



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

14th & 15th Sept 2024

FIRST READING • (Isaiah 50:5-9). Isaiah invites us: to overcome evil by good, violence by love, war by peace-making.

SECOND READING • (James 2:14-18). The word of God became flesh. Our words, our belief in God must also become flesh.

GOSPEL • (Mark 8:27-37). This gospel is an invitation to see Christ as he reveals himself, not blinded by our ideas and prejudices.

Jesus Asked His Disciples, 'Who Do People Say I Am?'

(Mark 8:27-35)

Jesus is more interested in what His disciples think of Him than what others think. He didn't even allow the demons to speak of Him as the Son of God because, although they knew who He was, they were likely to speak lies (Mark 1:34). Instead, Jesus asked His disciples, 'But YOU, who do YOU say I am?' Jesus wants our faith in Him to be personal, but not private.

Our relationship with Jesus is unique to each one of us; no two people's faith is the same, even within the same family or parish community. For example, when we go to church to pray, there might be a thousand people praying, but at the same time everyone offers their own prayers according to their needs. In this sense, our faith is personal.

However, if we overemphasize the personal dimension of our faith without acknowledging its communal aspects, our personal faith can become private and misleading, even heretical. Because our personal relationship with Jesus strengthens the faith of the whole community, and the community creates a culture of faith, hope, and love where our faith is nurtured, verified, and witnessed.

In today's Gospel (Mark 8:27-35), Jesus rebukes Peter, saying, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but human ways.' Peter, guided by the Holy Spirit, correctly recognized Jesus, but later, under Satan's influence, he got it wrong. This shows that we cannot privatize our Christian faith. We shouldn't interpret or explain Jesus solely through our personal interests. We must remain in communion with the Church to verify and discern the many dimensions of our faith. Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Tradition, our personal faith can become private and misdirected.

Pope Francis warns: "We've seen many times in history, and even today, certain ecclesial movements in the Catholic Church that preach the Gospel in their own way, sometimes with true and unique charisms. But they later exaggerate and reduce the entire Gospel of Christ to their own movement, and this is not the Gospel of Christ. This is the founder's Gospel. It might be helpful at the beginning, but in the end, it yields fruits that lack strong roots."

Unfortunately, some people in the Church tend to reduce or oversimplify our faith in Jesus. Some may say, "The Church should only focus on the poor," or, "We should focus on the environment, pray the rosary, evangelization, personal holiness, celebrating the liturgy well with good music, or building large churches." While all these aspects of faith are important, the essential question remains: *Where is Jesus in all these? What is the will of God in all things?*

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Priest:

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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:
Sept 29 at 6:00 pm**

Parish Council

Tony Hill – 027 331 7861

Parish Finance

Leonie Guiney- 027 2933 228

Twizel Church Charitable Trust

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

1. BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW (Revelation 21:5)

The Parish Leadership Team has been working on a Parish Vision, building on the feedback from the March survey. We invite all parishioners to join us for morning tea at St. Patrick's Hall after Mass on Sunday, September 15th, to share our progress and gather further input. Parishioners from Lake Tekapo, Twizel, and elsewhere are warmly welcome. A similar event for Twizel is planned soon.

Homework: Draw a symbol that, through prayer, the Holy Spirit has revealed to your heart. The symbol should captivate your imagination. For example, an open window allows fresh air to flow in and out, revitalizing our health and energy; a pilgrimage begins at one point and ends at another; an anchor of faith helps us fix our life direction in Christ; a little spark can set ablaze a large, damp pile of wood.

Share with us what God is telling you. Our greatest joy is to make JESUS known through:

Spiritual Growth - Community Building - Service and Outreach - Discipleship and Education - Worship and Liturgy – Evangelization - Stewardship

2. Catholic Social Justice Week in New Zealand in 2024 with the theme *'Imagine Peace For All / Pohewatia te Rangimārie mō te Katoa'* will take place from September 8–14 and will focus on forgiveness and reconciliation. The week is a time to reflect on and act on a social justice issue through the lens of Catholic social teaching. The goal is to promote empathy, understanding, and dialogue. For resources and support - <https://www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week>

3. Cathedral Precinct Outdoor Mass: Bishop Michael invites you to a Mass of thanksgiving for the precinct of our future Cathedral. Sunday, 24th November 2024, 11am – on the Feast of Christ the King. Barbadoes Street site. All are welcome to come and share in this celebration. More details will follow. Save the date!

4. Support for the Fairlie Food Bank: The Fairlie Food Bank plays a crucial role in supporting families within our local community, and we are committed to assisting in this valuable work. We kindly ask all parishioners to remember to bring contributions with you to Mass each week. Your charitable support is greatly appreciated. The collected items will be shared with our local Fairlie Resource Centre and distributed to families and individuals in need. The most desired items by these families include canned goods, cereals, rice and pasta, sugar, tea and coffee. Thank you for your generosity. May God return your favour.

Also, if you are aware of anyone who would benefit from receiving support from the Food Bank please let us or the Resource Centre know.

5. Pilgrimage with the Saints tour 2025: Fr Chris Friel will lead this 17day tour to Portugal, Spain, and France in 2025. For full details and itinerary please email Pilgrimage Tours in Auckland at info@travlink.co.nz or phone 0800 99 77 88.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
14 th Sept	Elizabeth Higgins	Bronwen Dauvin	Sandy Murray
21 st Sept	Sue Atkinson	Lenise Kearns	Kathleen Carpenter

Church set up for Sept: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
15 th Sept	Kevin O'Neill	Kevin O'Neill	Mary Calder	Neville Smith	Tony Hill
22 nd Sept	Gary Brosnahan	Gary Brosnahan	Leonie Guiney	Abella family	Mary Calder

Cleaners: 6 Sep/13 Sep Claire Guiney / Kellie Cassie

Sept.15th Morning Tea: Cath Hanrahan