



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



THE LORD IS RISEN - ALLELUIA!

11th & 12th May 2024

ASCENSION SUNDAY - YEAR B

Jesus Ascended into Heaven to Prepare a Place for Us

Jesus ascended into heaven in order to become one with the Father, both in his humanity and his divinity. After the Resurrection, Jesus was no longer bound by the law of physicality; he could walk through doors and enter rooms without them being unlocked. This was not the result of human enhancement or evolution; it was an act of God's power. Moreover, Ascension Sunday marks another occasion that elevates our humanity to a higher level of existence, becoming one with God. In the Personhood of Christ, humanity has become one with divinity, not mixed, but transformed; creatures have become one with the Creator, not compromised, but totally welcomed and embraced by God's utmost loving power. Here, in the act of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus, we recognize that God our Father is all good, loving, and powerful, and his purity, and light are not threatened by our stained sinful humanity being united with us.

The Ascension of Christ reminds us that he is no longer bound by the laws of physics as he was related to those he knew in history or early contact. Christ now relates to us as God relates to all people of all nations and times. Through the Ascension, Christ becomes one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, giving us a glimpse of what it means to be Three in One and One in Three. It is in this unity of the Trinity that we participate in the divinity of God. And it is in the mystery of the Lord's Ascension that we recognize that humanity has returned home to God in its new original form. The new humanity that has been purified by the blood of Christ; whereas, the old humanity that had been stained by the disobedience of Adam and Eve was asked to depart from God's purity. Thus, the Ascension of the Lord provides us with a picture in the hearts and minds of each believer that there is a transitional journey from our earthly reality into the reality of eternal oneness with God – an upward journey of coming home.

Finally, let us rejoice at this occasion with devout thanksgiving that through the Ascension of Christ, who is our Head and Shepherd, has been exalted, so we, who are his Body, are called to follow Him in hope.

Fr. Tien Cao

"Invoking the Holy Spirit: A Prayer for Parish Transformation and Growth"

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholicparish.nz

Parish Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/mackenziecatholicparish>

Parish Priest:

Fr. Tien Cao

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PARISH MASS TIMES

FAIRLIE - ST. PATRICK'S

Sunday 9:30 am

Tue – Fri

Adoration: 8:00 – 9:00 am

Mass: 9:15 am

Reconciliation every day during adoration

TWIZEL – All Saints'

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

TEKAPO - Good Shepherd Church

Last Sunday of the Month: May 26, at 6:00 pm

Reconciliation by appointment

Parish Council

Tony Hill – 027 331 7861

Parish Finance

Leonie Guiney- 027 2933 228

Twizel Church Charitable Trust

Gerry Dauvin - 027 482 8284

St. Joseph's School

Kelly and Bridget –

+64 3-685 8659

principal@stjofairlie.school.nz

NEWS AND NOTICES

1. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! We celebrate the remarkable women in our lives who embody the essence of motherhood. To all mothers, grandmothers, and maternal figures, may this day be filled with the warmth of love and appreciation. Your endless sacrifices and the beauty of your nurturing spirit do not go unnoticed. May God bless you abundantly for all the love and care you bestow upon your families.

2. THANK YOU - Parish AGM 2024: Thank you to those who prepared for the setting and reports at the Parish AGM. We truly discussed some relevant issues affecting our parish. Thank you for your contribution and effort. Let us strive to be good custodians of God's love and mysteries in our times.

3. Tax Receipts: Thank you for your financial contribution to the parish. Without your support, the parish cannot function. Please collect your tax receipts, and we encourage you to use Automatic Payment. May God bless you abundantly, as 'God loves a cheerful giver' (2 Cor 9:7).

4. Fr. Tien Cao is away: For the next two weekends, Fr. Tien will be in Australia for a conference on Catholic Education and some work regarding vocations. Fr. Michael Wesh and Fr. Chris O'Neil will look after the Sunday Masses on the 12th and 19th respectively. Please love them and make them feel welcomed.

5. Pray Before Every Sunday Mass: We have been excited to reintroduce this ancient prayer that we believe encapsulates our shared aspirations for our community: *'Invoking the Holy Spirit: A Prayer for Parish Transformation and Growth.'* In this prayer, we call upon the Holy Spirit to reignite our hearts with love, to renew our spirits with courage, and to guide us with clarity in our journey of transformation and growth as a parish.

Alongside this prayer, we will also introduce to you a new advisory body of the parish – the Senior Leadership Team who work closely with Fr. Tien Cao for the commitment that is entrusted to our parish. This body will meet every second week for 1.5 hours; further details will follow. The Parish Council will continue functioning as usual. Please keep them in your prayers.

6. Praying the Rosary for the Parish: By praying the Rosary, Catholics seek Mother Mary's intercessions and guidance in our spiritual journey, asking for her help in living a life more closely aligned with the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Rosary, with its repetition of prayers and meditation on various mysteries from the lives of Jesus and Mary, is considered a powerful tool for spiritual growth and reflection.

- **In Twizel:** There is a New Rosary group that will start meeting at Kathleen and Brian Carpenter's house every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. Please join them in praying for the parish.

7. Timaru - Mercy Past Pupils: invite Past Pupils to join us for the Rosary, Annual Meeting and Afternoon Tea. Sunday 19th May 2023 at 2.00pm in St Thomas' Church Mountain View Road. Phone 6860694 or 0211475576 Margaret Cosgrove.

8. Sixth Sunday of Easter is Festival of New Life: The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference and the New Zealand Lutheran Church celebrate hope and confidence in Christian unity. This initiative, stemming from the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue, emphasizes the significance of baptism as a common ground for unity. In October 2021, the Catholic and Lutheran churches in Aotearoa New Zealand approved a statement recognising the unity of each other's baptisms. See: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/lutheran-catholic-baptisms/>

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
11 th May	Sharon Blanchard	Bronwen Dauvin	Kathleen Carpenter
19 th May	Mary Murdock	Lenise Kearns	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for May 2024: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
12 th May	Christine O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Rosemary Moran	Neville Smith	Lisa Holden
20 th May	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Abella family	Mary Calder

Cleaners: 17 May/24 May Claire Guiney / Kellie Cassie

June 2nd Morning Tea: Louise Wynn