



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

2nd & 3rd Nov 2024

READINGS AT MASS

FIRST READING - Deuteronomy 6:2-6. To love God means to keep his commandments, especially the great Commandment of love.

SECOND READING - Hebrews 5:1-6. This reading shows the superiority of Christ over the priests of the Old Testament.

GOSPEL - Mark 12:23-28. Jesus tells us what the two most important of God's commandments are.

Christ's Call to Love:

Centering Our Lives on God and Neighbor

Jesus shepherds us to center our lives on loving God and our neighbors as a priority, because when we follow these paths, he will meet us along the way (Mt 25:40). He will remain and abide in us and with us, so life is never lonely. However, if we follow other wrong paths, he cannot join us, especially if what we do is sinful and unfavorable to God and our neighbors. Christ knows that those who intentionally love God and their neighbors will be set on fire - their time will always feel short, and their energy may be depleted; yet, their soul remains tranquil and at peace. On the contrary, when we love the world, even with ample time and occasional acts of kindness, our lives may still feel dull and unfulfilled. Jesus knows that we deserve the best and happiest way of life, so he summarizes everything for us by teaching us to center and re-center our lives on loving God and our neighbors.

Christ himself has done it. He is the way, the truth, and the life. The entire life of Christ was centered on loving God and humanity. Now, he is risen and alive among us, and so whoever centers their lives on loving God and others will encounter him.

Loving God means actively seeking to know God's will in all things. In prayer, we constantly ask God for what is most loving and the greatest good in all that we do and encounter. We avoid following our own presumptions and resist being coerced by the wrong proposals of the world. Jesus emphasizes the importance of worshipping the one God as a priority, because, like the people of Israel, we too can fall into the temptation of idolatry. Moses instructed his people to worship the One God of Israel, while their neighbors worshipped other gods. So, to love God is to worship the One God, avoiding idolatry and the false gods who give us empty promises.

Loving our neighbors means actively and intentionally finding ways to love them. As C.S. Lewis once said, "Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it's thinking of yourself less." We all have urgent and important work to do; however, when our neighbor asks for help, they are not a distraction or a nuisance, they give us an opportunity to express our hidden love.

Finally, the Word of God today invites us to center our lives on God first, above all other things. The Word of God also calls us to love our neighbor, for loving God and loving our neighbor go hand in hand; one strengthens and empowers the other. The love of God initiates and infuses our love for our neighbor. May our constant reception of the Eucharist every Sunday help us center our lives on faith in the One God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Priest:

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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. **Baptism:** This weekend, our parish will celebrate the baptism of two little children, Leam Stephen Garvey and Edward William Gallagher, during Mass. We pray for them and their families as they enter into the Communion of the Church. May they feel welcomed and cared for by our community, and may the Holy Spirit, who infuses His life into them, continue to sanctify them always.

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

3. **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.

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, 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, our community is invited to visit the Fairlie Cemetery and pray for the dead after the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, 10th November, and the **Albury Cemetery** on 17th November.

5. **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!

6. **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
2 nd Nov	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin
9 th Nov	Mary Murdoch	Kathleen Carpenter	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for Oct: Carpenters

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
3 rd Nov	Tony Hill	Tony Hill	Christine O'Connell	Cath Hanrahan	Liza Holden

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

Light-hearted Laughter: *The WILL – A husband and wife are discussing their living wills. The husband is adamant about his desires. 'Just so you know,' he says, 'I would never want to live a vegetative state. I would never want to be dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If I ever get to that state, I just want you to pull the plug.'* His wife thought about this for a moment, got up, unplugged the TV and threw out all his beer. 🍺