



# MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel  
*Communion | Participation | Mission*



## TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024

*FIRST READING • (Genesis 2:18-24). This story outlines the essentials of marriage. The woman and the man leave the security of their own families. Their strength is now in each other as they embark on an adventure together. In this journey, they are sustained by partnership and the mingling of their lives.*

*SECOND READING • (Hebrews 2:9-11). The reading touches on the brotherhood of Jesus in the context of his sufferings. In dark moments, it is the suffering of Christ that speaks most tellingly to us. His crucified presence is with us in unbroken fellowship.*

*GOSPEL • (Mark 10:2-16). The stability of the marriage vows anchors the relationship and gives a platform to begin and begin again.*

### Jesus said:

#### What God Has Joined Together, No Human Being Must Separate

Marriage, having its origin in the One loving God, bears a sacred meaning. As St. Paul wrote to the Ephesians: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her” (Ephesians 5:25). Marriage love reflects God’s love for the world in Christ. Thus, when you vow: “*I, ..., take you, ..., to be my wife/husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life,*” your words signify a lifelong commitment to mutual love and fidelity, regardless of the challenges you might face.

The priest witnesses this vow on behalf of the Church and society, but it is the couple’s consent that establishes the marriage bond. Thus, no one enters a marriage expecting it to end in divorce or separation. Every couple desires to be happy, growing old together. Yet, the reality often falls short of this ideal. Many factors in our world can cause marriages to end and tear families apart; financial anxieties, abuses, concerns over health, new opportunities, children, technology, and negative influences. These pressures can weaken the spark of love that first united the couple. When human love falters, it often turns from a source of joy into a burden, limiting personal freedom in a world that values individualism. In such a culture, the meaning of being together fades, and sacrificial love becomes a demand rather than a joyful offering.

Despite these challenges, we witness the courage of those who remain faithful to their vows. Both within the Church and outside it, people strive to uphold Christ's true teaching on marriage. In doing so, they find God's blessings and guidance for their marital bond and family. Around us, young people still commit themselves to Christ’s ideal for marriage. As Jesus did, may we continue to pray for and support those who are married, especially those struggling. Let us show them compassion and empathy, but not judgement.

Finally, Jesus solidifies the true bond of marriage in His response to the Pharisees (Mark 10:2-16). While the Pharisees focused on the law, Jesus emphasized God's will for marriage. He pointed back to its sacred origin, rooted in the One God who is Love. Marriage is a sacred bond, and Jesus desires to be present in the life of every married couple. His grace and truth can strengthen our love, enabling us to follow God's will and live a life of sanctity. What God has joined together, no human being must separate. *Fr. Tien Cao*

### Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

#### Parish Website:

[www.mackenziecatholic.nz](http://www.mackenziecatholic.nz)

#### Parish Facebook:

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

#### Parish Priest:

Fr. Tien Cao

M: 021 181 4721

E:[petercaochitien@yahoo.com](mailto:petercaochitien@yahoo.com)

### 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

Kelly and Bridget

+64 3-685 8659

[principal@stjofairlie.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjofairlie.school.nz)

**PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES**

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

October is Mission Month, a time when the Lord calls us to be deliberate, intentional, and active in living out our Christian faith and mission. As Jesus said, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you" (Jn 20:21). With this year's theme; "Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet" (Mt 22:9), Jesus intentionally invites us to work for Him, using the wisdom He has given us to stand against the wrongs in society. He calls us to speak boldly, knowing that His love and sacrifice are invested in us. Jesus invites our parish on a new adventure that helps us step out of our comfort zone and embrace excitement. We are the "NOW" of God: without our presence and participation today, our community's mission has no future. In our parish context, YOU are invited to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a symbol that resonates with your heart — a symbol that sparks your imagination and inspires you in our mission. Perhaps it could be:

**AN ANCHOR**

**AN OPEN WINDOW**

**A PILGRIMAGE**

**A SMALL SPARK**

**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. Intentionally Building a Culture of Evangelization:** A one-day workshop for priests, parish leadership, ministry leaders and those with a heart for evangelization. Saturday, 12th October, 10am to 4pm at Villa Maria College. A collaboration of the Diocese and Divine Renovation with guest speaker Cathy Kennedy (Evangelization Coordinator, St Declan's Parish Sydney). \$20 per person to defray costs, including lunch. To register [www.divinerenovation.org/events](http://www.divinerenovation.org/events)

**3. Golden Catholics** will be held on Friday, October 18th, at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Basilica, Timaru. Bishop Michael will celebrate Mass, followed by a talk about his vocational journey and a luncheon in the Parish Centre. Our parish will travel together by van, so please RSVP to Christine O'Connell by Friday, October 11th, or let Fr. Tien Cao know.

**4. Working Bee:** We are looking for a place to dispose of tree branches following some working bees at St. Patrick's church this Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Oct, 9 -11.00 am in Fairlie. Please contact Garry Brosnahan: 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!

**5. Prayer and Fasting for Peace:** Pope Francis used the opening Synod Mass to bring attention to October 7, the day of fasting and prayer that marks one year since the beginning of the war in Gaza. The act of fasting helps reminds us of humility, solidarity and compassion in thinking about the interests of others before us, it enlarges our heart and mind for loving God and our neighbours.

**6. Job Vacancy:** The Diocese is seeking a motivated and experienced Team Leader to join our Collections Team for School Attendance Dues. This key role involves the implementation of a dedicated system, providing support to our schools and parishes and helping us to deliver on our wider mission. Previous school or parish administration would be an advantage. Apply now using the link:

<https://www.seek.co.nz/job/79215386?type=standout&ref=search-standalone&origin=jobCard#sol=0df75195832bbe057bdaa977fc03847f81ad69f9>

**ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER**

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mary Murdoch	Bronwen Dauvin	Sandy Murray
12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Elizabeth Higgins	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin
<b>Church set up for Oct:</b> Lenise Kearns			

**ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER**

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Lisa Holden	Lisa Holden	Rosemary Moran	Tony Hill	Christine O'Connell
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Lisa Holden	Mary Calder
<b>Cleaners:</b> 4 Oct/11 Oct Kelly Eason / Louise Anderson					
<b>Oct 6th Morning Tea:</b> Lisa Holden					