



The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

Sf Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 17 May 2026

Exploring The WORD

Ascension is not just a feast that happens to fall in Eastertide: it is an integral part of the Easter mystery. Remember the Lord's words at the Last Supper: "I am going to prepare a place for, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me." The resurrection presumes the Lord's return to the Father. This is therefore a feast of hope: our hope in the Lord's return, as he went. Our hope that he will take us with him, when our bodies are raised as his was. Our hope that we will take our place in heaven, where he sits on the Father's right.

"And behold, I am with you all days till the end of the age."



Lord Jesus, when you ascended, you took all your (and our) humanity into the fullness of the divine being.

All is holy now. We belong to you. We ask you to give us the "new ways of thinking, acting, living, loving, and being.

A new way of being human." We need your love, courage, understanding, knowledge, and your wisdom.

Be with us all days. Let your Spirit never leave us alone. Amen

EASTER SPIRITUALITY

The Mission in the World

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus can now say that "I am in the world no more, but these are in the world." He is not physically present in the world the way he was in the first third of the first century. It is now up to us to deal with the world. During the period dominated by Trent and Vatican I, the Catholic Church was defensive in its approach to the world, which was regarded as an occasion of sin. Vatican II heralded a new approach based on dialogue rather than confrontation. The world is viewed not as the enemy but rather as the object of service. This positive approach is much closer to our biblical roots: "I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living." "Time is the unfolding of truth that already is." The world and its history are where we encounter the eternal God, "reaching from end to end of the universe." We are not called to abandon the world but to remain in it and to take responsibility for its well ordering. The paschal mystery is a challenge to us to lift the world to the heavens. Holding faithfully to the gospel and exercising her mission in the world, the Church consolidates peace among men, to God's glory. For it is her task to uncover, cherish, and enoble all that is true, good, and beautiful in the human community
Gerald Darring/ <https://liturgy.sluhostedsites.org>

PENTECOST SUNDAY, 24 May 2026



On 24 May, we will celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost in the parish hall following the 10:00 am Mass.

Everyone is warmly invited to join this special celebration of our parish community.

Please wear traditional attire and bring a plate of ethnic finger food to share.

CANOPY & CARPARK FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

Donations Received thus far — \$233,384.36

Fr Pio, together with the PPC and the Works & Finance Team, sincerely thanks all our parishioners for your generous support, which has enabled the Parish to begin this project with assistance from the Diocese.

Our fundraising mission continues, and the Parish will require your ongoing support over the next three years. We humbly appeal to each of you to consider setting up a weekly Automatic Payment using the details provided below. Even a contribution of \$5 per week would make a meaningful difference to this initiative.

A gentle reminder that for every dollar you contribute to the Parish, you are eligible for a 33-cent tax rebate/refund.

Account Name: **ST THOMAS MORE GLENFIELD**
Account Number: **02-0108-0708668-003**
Reference: **Parishioner's name and Pledge Nr**

Fundraising envelopes are also available for cash donations
Thank you for your generosity!!

Parish Fundraising Craft and Baking Sale

The fundraising Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to Liz Auger, Kathy Purdy, Roseanne Bright, Theresia Kavermann, Rosa Statella, Maureen Evans, and Angie Manalese, who were key contributors to the Craft & Bake Sale.

Together, the group raised an outstanding total of **\$1,288.00** over the two weekends.

We also extend our sincere thanks to our Parish community for your generous support and encouragement, which helped make the event such a wonderful success.



Safeguarding Workshop



The upcoming online Safeguarding workshop will be held on **Thursday, 21 May at 7:00 pm**. To register, please email your Safeguarding contact, Vidya, at safeguarding@stthomasmore.org.nz.

Parish Morning Tea and Fellowship

All are invited on **Tuesday 19th May 2026** after Morning Mass

Come and join your fellow parishioners.

Hosted by your Parish Seniors Group



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED



Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from 12:00pm on Wednesday, **13 May 2026** and will reopen on Wednesday, **20th May 2026**.

During this period, I will not have phone coverage.

For any urgent matters, please contact Fr Pio at parishpriest@stthomasmore.org.nz / piofw@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your understanding

Humble Appeal for a family in need

"My family are parishioners of HBC Parish. Our sister has been unwell and is on the Kidney Transplant List. If you're interested in finding out about donating a kidney to our sister you can ring Donor Nurse on 0800 5483 36667 or Tricia on 021 178 5847
Many Thanks



THE WORD OF GOD

Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

Monday

Acts 19:1-8
John 16:29-33

Tuesday

Acts 20:17-27
John 17:1-11

Wednesday

Acts 20:28-38
John 17:11-19

Thursday

Acts 22:30;23:6-11
John 17:20-26

Friday

Acts 25:13-21
John 21:15-19

Saturday

Acts 28:16-20,30-31
John 21:20-25

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



Filipino
Community

Baptism Preparation Courses 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

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

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

JOSHUA 40

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

CELEBRATION WEEKEND

14 - 16 AUGUST 2026

KESWICK CHRISTIAN CAMP
5 COOPER AVE, HOLDENS BAY, ROTORUA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ROBERT FALZON

LEADER OF AUSTRALIA'S menALIVE
AUTHOR 'Importance of a present dad'

ALL MEN WELCOME

FRIDAY PM TO SUNDAY MIDDAY
MEALS & ACCOMMODATION INCLUDED

Contact: Mike Lobo 021 280 9285
Greg Sullivan 021 437 747

SPACES ARE LIMITED.
BOOK IN EARLY TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT.
SCAN THE QR CODE:



<https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>



PROLIFE FACTS

Euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada are known as Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), and an estimated 16,000 Canadians are offered or choose this option each year. The practice has become so routine that earlier this year a Catholic priest reported being offered MAID twice while in hospital, despite explaining that it was incompatible with his vocation. The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition recently noted that Health Canada does not require MAID to be recorded as a cause of death. Doctors are also not required to attempt effective treatment for life-threatening illnesses before offering MAID as an alternative. Research from the Netherlands suggests around 20% of euthanasia deaths go unreported. The Coalition argues that if MAID is not listed on Canadian death certificates, unreported cases become nearly impossible to identify.

Visit voiceforlife.org.nz for more pro-life info.

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

The Institution of the Last Supper with Fr Kevin Waldie sm
Monday, 18 May 2026, 7-8.30pm (Zoom)
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/04/21/the-institution-of-the-last-supper/>

Mary Untier of Knots with Beate Matthies
Tuesday, 26 May 2026, 7-8pm (St John the Baptist church, Mairangi Bay).

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/03/08/mary-untier-of-knots/>

YouTube Recordings:

Synodality – Muffin Talk in two languages with Alvaro Cardenal Ramazzini

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/05/02/synodality-muffin-talk-with-alvaro-cardenal-ramazzini/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

TO RENT: 3-Bedroom House – Glenfield / Bayview
kitchen with dishwasher, 1 bathroom plus separate toilet, 2 heat pumps, Carport + additional parking (2 car spaces total), No indoor smoking, Rent: \$670 per week, Bond: To be discussed. Available from Sunday, 17 May 2026. For enquiries or to arrange a viewing (by appointment), please phone **027 261 2585**.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/CELEBRATING-ASCENSION-SUNDAY.pdf>

Parents pondering: The ASCENSION and our CHRISTIAN VOCATION

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/The-Ascension-and-our-Christian-Vocation.pdf>



NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

For more details, please see posters
on the parish noticeboard

Rise up and Shine Festival Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture! **30th of May, 2026**. Starts at 10am with Thanks giving Mass. Followed by Social Entertainment until 3pm. Music, Zumba, Food stalls and Cultural Show. Join us at the Migrant Chaplaincy Rise Up & Shine Festival, where every bite tells a story and every dance spark joy.

Mission Hub Accompanying Others in Faith - Thresholds of Conversion & Evangelising Conversations How do we journey with others as they move closer to Christ? This session is in collaboration with the Catholic Enquiry Centre. Monday **18 May** - 7:00–8:30pm (NZT) – Online - All are welcome. Register: bit.ly/missionhubmay2026 For more info and past sessions: <https://missionhubnz.com/>

The Upper Room Wednesday 20th May 6:30pm | Good George Mission Bay Young adults, you won't want to miss this! Join us for a night of faith and fellowship in this special interview-style event, James Bergin will sit down with Frank Ritchie to explore his remarkable journey - from serving as a Wesleyan Methodist minister to entering the Catholic Church this Easter just past. Together they will reflect on the faith, discernment, and courage required to surrender fully to God's call. For more info and tickets go to @AKCYM on Facebook or search for the-upper-room-may-2026 on Humanitix

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.

Jubilee Year of St Francis (1226–2026) Franciscan Friars Vocation Dinner – Auckland. You are warmly invited to join the Franciscan Friars for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and conversation. Wednesday, **27 May** - 6:00pm (Mass and Evening Prayer, followed by a shared meal) at St Francis Retreat Centre (50 Hillsborough Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland). This gathering is a wonderful opportunity for single men aged 18–40 to learn more about Franciscan religious life and to ask questions in a relaxed and welcoming environment. RSVP / Enquiries: Br Philip Jeffares OFM +64 210 414 642 Br Yornes Panggur OFM +64 225 259 93 Email: vocations@franciscans.org.au

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. Please contact: Dianna Fouhy, dianna@ceda.org.nz and see the poster for details.

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. Owairaka and Three Kings parishioners encouraged to attend. Let us respond to Christ's prayer to the Father, "That may they all be one." It is our calling to be synodal, to 'reshape' our ways to be Catholic

WYD 2027 Webinars In preparation for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul Korea, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites young people and everyone to grow in their faith, hope and missionary discipleship, with this year's webinar series, "Take Courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). More information at www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026