



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

19th & 20th Oct 2024

FIRST READING • (Isaiah 53:10-11) The prophet describes the turning point in the mission of a special messenger of God, who is called the Servant.

SECOND READING • (Hebrews 4:14-16) The preacher exhorts the listeners to have trust in Jesus who is capable of sympathising with human fragility.

GOSPEL • (Mark 10:35-45) The disciples look for eminence, but Jesus shows that service is the true way of following his example.

Jesus Came Not to Be Served, But to Serve

Leadership is crucial. It provides direction, inspires action, and unites people toward common goals. This is why our parish has recently formed a leadership team that fosters trust, encourages collaboration, and helps individuals reach their full potential, ensuring progress and growth in our faith community. In these challenging times, strong leadership can offer stability and confidence, encouraging resilience and innovation. Our team members, though human and imperfect, rely on God's grace to support one another. Please pray for our team. As your priest, I am not here on holiday - I am here to serve you.

In the context of our faith, the greatest leader is the most-humble servant of God. Despite their own weaknesses, these leaders remain faithful to God's wise instruction. Bad leaders disobey God, and so true greatness in leadership, as taught by Christ, is not about being in charge, but about being in charge by God. This is evident among the figures in both the Old and New Testaments, such as Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and Mary, as well as in the founders of religious orders throughout Church history. These figures are called "servants of God" as illustrated in Jeremiah: "But you, Jacob, my servant, do not be afraid" (Jeremiah 46:28), and in Psalm 123: "As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master... so our eyes look to the Lord our God" (Ps 123:2). Mary herself said to the angel Gabriel, "Yes, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

The servants of God in the Bible foreshadowed the coming of Jesus, the ultimate Servant of God and the Servant of the New Covenant. Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, is the perfect model of leadership. His mission was clear: He came not to be served but to serve, for this is the nature of authentic love, truth, goodness, and beauty. Jesus inspires us to imitate Him, not only by realizing our own greatness but by empowering others to achieve theirs. He tells us, "You know that among the pagans, their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be the slave of all" (Mark 10:42-44).

Jesus knows that imitating the world's style of leadership is futile; it wastes time, energy, and life itself. He offers a different path - the path of servant leadership, rooted in humility, love, and a desire to serve others.

Finally, this Sunday's Gospel invites us to reflect: how has Jesus been a leader in my life and in the life of my family? (Mk 10:35-45). Who is leading my child right now? Do they know Jesus?

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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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:

Oct 27 at 6:00 pm

Parish Council

Tony Hill

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

1. October is Mission Month - MISSION SUNDAY 20th October. It is the mission of all the baptised, depending on our situation, may be an hour or a day of our income is encouraged. Envelopes are in the Church foyers for donations if you pay by automatic payment.

Pope Francis, *'I take this opportunity to thank all those missionaries who, in response to Christ's call, have left everything behind to go far from their homeland and bring the Good News to places where people have not yet received it, or received it only recently. Dear friends, your generous dedication is a tangible expression of your commitment to the mission ad gentes that Jesus entrusted to his disciples: "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). We continue to pray and we thank God for the new and numerous missionary vocations for the task of evangelization to the ends of the earth'* (Message: World Mission Day 2024). With this year's theme; "Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet" (Mt 22:9), Jesus calls us to be deliberate, intentional, and active in living out our Christian faith and mission.

2. Golden Catholics: Thanks to Christine and Terry O'Connell for their organization, we had a great time with Bishop Michael and the South Canterbury Golden Catholics. It was truly a time of faith, food, and friendship. It is in these moments that we discover the hidden meanings of happiness and holiness.

Golden Catholics was held on Friday, October 18th, at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Basilica, Timaru. Bishop Michael celebrated Mass, followed by a talk about his vocational journey and a luncheon in the Parish Centre. Some of our parishioners traveled together, while others made their own way, all sharing in the joy of fellowship and strengthening our community bonds. We hope that more events like this will take place regularly, offering us continued opportunities to grow in faith and friendship.

3. Working Bee - AGAIN: We are grateful to everyone who helped with the parish working bee at St. Patrick's Church on Saturday, October 12th, especially Gary Brosnahan, Terry O'Connell, Kevin O'Neil, Neville Smith, Li-Mel, and some visitors. Another working bee is needed and will take place on Sunday, November 17th, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact Gary Brosnahan at 022 073 6933 for more details. You can bring trailers, loppers, hedge trimmers, weed eaters, shovels, rakes, gardening tools, etc. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated!

4. Communion of All Saints Fri 1st Nov, & All Souls Sat 2nd Nov: All Saints' Solemnity honors all saints, known and unknown. It recognizes the contributions and holiness of those who have lived lives of virtue and faith and serves as a reminder of the call to holiness for all believers. All Souls' Day remembers and prays for the souls of the faithful departed. Following All Saints' Day, it emphasizes the belief in purgatory, where souls are purified before entering heaven. This day offers an opportunity for the faithful to intercede for their loved ones who have passed away, reflecting the Church's teaching on the communion of saints.

5. Volunteers Wanted in Fairlie. Can You Help?

i) **St. Joseph's School** would gladly welcome anyone who can spare some time to assist the children with various activities. This could be - Learning their prayers, Reading, Crafts, Board games, Sports or anything with which you would be able to assist. Please consider if you are able to offer time either regularly or occasionally to support our Parish School

ii) **The next roster for Sunday Mass Ministries at St. Patrick's** is currently being compiled. We would love to hear from any parishioner who feels they could assist with Reading, Collection/Offertory, Greeting or Morning Tea. Please contact Tony Hill if you are willing to support our parish in this way.

Thank you for giving your consideration to this invitation to serve our Parish.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

| Date | Reader | OHP | Extra-Ordinary Minister |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 19 th Oct | Chris Grant | Kathleen Carpenter | Elizabeth Higgins |
| 26 th Oct | Sue Atkinson | Bronwen Dauvin | Kathleen Carpenter |

Church set up for Oct: Lenise Kearns

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

| Date | Reader | Prayers | Ex'Ord Minister | Collector | Greeter |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 20 th Oct | Christine O'Connell | Christine O'Connell | Neville Smith | Kevin O'Neil | Tony Hill |
| 27 th Oct | Deborah O'Neill | Deborah O'Neill | Mercedes Abella | Neville Smith | Lisa Holden |

Cleaners: 18 Oct / 25 Oct Jo O'Neill / Mary Harris

Light-hearted Laughter: *A man is in the woods and suddenly a bear pops out and starts chasing him. The man is terrified and begins to pray. He prays frantically "Lord please make this bear more Christian!!" Suddenly the bear bows his head and begins praying "Dear Lord thank you for this food I am about to receive..." 🙏*