



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

24th & 25th May 2025

READINGS AT MASS

- *Acts 15:1-2, 22-29.* It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.
- *Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23.* He showed me the Holy City coming down out of heaven.
- *John 14:23-29.* The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

The Holy Spirit Will Teach and Remind You of Everything

There is a saying: “The sign of a bad memory is that when you have three things to say, but after saying the first, you’ve forgotten the other two.” But when Jesus said to his disciples that the Holy Spirit would teach and remind them of everything, He did not mean memory alone. He wanted to reassure them of the intensity of His love and the constant availability of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Here, it is not just about memory, it is about the proximity of love. Jesus wants us to know that the Holy Spirit is ever-present with us and within us. The condition, He says, is that if we love Him genuinely, we will keep His word. Then the Father will love us, and the fullness of God will come and dwell within us. This is the Good News, this is the greatest joy of being a Christian: God is with us personally and communally.

Every baptized Christian is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit so that we may become one with God and with one another. This fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah: “The spirit of the Lord shall rest on them: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord” (Isaiah 11:1–2). These are known as the indelible marks of the Holy Spirit given to a baptized person. At Confirmation, we are gifted with: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord. They are permanent dispositions bestowed by the Holy Spirit, enabling us to be docile to His movements and to grow in holiness. They help us live without fear.

As Jesus explained: “Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.” St. Paul echoes this in his letter to the Romans: “The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God” (Romans 8:26–27).

In short, the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, is not just a title. The Advocate is a Person, sent by the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus to help us believe in and love Christ. It is the Holy Spirit who makes us love the Way, the Truth, and the Life. When we do not know how to pray, the Spirit intercedes for us. When we don’t have the words or the time, the Holy Spirit prompts our heart with a loving gaze upon God. This loving gaze creates within us a deep longing and thirst for God’s intimacy, which is more powerful than spoken words. Christ has given us this Advocate so that we may constantly remain in relationship with God.

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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PARISH MASS TIMES

FAIRLIE - ST. PATRICK’S

Sunday 9:30 am

Tue – Fri (in house chapel)

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

Tony Hill

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Leonie Guiney

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Twizel Church Charitable Trust

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DIOCESAN AND PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

1. SLT Update: It's time to update you all on the progress of the Parish SLT. We have been meeting every second week from 6:30 to 8:00 am. The team has decided to change our name from Senior Leadership Team to Servant Leadership Team, reflecting the humble and Christ-like style of leadership we wish to embody. Over the past weeks, we have prayerfully discerned and gathered some key words that express the emerging vision of our parish. These words will help shape a vision statement that we hope to share with the whole parish in the coming weeks. We invite you to reflect on these vision key words, and if you wish, feel free to express them in your own words and send them to us. You are also warmly welcome to join one of our meetings to share your thoughts and be part of the journey. Vision Key Words *Mackenzie Catholic Parish is about: Love, Encountering Jesus, Intentional Discipleship, Witness, Welcome, Sanctuary, Learning, Renewal, Thriving Christian Community, Salvation, Holy Spirit, Engagement, Touching Hearts, Response, Inquisitiveness, Home, Anchor, Attraction, etc.*

2. Praying for Vocations and Priests on Thursdays: As in the past, the diocesan family dedicates Thursdays to pray for priests and vocations to the priesthood. You might like to come to Mass on Thursdays, if possible, but all are invited to pray for this intention.

3. Food For Faith: Fr. John O'Connor invites you to write telling of one experience of God in up to 400 words for the second edition of FIFTH GOSPEL LIVING. Send your contribution to john@fff.org.nz. This second collection will be published later this year.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. May is the Month of Mary: During the month of May, let us remember to pray the Rosary, the compendium of the Gospel. In praying the Rosary, we become united with Mary, the Mother of our faith, and we enter into communion with those for whom we pray. The Rosary is a powerful prayer that leads us to contemplate the mysteries of Christ through the heart of his Mother. We encourage everyone to pray the Rosary daily during this special month, and to offer your intentions for our parish community, for peace in the world, and for those in need. Jesus teaches us: "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you" (Mt 7:7). Let us approach our Mother with trust, knowing she intercedes for us before her Son.

7. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 1–8 June 2025 | Theme: "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26) This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is prepared by the Monastic Community of Bose, marking the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. It's an opportunity for Christians to pray and work together for the unity Christ desires for His Church. In Aotearoa, we are invited to join in worship and shared activities with other local churches during this week. Suggestions include an ecumenical service, joint social events, community projects, or a daily prayer relay among churches. Resources and worship materials are available from the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
24 th May	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Kathleen Carpenter
31 May	Rosalie Ardagh	Bronwen Dauvin	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for May 2025: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
25 th May	Lisa Holden	Lisa Holden	Mary Calder	Neville Smith	Cindy Sheehan
1 st June	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Leonie Guiney	Cindy Sheehan	Rose Struthers

Cleaners: 30 May/6 Jun Jo O'Neill Mary Harris