



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

9th & 10th Nov 2024

READINGS AT MASS

FIRST READING • (1 Kings 17:10-16). The widow of Sidon shares her last meal with the prophet Elijah and is rewarded by God.

SECOND READING • (Hebrews 9:24-28). Jesus stands in the presence of God to intercede on our behalf.

GOSPEL • (Mark 12:38-44). The rich contribute lavishly to Temple funds from their surplus, but Jesus commends the poor widow who gives her all.

Jesus' Praise of the Widow's Radical Trust in God

Jesus reveals the depth of the widow's faith in God's providence. Through the Gospel of Mark, we see that this poor widow contributed only two small coins to the treasury, an amount that equaled a mere penny. Yet, it was everything she possessed, all she had to live on (Mk 12:38-44). Her manner of giving illustrates a radical trust in God; her life did not rely on what she 'had,' but on who she 'was,' a generous and trusting daughter of God. In a way, she risked everything on God's faithfulness, consecrating her entire life to Him. Her devotion reminds us that in God's eyes, who we 'are' matters far more than what we 'possess.'

Too often, from a worldly perspective, we value ourselves and others by 'what we have' rather than 'who we are.' The poor widow calls us back to a higher truth: God values us for who we are, not for what we have. In commending her, Jesus reminds His disciples, and us, that it is no shame to live simply and to depend upon God's providence. The widow's poverty was not by chance; it was a choice, an act of faith, as she entrusted her whole being to God's care. She did not invest in earthly securities; she stored her treasure in heaven, where no moth can destroy and no thief can steal (Mt 6:19-20).

Through her humble offering, the poor widow teaches us three powerful lessons: trust in God's constant care, a call not to worry about tomorrow, and the truth that generosity draws us closer to God, who is the Giver of all.

Besides, this Sunday's Gospel reassures us that no act of kindness, however small, is overlooked by God, and no good deed goes unrewarded. The image of Christ watching those who donated at the temple reminds us that God sees all we do, and He lovingly observes how we live. Day and night, He watches over His children. Even the smallest gesture, like giving a cup of cold water, is precious in His sight. As St. Francis of Assisi said, "It is in giving that we receive."

Lastly, the supreme example of giving is Jesus Himself, who gives us His very life in the Eucharist. When He says, "Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is My Body...My Blood," He gives not what He has, but who He is. May we learn from His generosity and become generous with God and one another. Like Jesus, let us give until it hurts, so that we may know what it truly means to be generous.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Priest:

Fr. Tien Cao

M: 021 181 4721

Email:

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:

Nov 24th 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

M. 027 685 8659

E. principal@stjofairlie.school.nz

W.

<https://www.stjofairlie.school.nz/>

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

1. Thank You: We extend our heartfelt thanks to Paul & Craig Gallagher and Gary Brosnahan for their hard work in cutting down the large tree at St. Patrick's. Your time, effort, and dedication are truly appreciated. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our parish grounds safe and well-maintained!

2. 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!

3. Baptism: Last weekend, our parish celebrated the baptism of two little children, Leam Stephen Garvey and Edward William Gallagher, during Mass. Please continue praying for them and their families as the children entered the Communion of the Church. May they feel welcomed and cared for by our community, and may the Holy Spirit, who has infused His life into them, continues sanctifying them always.

4. Columban Calendars are on sale from the office during office hours. They are selling for \$13.00 this year.

5. Thank you: Sincere thanks to everyone involved in organizing the BBQ after Mass in Twizel and the Cuppa after Mass in Fairlie to celebrate All Saints' Day, especially Chris Grant and Gerry Dauvin.

6. Prayer Box: During November, Mass offerings will be dedicated to praying for the souls of the deceased. Please write the names of your departed loved ones and place them in the prayer box provided in our church. We also encourage you to offer personal prayers and attend Masses for them each day. Praying for the dead is a longstanding tradition in the Church and one of the seven spiritual works of mercy.

Twizel: To honor our beloved dead, the whole community is invited to visit the Twizel Cemetery and pray for them after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, 9th November.

Fairlie: To commemorate All Souls' Day, our community is invited to visit the Fairlie Cemetery and pray for the deceased after the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, 10th November, and the **Albury** Cemetery on 17th November.

7. Diocesan Property Manager: James Kearns, a relative of Lenise Kearns, who is one of our parishioners in Twizel, will be starting this new role on 20 January 2025. James will lead the property function of the Diocese, including responsibility for delivering the strategy and performance of the property portfolio, and will be the Project Director for the new Cathedral project. James brings a wealth of experience with 25 years in the construction industry, with the last 18 years at John Creighton Builders as General Manager. James has been delivering exceptional construction projects to the highest architectural standards, skills that he will now apply to the projects in the Diocese. James is an active member of the Christ the Redeemer parish, is married to Monique and has 5 children. Personally, I have known James and his wife since I first arrived in Christchurch in 2008. We are proud of him, please pray for his new ministries in the diocese.

8. Fifth Gospel Living: Fr John O'Connor has collated inspiring reflections on experience of God from ninety people across Aotearoa and further afield. These are now shared in an attractive volume entitled FIFTH GOSPEL LIVING - \$35.00. Available from THE Copy Press in Nelson or (to save postage costs and for bulk orders) directly from John john@fff.org.nz.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
9 th Nov	Mary Murdoch	Kathleen Carpenter	Elizabeth Higgins
16 th Nov	Elizabeth Higgins	Bronwen Dauvin	Sandy Murray

Church set up for Oct: Carpenters

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
10 th Nov	Gary Brosnahan	Gary Brosnahan	Neville Smith	Lisa Holden	Tony Hill
17 th Nov	Amanda O'Brien	Amanda O'Brien	Mary Calder	Tony Hill	Christine O'Connell

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

Light-hearted Laughter: *An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." The atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"* 🤔