



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

21st & 22nd Sept 2024

FIRST READING • (Wisdom 2:12.17-20). Many feel resentful of the goodness of others. Instead of seeing such people as invitations to live our lives better, we test them, taunt them. In a true community, goodness inspires to greatness of heart. **SECOND READING** • (James 3:16-4:3). James explores the roots of violence and war. He finds the causes in the human heart. To create true peace, we must be open to the presence of God.

GOSPEL • (Mark 9:30-37). We find the disciples arguing among themselves. They have become ambitious for leadership. Christ tells them that we are meant to serve each other. Our call is to service, not power.

Jesus Asked Them, ‘What Were You Arguing About on The Road?’

Jesus asked His beloved disciples what they had been discussing along the road (Mk 9:30-37). It is as if He was not part of their conversation, as though He stood apart from their world. And indeed, this is true. The way of Christ is not the way of this world; His thoughts are far above human thoughts. As He said to Peter in the previous chapter, “Get behind me, Satan! For your thinking is not of God, but of mortal” (Mk 8:33). Here we recognize that Jesus is God from God, Light from Light, who has entered this dark world to reveal the glory of the Father. Jesus is the eternal wisdom of God who has given himself to us so that we may be transformed and conformed to God’s holy ways.

A story is told of the Apostle Peter, who, when he newly arrived in Rome to proclaim the Resurrection of Christ, was asked by the locals: “The Romans have given us law to bring order, and the Greeks have given us philosophy to cultivate wisdom. What have you come to bring us?” Peter replied, “I have come to bring you love.” Peter was right. God is Love, and Jesus, the Wisdom of God, came into the world to lead us to that Love. The eternal light of Christ has shone upon us so that we may recognize the greatness to which we are called. As the late Pope Benedict XVI once told the youth, “The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness.” And this greatness comes from God alone who gives us power to endure and overcome all forms of evils.

So, being infused with the Holy Spirit, we are called to expand our vision and build a civilization of love, where God’s justice is the standard and love is the measure of success. A true civilization is not marked by wealth or technological advancement but by how we treat the weak and vulnerable. As Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in My name welcomes Me; and whoever welcomes Me does not welcome Me but the One who sent Me” (Mk 9:37). To welcome the marginalised is to welcome true love into our society.

Lastly, a society rooted in Christ is one where the greatest is the one who serves, regardless of authority or status. Today, Jesus asks each of us: *What do we discuss in our families? What does the news focus on? Who are the little ones mentioned by our leaders?* May we serve in love, following the example of Christ, whose humility and selflessness reveal the true path to greatness.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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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

Gerry Dauvin - 027 482 8284

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

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

Last Sunday in Fairlie, through the presentation of some members of the senior leadership team, many of our parishioners witnessed a strong desire within our community to serve God in a profound way. As St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, "I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." Please remember, we are not trying to recreate the past—a time when churches were full and group activities were plenty, yet hidden abuses were present, and many drifted away from their long-practiced faith. Instead, we are praying for a future filled with solid, committed disciples, set ablaze with love for God and for our neighbors.

We Need You NOW: You are the "NOW" of God. Without "now," there is no future. We invite you to reflect in prayer and draw a symbol that the Holy Spirit reveals to your heart. This symbol should spark your imagination. For example, an open window allowing fresh air to flow in and out, revitalizing health and energy; a pilgrimage that begins at one point and ends at another; an anchor of faith to secure your direction in Christ; or a small spark that can set ablaze a large, damp pile of wood.

Share with us what God is revealing to 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. Vacancy - Chief Operating Officer - The Christchurch Diocese is seeking a Chief Operating Officer to lead a passionate and committed team and contribute to shaping the future of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. This role's primary objective is to support the bishop in his pastoral mission for the diocese through the management and leadership of resources, staff, and the delivery of outcomes. This includes, but is not limited to, leadership and management of the diocese teams, financial and asset management, strategy and planning, relationship management, communication and engagement. For a full position description please click on the following link <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/78588833?type=promoted&ref=search-standalone&origin=cardTitle> or email applications@cdoc.nz Applications close on 25th September at 1pm.

3. 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.

4. 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
21 st Sept	Sue Atkinson	Lenise Kearns	Kathleen Carpenter
28 th Sept	Gerry Dauvin	Kathleen Carpenter	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for Sept: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
22 nd Sept	Gary Brosnahan	Gary Brosnahan	Leonie Guiney	Abella family	Mary Calder
29 th Sept	Tony Hill	Tony Hill	Cath Hanrahan	Cath Hanrahan	Lisa Holden

Cleaners: 20 Sep/ 27 Sep Rosie Clark & Tessa Gallagher

Oct 6th Morning Tea: Tony Hill