



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

7th & 8th Sept 2024

Jesus Preached the Good News of The Kingdom by Healing the Sick

In today's Gospel, we witness Jesus healing a man who was both deaf and mute (Mk 7:31-37). In Jewish culture, illness was sometimes understood as a visible consequence of sin. However, Jesus shows us a deeper reality: He heals not only to restore physical health but also to reveal God's mercy, the coming of His kingdom, and the liberation of humanity from suffering. Through this act of healing, Jesus demonstrates that the reign of God is already in our midst, breaking through our human limitations and bringing life, healing, and freedom.

Jesus' coming fulfilled the promises made through the prophet Isaiah. In the first reading at Mass, God speaks to the exiled Israelites, giving them hope and courage: "Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid... Look, your God is coming... the blind shall see, the deaf hear, the dumb sing for joy' (Isaiah 35:4-7). In Jesus, these words become reality. He is God's presence among us, not just His representative, but the very incarnation of God's love.

As our ears are opened and our tongues are loosened to proclaim His glory, Psalm 145 at Mass gives us the words we need: "Praise the Lord, my soul! It is He who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger."

Let us open our hearts and our lips to glorify God today, for His kingdom is not just near, but here, in us and among us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Fr. Tien Cao

BEHOLD I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

(Revelation 21:5)

An Update and Invitation from the Parish Leadership Team

You will remember a parish survey which was conducted in March concerning Positives and Negatives for the Mackenzie Catholic Parish. With this as the starting point a Leadership Team of invited parishioners was convened and this now has 2 members in Twizel and 3 in Fairlie. Together with Fr. Tien, this group has been exploring their individual ideas for our Parish Vision. The Twizel group has been more limited in opportunities to meet but in Fairlie we have each built our own suggestion of our future.

The necessity for any developing vision to be a truly Parish Vision is constantly at the forefront of our thinking and our discussions. Bearing this in mind, the time has come to share our progress thus far and to invite additional feedback from our Parish members. We therefore invite ALL parishioners to join us for morning tea in St. Patrick's Hall following Sunday Mass on September 15th. We fully acknowledge the difficulties involved in developing a Parish Vision with a presentation in Fairlie only at this point but anyone able to join us from Lake Tekapo, Twizel or elsewhere will be warmly welcomed to St. Patrick's and a similar event is proposed for Twizel in the near future.

Those who are able to attend are invited to bring a small plate of finger food to share for morning tea. We hope to see you there. *From the parish SLT*

Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholic.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:

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

St. Joseph's School

Kelly and Bridget

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

1. We Are the Custodians of the Mackenzie Parish? For my understanding, most people in our parish are waiting and expecting something to happen so that our parish community can grow in number, members become more active, and bring a sense of newness in our faith, hope and love. Together with a few members of our Senior Leadership Team, let us pray and discern together: What is the Lord calling us to focus on right now?

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

2. Welcoming Catholic University Students for a Retreat – This Weekend: We are blessed to host a group of Catholic university students who have come to our parish for a spiritual retreat. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to deepen their faith, grow in fellowship, and encounter Christ in a special way. Let us warmly welcome them and keep them in our prayers, asking the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire them during their time with us. Sunday Masses are celebrated by Fr. Philip Suelzer.

3. Celebrating the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – September 8th - This Sunday, we joyfully celebrate the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother. We honor her role in the divine plan of salvation and her example of perfect faith and obedience to God’s will. In her our girls and women learn how to become a disciple of Christ, a good woman. Let us gather in prayer and thanksgiving, asking for Mary's intercession in our lives, and striving to follow her example of humility, love, and trust in the Lord. Let everyone of us pray the rosary today and every day, sending up to her our love.

4. 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>

5. 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!

6. 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.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
7 th Sept	Mary Murdoch	Kathleen Carpenter	Bronwen Dauvin
14 th Sept	Elizabeth Higgins	Bronwen Dauvin	Sandy Murray

Church set up for August: Elizabeth Higgins

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex’Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
8 th Sept	Deborah O'Neill	Deborah O'Neill	Mercedes Abella	Kevin O'Neill	Christine O'Connell
15 th Sept	Kevin O'Neill	Kevin O'Neill	Mary Calder	Neville Smith	Tony Hill

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

Sept.15th Morning Tea: Cath Hanrahan