



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



8TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

1st & 2nd March 2025

READINGS AT MASS

FIRST READING • (Ecclesiastes 27:4-7). Beauty is only skin-deep. It is in our words and conversation that we reveal our true nature.

SECOND READING • (1 Corinthians 15:54-58). Our nature will be transformed at the resurrection to become like the Risen Jesus. Already Jesus is working a transformation within us so that we are more like him.

GOSPEL • (Luke 6:39-45). Jesus tells a few short parables to make us think about our attempts to live as his disciples.

Jesus Teaches: Our Words Reveal Our Heart

Christian revelation teaches us that Jesus did not come merely to provide answers to our questions; rather, he came to help us question everything. He calls us to question not only what is within us but also what is external to us. This is not about interrogating ourselves but about self-examination so that with the light of God's wisdom and grace, we may be purified, just as gold is tested by fire.

It is paradoxical that while everyone desires peace and tranquility, few make the effort to purify themselves from the sins that easily cling to them, sins that blind them from living in the light. Many wish to see the light while still entertaining darkness. Thus, when Jesus says, "A person's words flow out of what fills their heart," he invites us to reflect on both our verbal and nonverbal communication. Before words are spoken aloud, they are first formed in the mind, shaped by accumulated knowledge and internal reasoning. Too often, we react impulsively rather than responding with wisdom. Our quick reactions can be triggered by external circumstances, they can leave us with regret, shame, or guilt. Instead of allowing ourselves to be driven by impulse, we are called to pause, reflect, and form a conscious, wise response, one that brings us inner peace and fulfillment.

In short, Jesus reminds us that our words, whether spoken to ourselves, to others, or to God, do not arise by accident. They are the fruit of our inner thoughts and reasoning, which we consciously or unconsciously cultivate over time. Through today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to be humble and question our thoughts, words, and actions, asking whether they align with God's eternal wisdom and holiness. If they do, let us give glory to God; if they do not, let us have the courage to name them, confess them, and bring them into the light. In doing so, we allow the Holy Spirit of Truth to purify our hearts, so that what remains within us is the peace and equilibrium of God's presence.

Fr. Tien Cao

Ash Wednesday Mass

5 March, 2025

Fairlie: St. Patrick's Church: 9.15 am

Twizel: All Saints' Church: 5.00 pm



Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Priest:

Fr. Tien Cao

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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

Mass 30th March 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

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Kelly and Bridget

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PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS AND NOTICES

LENT 2025

1. Ash Wednesday – 5th March: As we begin the season of Lent, a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ashes will be distributed during Mass as a sign of repentance and renewal. [If you read this bulletin before coming to this weekend Masses, please bring your last year’s palm leaves to the church 😊 thank you]

2. Stations of the Cross: Every Friday afternoon during Lent 2025

Fairlie: St. Patrick’s Church: 6.00 pm

Twizel: All Saints’ Church: 5.00 pm

ON-DEMAND - We understand that not everyone can attend in person. You can now experience the Stations on-demand at www.fdm.org.nz Visit the website anytime to reflect and pray in a way that best fits your schedule. May this sacred journey bring you peace and spiritual renewal

3. Food For Faith for Lent: Fr. John O’Connor offers brief daily encouragements for those seeking greater maturity in relationship with Jesus Christ. Sign up to receive daily emails at www.foodforfaith.org.nz

4. Jubilee Year Of Hope 2025: Pilgrimages are an important element of the Jubilee Year. The designated pilgrimage sites for our diocese are:

- A. St Mary’s Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch.
- B. St Patrick’s Church, Akaroa
- C. The St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Catholic Parish of Opihi, Temuka.
- D. Sanctuary of Fourviere & Shrine of Mary, Mother of Light, Leithfield.

For more information on these sites visit <https://cdoc.nz/news-events/jubilee-year-pilgrimage-sites-announced>

5. Caritas NZ: Lenten Reflection Program 2025: Resource: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources>

6. Bishops’ Lent Appeal: *Your compassion in action restores hope and saves lives.* Lent is a time of sacrifice, giving, and action. Your gift this Lenten season will ensure that more families continue to receive the assistance they urgently need. Giving envelopes will be distributed at Mass. Every donation given will support Caritas’ life-changing humanitarian and development work around the world, and create change not just for today but for the future. This year, Caritas are encouraging you to give online or through direct deposit, if possible, to reduce costs and makes processing donations faster. To learn more or donate visit www.caritas.org.nz Thank you for your generous support.

7. Day Of Prayer & Penance for Victims Of Abuse And Violence: Each year, on the Friday after Ash Wednesday, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (NZCBC) calls us to commemorate a Day of Prayer & Penance for the Victims of Abuse and Violence.

8. Faith Formation – Want to grow in your relationship with God? For you and family throughout the year. **FORMED** is an online Catholic media platform filled with over 4,000 programs about the bible, faith and parenting, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. You can gain access to all of FORMED’s content by following these simple steps:

- (1) Go to <https://signup.formed.org/> (2) • Enter your parish name: **Mackenzie Parish** (3) • Enter your name: ... and your email address:

9. Lent Women’s Programme – Fiat 40: Fiat 40 invites women who are seeking to grow closer to Christ by embracing the virtues of Mary - faith, humility and devotion. For more information visit the diocesan website or contact Jacinta Nicholls email jacinta@sjr.nz or phone 022 677 4249

10. Lent Men’s Program – Exodus 40: Based on three pillars; prayer, brotherhood and a set of physical disciplines. Make your Lent journey with our Lord more fruitful and deliberate. *Join us.* Register your interest online on the diocesan website or contact Mike Stopforthmstopforth@cdoc.nz 3669869.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
1 st Mar	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin
8 th Mar	Mary Murdoch	Kathleen Carpenter	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for March 2025: Carpenters

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex’Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
2 nd Mar	Amanda O’Brien	Amanda O’Brien	Rosemary Moran	Abella Family	Christine O’Connell
9 th Mar	Christine O’Connell	Christine O	Neville Smith	Neville Smith	Amanda O’Brien

Cleaners: 28 Feb/7 Mar Gary Brosnahan / Mary Brosnahan