



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

19th & 20th July 2025

READINGS AT MASS

- *Genesis 18:1-10*. Lord, do not bypass your servant.
- *Colossians 1:24-28*. The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.
- *Luke 10:38-42*. Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part

Jesus Visits Martha and Mary

In today's Gospel, we witness a familiar scene: while Martha is being busy and burdened with much serving, Mary is seated at the Lord's feet, listening intently. When Martha complains to Jesus, he gently replies that Mary has chosen the "better part," which will not be taken from her. This is not a criticism of Martha's service, it is a gentle invitation. Jesus is not telling us to stop serving, but rather to serve from a place of rest in him. Without prayer and a heart that is attuned to the Lord, even our good work can become anxious or resentful.

As Martha, we often try to carry the burdens of life alone. We can be driven by fear, self-reliance, or a desire to prove ourselves, we can forget that God created us for communion with him and with others. When we push him aside, we step outside our true nature. Psalm 54 reminds us: "See, God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life" (Ps 54:4). True humility means depending on God more than on ourselves. It also allows us to see others not as competitors or obstacles, but as companions on the journey.

The Lord does not ask us to become exactly like Mary or Martha. Rather, he calls us to discover who we are in his eyes. Each of us is his beloved, unique, and called into friendship with him. Still, Jesus clearly praises Mary's choice that is to sit and listen to him as a model of discipleship. In a world that is obsessed with busyness, this is truly countercultural. Many good-hearted believers say, "I'm too busy to pray." But as the saying goes, "If you're too busy to pray, you're too busy." Jesus invites us: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest... Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Mt 11:28-30).

To live this, we must create an interior space each day to quietly place ourselves in the Lord's presence, to let his gaze rest upon us, to be warmed by his love. As one spiritual writer said: "Unless you let Christ set your heart on fire, how will you set others aflame?" And if you feel broken or distant, return to the wounds of Christ, there you will find mercy and healing. Pope St. John Paul II once said: "Only those who have opened their hearts to Christ can offer a hospitality that is never formal or superficial, but marked by gentleness and reverence." Let us welcome Christ in prayer, and welcome others with hearts transformed by him. May we, as Mary, choose the better part, and as Martha, welcome and serve Jesus so that one day he will serve us in his eternal home - Heaven.

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:

mackenziecatholic@gmail.com

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 27th July 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/>

DIOCESE AND PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

1. Thank You: A huge thank you to the Abella family for finding and donating the beautiful cabinet now placed at the back of St. Patrick's Church. It provides a perfect space to store our cups and supplies for the cuppa after Mass. The cabinet, made of wood, blends wonderfully with the church's interior, adding both function and charm. We are deeply grateful for the Abella family's generosity, love, and ongoing support of our parish community. *May God bless your family abundantly.*

2. Prayer Conference - Save The Date: As we journey through this Jubilee Year, the Bishop's Pastoral Office invites you to a one-day conference in Temuka with the theme "*Pilgrims of Hope.*" The Saint Mary MacKillop Chapel in Temuka is a Sacred Jubilee Site for the Christchurch Diocese, making this a special opportunity for pilgrimage and reflection. The Jubilee Prayer Conference includes Mass, prayer, workshops, and keynote presentations from Bishop Michael, Fr Chris Eaton, and others.

Date: Sat 2nd August

Time: Begins with Mass at 9:15 AM, concludes at 5:00 PM

Cost: \$49 (includes morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea) - the parish can sponsor the tickets

For more information and to register, visit: <https://cdoc.nz/news-events/prayer-conference>

Contact Matt O'Connell: Phone: 03 366 9869. Email: moconnell@cdoc.nz

Twizel: Mary Murdoch

Fairlie: Tony Hill

3. Catholic Business Network Lunch: We invite you to join us for our final Catholic Business Network event of the year, featuring Leonie Guiney — South Canterbury dairy farmer, Fonterra Director, BNZ consultant, respected business leader, and committed Catholic.

Date: Thurs, Sep 11

Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Venue: Rydges Latimer Christchurch

Leonie will speak candidly about the role of her Catholic faith and daily disciplines in sustaining her during challenging times, her sense of responsibility to "pay it forward" to the next generation, and the importance of acknowledging those who have supported her along the way.

With reflections from her time on the board of Fonterra and life on the land, Leonie offers a compelling perspective on values-based leadership, perseverance, and community. Reserve your place now at: www.cbn.nz

4. Mackenzie Parish Draft Vision: The Parish Servant Leadership Team continues to meet every second week to discuss and discern the will of God for our community. This is where we are so far, having a draft vision for the parish. We are currently working on identifying priorities and exploring how to implement this vision in our context. We welcome your feedback: *Mackenzie Parish prays to be more open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and to grow in intentional discipleship, where everyone can encounter the risen Lord with love.* The first priority to implement the vision has emerged; (1) PRAYER, (2)...

5. Special Prayer Intentions: Let us remember in our prayers some members of our parish communities in Fairlie and Twizel who have been unwell. We ask that the Holy Spirit of the Risen Lord remove all fear and anxiety from their hearts. May he bring healing, strength, and deep peace to them, and to those who lovingly care for them. May they be restored to health and feel the comforting presence of Christ in their time of need.

6. Fr Michael Pui's 25th Anniversary: You are invited to celebrate Fr Michael Pui's 25th Anniversary of Ordination on Sat, Aug 23. We will gather for Mass at 11.00am at St Patrick's church Fuller Street Kaiapoi. Mass will be followed by a shared lunch (Please bring a plate of finger food to share). All welcome. If you have any queries please contact Margaret on 327 0811.

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
19 th July	Elizabeth Higgins	Lenise Kearns	Kathleen Carpenter
26 th July	Chris Grant	Carolina Adabe	Elizabeth Higgins

Church set up for July 2025: Bronwen Dauvin

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
20 th July	Amanda O'Brien	Amanda O'Brien	Leonie Guiney	Neville Smith	Rose Struthers
27 th July	Christine O'Connell	Christine O'Connell	Cath Hanrahan	Abella Family	Mary Calder