



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



THE LORD IS RISEN - ALLELUIA!

4th & 5th May 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

**"Let Us Love One Another,
As Jesus Have Loved Us Unconditionally"
(John 15:9-17)**

Christ exhorts us to love one another as he has loved us. He emphasizes that we should not merely love one another, but rather, we should love each other in the same way that he loves us. Jesus' love is unconditional, and thus, we are called to love one another unconditionally as well. Our human nature often inclines us to love with conditions and expectations. When these conditions are not met, we may feel hurt and frustrated, losing trust in others and doubting the power of love. This can affect various relationships, including marriage, friendship, and social interactions. It has been said, 'expectation sets you up to be upset.'

Today, Jesus challenges us to transform our approach to love, adopting his model of loving without expecting anything in return, and loving generously without conditions. This is not merely a matter of convenience or ease; it requires faith and trust. As St. John reminds us, "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us" (1 John 4:11-12). When we imitate the way that Christ loves us, God becomes tangible in our body, God lives in us, because we make ourselves become the dwelling place of God.

In order to foster a new civilization of love among people of all nations, as disciples of Christ we must abide in His love. Christ assures us, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love." By remaining in Christ's love, we tap into the wellspring of love within us and experience joy. This enables us to love one another deeply, even to the point of self-sacrifice. While it is true that we are made in God's image and capable of love, remaining in Christ's love elevates us further, making us friends of God. Ultimately, nothing surpasses the importance, nobility, and holiness of love. If you only have one goal or one choice in life – choose LOVE – Choose JESUS.

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. Mackenzie Parish AGM 2024: This year's Parish AGM takes place in Twizel before Mass on this Saturday, May 4th, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there; your presence and feedback will be very helpful for the community. If you can't be there, you can still send your feedback via one of the parish council members. Thank you.

2. 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).

3. 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. Chris O'Neil and Fr. Michael Wesh will look after the Sunday Masses on the 12th and 19th respectively. Please love them and make them feel welcomed.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. Anonymous Evaluation: Church Engagement with the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care *Tēnā koe!* You are invited to complete this anonymous form to provide feedback on your knowledge and thoughts on the Catholic Church's engagement in the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care. Please feel welcome to complete this form regardless of your level of knowledge. <https://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/anonymous-evaluation/>

7. 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
4 th May	Elizabeth Higgins	Kathleen Carpenter	Bronwen Dauvin
11 th May	Sharon Blanchard	Bronwen Dauvin	Kathleen Carpenter

Church set up for May 2024: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
5 th May	Ava Gamleth	Ava Gamleth	Cath Hanrahan	Kevin O'Neill	Tony Hill
12 th May	Christine O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Rosemary Moran	Neville Smith	Lisa Holden

Morning Tea – 5th May: Lisa Holden

Cleaners: 3 May/10 May Ngairé Gallagher / Adele O'Connor