



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

10th & 11th April 2025

READINGS AT MASS

Good Shepherd Sunday

- *Acts 13:14,43-52.* We are now turning to the gentiles.
- *Apocalypse 7:9,14-17.* The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.
- *John 10:27-30.* I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said, 'I Am the Good Shepherd'

Jesus is the Good Shepherd—the only One who leads us to eternal life. He wants us to listen to His voice and to follow Him. To follow Jesus is to imitate Him as the model of life, in both His words and His actions. To follow Jesus as the Good Shepherd means taking His words as our guiding light—the reason we wake up each morning and the compass that directs the course of our lives. It also means going where He leads us, including on the weekends, and avoiding places where He would not lead us.

Moreover, as the Good Shepherd, Jesus takes responsibility for our salvation. He calls us to listen attentively to His voice—not only in the Scriptures but also in the inner voice prompted by His Spirit. In reality, however, we often spend more time listening to the news and the opinions of others than immersing ourselves in the Word of God or attending to the teachings of Jesus.

In his discernment of spirits, St. Ignatius of Loyola discovered a powerful spiritual truth. When he set his mind and heart on the mysteries of God, he was left with a deep sense of peace and joy. But when he allowed himself to dwell on worldly matters—even pleasurable ones—he found himself feeling agitated and dissatisfied. He came to recognize that these interior movements were signs of different spirits: one from the Holy Spirit and the other from the evil one.

In response, St. Ignatius devoted much of his time to meditating on the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. He used his five senses to place himself imaginatively into the Gospel scenes, allowing the events to come alive in his heart and mind. Through this practice, he came to see that the Spirit of the Good Shepherd sometimes brings consolation—peace and love—but also at times allows desolation: moments of dryness or agitation that arise when we stray toward sin. These serve as warnings, prompting us to return to God. In this way, Jesus shepherds us throughout the journey of life.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, let us be humble, submit ourselves to Christ, and be content with His love and truth. Though we are free to choose, Jesus the Good Shepherd protects us from being stolen away. He desires that we be one with Him, and thus be one with the eternal, loving Father.

Today, we are also reminded to pray for vocations to the priesthood, particularly in New Zealand. We pray for our new Pope, Leo XIV, for our Bishop, and for all priests—servants of Christ who shepherd us through this mortal life.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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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 25th May at 6:00 pm

Parish Council

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DIOCESAN AND PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

1. *Habemus Papam!* We Have a New Pope – Leo XIV: At last weekend's Masses, our communities prayed the Litany of the Saints after the Prayer of the Faithful, asking God to send us a new pope. This weekend, the universal Church rejoices in God's answer—we have received the gift of a new Holy Father: Pope Leo XIV. In his first greeting *Urbi et Orbi*—to Rome and to the world—Pope Leo XIV proclaimed:



“Peace be with all of you! Dear brothers and sisters, these are the first words spoken by the Risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for God's flock. I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. Peace be with you!” With our prayers and through concrete acts of love, let us continue to support our new universal shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, as he leads the Church in service to Christ and His flock.

2. *Happy Mother's Day:* Let us give thanks and bless our mothers on this special day. We thank God for the gift of our mothers, who brought us into this mortal life and have nurtured us with love and care. Our human experience teaches us that a mother's love is perhaps the closest reflection of God's divine love, a love that gives, sacrifices, and endures for the sake of her children. May the Lord reward our mothers with every blessing of love, joy, and peace. And may those who have died be remembered with fondness, gratitude, and heartfelt prayer.



3. *Parish Alpha Update:* Our parish has been blessed with two Alpha groups—one in Fairlie and one in Twizel. In Fairlie, a group of 10 young people has been gathering each week to share a meal, watch a video exploring one of the mysteries of Christ, and engage in meaningful discussion afterward. They have now reached the sixth week of the program. Similarly, in Twizel, a group of five participants is also journeying through the sixth week of Alpha.

This is a sign of the power of the Risen Lord, who is gathering us together through His teaching and love. Let us continue to pray for all those serving in Alpha and for those taking part in it, that they may grow in faith and encounter Christ more deeply.

4. *Tax Receipts Available:* The parish is deeply grateful for your generosity. Your financial giving, time, and talents are beautiful expressions of your faith, commitment, and love for God and our faith community. Your support enables us to continue the mission of sanctifying souls and building up the Body of Christ in our parish. Please remember to collect your tax receipt, and may you receive God's abundant blessings along with our prayers for you and your family.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
10 th May	Elizabeth Higgins	Carolina Aldabe	Bronwen Dauvin
17 th May	Mary Murdoch	Bronwen Dauvin	Sandy Murray

Church set up for May 2025: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
11 th May	Christine O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Neville Smith	Lisa Holden	Amanda O'Brien
18 th May	Amanda O'Brien	Amanda O'Brien	Mercedes Abella	Kevin O'Neil	Christine O'Connell

Cleaners: 9 May/16 May Rosie Clark / Tessa Gallagher