera, Auckland FRANCISCVS features an evocative programme of sacred choral works - including John Rutter's Requiem - performed in the rich, resonant acoustics of St Michael's. Tickets from NZ\$30-\$40 + booking fees (grab yours on iTICKET now!) <https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2026/apr/franciscus>

**Charis NZ** Is pleased to announce that **Chevalier Cyril John** will be leading a 1.5 day, hosted by Current of Grace, Auckland (part of Charis NZ). Cyril John is a well-known speaker. Please share and encourage your prayer and community group members, and wider networks to support this event: Auckland Diocese: **11 - 12 May 2026**: Please see the poster for details and to Register

**St Michael's Parish Remuera** Scripture Study: 'THE EXODUS' by Dr Dan Stollenwerk. In the lead up to Pentecost Sunday, Dan will dive deep into the common themes that link Pentecost and the Book of Exodus. Please join us at St Michael's: 4x Wednesday mornings **6th, 13th, 20th, 27th May** 10:30am - 11:45am in the Parish Centre. Followed by midday Mass \* No registration required.

**The Week of Prayer** for Christian Unity falls on **17-24 May**. Gather your people, join us and the other Christian Church communities to the Ecumenical Day of Prayer for Christian Unity 7:00pm on Friday 29th May 2026 at St John Presbyterian Church, 422 Mt Albert Road, Mt Roskill. Owaikaka and Three Kings parishioners encouraged to attend. Let us respond to Christ' prayer to the Father, "That may they all be one." It is our calling to be synodal, to 'reshape' our ways to be Catholic

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



Filipino Community



Baptism Preparation Courses 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@stthomasmore.org.nz)

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



Holy Cross Seminary  
[www.holycross.org.nz](http://www.holycross.org.nz)

## GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE

Does your faith need a refresh...

7 consecutive Tuesday evenings

St Joseph's Church Hall

starting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026

7pm to 9pm.

A retreat day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Alpha

Please contact register with:  
Dcn Steve Fraser on [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)  
or call 021439407

**PROLIFE FACTS** An experienced midwife, "Jane," says she was called to the bedside of a woman giving birth to a baby of 26 week's gestation, after a medical abortion attempt. The baby was born alive and breathing. According to Jane, the baby was not taken to NICU and took hours to die. Jane has now shared her account publicly on the Voice for Life website, showing the harsh reality of late-term abortion practices currently taking place within New Zealand. A baby born at 26 weeks gestation would typically survive with proper care, but Jane says she was not allowed to intervene. As a result of this harrowing experience, she ended her career as a midwife. **For more pro-life information, visit [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz).**

## TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

**Materialistic Spirituality** with Prof Joerg Rieger (USA). "Life is interdisciplinary." This is the core message of materialistic spirituality and why it is essential for lived Christianity. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/04/08/materialistic-spirituality-muffin-talk-with-prof-joerg-rieger/>

**Mary Untier of Knots** with Beate Matthies. History & Reflection on one of Pope Francis' favourite paintings. Tuesday, 26 May, 7-8pm, St John the Baptist Church, Mairangi Bay. More info: <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/mary-untier-of-knots/>  
For more resources and information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

**Kids Corner:** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/CELEBRATING-THIRD-SUNDAY-of-EASTER.pdf>



**Parents pondering: LESSONS FROM THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**  
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Lessons-from-the-Road-to-Emmaus.pdf>