



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel
Communion / Participation / Mission



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

26th & 27th Oct 2024

FIRST READING • (Jeremiah 31:7-9). The prophet presents a vision of God's saving plan for his people; the Lord will show himself a father.

SECOND READING • (Hebrews 5:1-6). Jesus is compassionate with our weaknesses because he has experienced human frailty.

GOSPEL • (Mark 10:46-52). At a turning-point in his journey to Jerusalem Jesus heals a blind man who then accompanies him as a disciple.

Jesus Said, "Your Faith Has Saved You"

In the healing of the blind beggar Bartimaeus (Mk 10:46-52), Christ opens both his physical and spiritual eyes. His physical sight allows him to see his neighbors, while his spiritual sight enables him to see God. His faith in Jesus saves him.

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This illustrates that Jesus has come to fulfill one of the many prophecies in the Old Covenant: "He [the Lord] will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened" (Is 35:4-5) or "See, I [the Lord] will bring them back... all of them: the blind and the lame" (Jer 31:7-9). Jesus comes to heal every form of blindness, which does not necessarily mean physical blindness but can also be spiritual and moral. Physical blindness prevents us from seeing natural light, while spiritual blindness prevents us from recognizing God's light of eternity. Spiritual blindness is the inability to see and identify God's presence in our lives. At times, we may feel as though God is playing hide and seek with us. However, our faith tells us that although God is invisible, He is not absent. We may not see Him with our physical eyes, but we can see Him with the eyes of faith. In Psalm 119:105, the psalmist declares, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." This reminds us that by meditating on Scripture, we are made capable of seeing God. St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ," meaning that without reading and meditating on Scripture, we become ignorant of Christ and His salvation. Conversely, knowing Scripture brings about a constant renewal of love for Christ and our neighbors. St. John Vianney says, "What happiness do we not find in the presence of God, when we find ourselves alone at His feet before the tabernacle. Ah! If we had the eyes of the angels, seeing our Lord Jesus Christ who is present on this altar and who is looking at us, we would love Him. We would wish to remain always at His feet." To see God, we need Jesus to remove our doubt and hesitation to believe so that our faith, too, may save us.

Moral blindness keeps us from distinguishing between light and darkness, truth and error. Without being enlightened by God's wisdom, we fail to see the needs of our neighbors or the ways to help them. Many people may never see the God of Christians, but through our kindness, they may see the Christians of God. As the saying goes, "Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

Finally, in our age, technology benefits our healthcare, improving our ability to see better, zoom in, and focus farther and faster. However, it cannot fulfill every longing of the human heart. No technology can help us see God more clearly—only faith in Jesus was, is, and always will be essential for our salvation. Bartimaeus reminds us that Christ can make us see God if we have faith in Him.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

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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

027 331 7861

Parish Finance

Leonie Guiney

027 2933 228

Twizel Church Charitable Trust

Gerry Dauvin - 027 482 8284

St. Joseph's School

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

1. 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, which follows, is a day to remember and pray for the souls of the faithful departed. It emphasizes the Church's belief in purgatory, where souls are purified before entering heaven. This day offers the faithful an opportunity to intercede for their deceased loved ones, reflecting the Church's teaching on the communion of saints.

Prayer Box: During November, Mass offerings will be dedicated to the dead. Please write the names of the deceased and place them in the prayer box provided in our church. Personally, we encourage you to offer daily prayers and Masses for them. Traditionally, praying for the dead is one of the seven spiritual works of mercy.

Twizel: The community will celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, the patron of our church and Christian community in Twizel. There will be refreshments after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, 2nd Nov.

- To commemorate All Souls' Day, the entire community is invited to visit the Twizel Cemetery and pray for the dead after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, 9th Nov.

Fairlie: To commemorate All Souls' Day, the community is invited to visit the Fairlie Cemetery and pray for the dead after the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, 10th Nov.

2. October is Mission Month: It is the mission of all the baptised, depending on our situation, may be an hour or a day of our income is encouraged to be donated for MissionNZ. 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.

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. 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. 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.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
26 th Oct	Sue Atkinson	Bronwen Dauvin	Kathleen Carpenter
2 nd Nov	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin

Church set up for Oct: Lenise Kearns

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
27 th Oct	Deborah O'Neill	Deborah O'Neill	Mercedes Abella	Neville Smith	Lisa Holden

Cleaners: 1 Nov/8 Nov Gary Brosnahan / Mary Brosnahan

Light-hearted Laughter: *How do we know that Jesus and the Apostles drove around in a Honda?
...It's said that they were all in one Accord ..."* 🎨