



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

2nd & 3rd August 2025

READINGS AT MASS

- *Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23.* What do people gain by all their work?
- *Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11.* See the things that are above, where Christ is.
- *Luke 12:13-21.* To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

Jesus Teaches: A Person's Life Is Not Made Secure by What They Own (Luke 12:13-21)

From a worldly point of view, no one would call the man in today's Gospel parable foolish. In our modern context, he might even be admired as a successful millionaire. Like him, we too can be driven by the values the world promotes; always striving to upgrade, expand, and secure more material possessions. However, if we want to be truly wise, we must learn to trust in Jesus. Without God being part of the parable, the man appears wise in the eyes of the world. But in the eyes of God, he is deeply foolish, and he never even realizes it.

The foolishness of the rich man lies in this: he believed that his soul would benefit from his material wealth. He said to himself: "I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them. Then I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid up for many years to come; take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself." But in the light of God's wisdom, material wealth, unless it is transformed into acts of charity and used to alleviate the suffering of the poor and needy, is worthless in God's sight.

There's an imagined story that goes like this: A man dies and stands before God. God says to him, "I knew the world needed you. I made you for the world so that you could help it. How did it go?" The man replies, "Oh God, I didn't know your will. I was busy making a lot of money on earth." Surprised, God responds, "Oh! I didn't know you loved playing Monopoly."

Though fictional, this story captures the essence of the rich man's foolishness in the parable. It offers a sobering reminder for all of us, especially when we are overly concerned, anxious, or consumed by material pursuits. The immortality of the soul is far more important than the abundance of possessions. That is why Jesus, through this parable, highlights the true wisdom of life: the soul only finds lasting benefit in a relationship with God, expressed in love and acts of charity. As Jesus said: "Fool! This very night your soul will be demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be then? So it is with the one who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich in the sight of God."

Finally, regarding the true richness and wisdom of God St. Paul states "to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, God will give eternal life; while for those who are self-seeking and who obey not the truth but wickedness, there will be wrath and fury" (Rom 2:7-8). According to St. Thomas Aquinas: "The glory of this world is vain, because it is based on things outside a person, namely, in the trappings of wealth and in the opinion of men: 'They boast of the abundance of their riches'" (Ps 49:6). But the glory of God will be based on something within a person, as it says in Luke: 'The kingdom of God is within you'" (Luke 17:21).

Fr. Tien Cao

Parish Contacts

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www.mackenziecatholic.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

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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 31st August at 6:00 pm

Parish Council

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Parish Finance

Leonie Guiney

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Twizel Church Charitable Trust

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DIOCESE AND PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

1. Training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: This is a gentle reminder for all who are currently serving, and those who have been invited to be trained as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Please mark these important dates in your diary:

Twizel – Saturday, 9th August, 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Fairlie – Sunday, 10th August, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

This is one of the most privileged and sacred ministries the Lord calls us to; bringing the Body of Christ to others. Let us approach this with reverence, love, and readiness to serve. Your presence is important. Thank you for your faithful response to God's call.

2. Mackenzie Catholic Parish Video: A few weeks ago, some wonderful people from Divine Renovation Ministry (divinerenovation.org), a ministry that inspires and supports Catholic parishes in renewal, visited our parish. I've been blessed to be coached by them on this journey. They came to our parish to film a short video, highlighting our ongoing efforts to build a vibrant parish: a school of prayer and a fountain of God's love in our communities. We never give up on this mission. And to build our parish in a *sustainable* and *life-giving* way, everyone's contribution matters. So please, be generous with your "yes" when invited to serve in a particular ministry. And if you see something that needs to be done, big or small, don't wait. Go ahead and do it with love. Together, we are answering the call to renewal. I invite you to take a look at the video titled: Answering the Call of Renewal in Rural New Zealand! Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vExXm1kxghI>

3. Prayer for Peace: Peace is a gift of the Holy Spirit, and yet God invites us to participate in His divine mission of peacebuilding. In light of the suffering and division in our world today, especially in Palestine and in Ukraine—and with a deep desire to build a peaceful future for the next generation—our parish is holding a special time of prayer for peace in the world.

Where: St. Patrick's Church

When: 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Everyone is welcome—regardless of your faith background or culture.

Let us stand together in hope and unity, calling on God to bring peace to our hearts, our communities, and our world. *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."* – Matthew 5:9

4. 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.*

5. 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

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
2 nd Aug	Mary Murdoch	Bronwen Dauvin	Kathleen Carpenter
9 th Aug	Christ Grant	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin

Church set up for August 2025: Lenise Kearns

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
3 rd Aug	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Rosemary Moran	Cath Hanrahan	Tony Hill
10 th Aug	Kevin O'Neil	Kevin O'Neil	Christine O'Connell	Tony Hill	Lisa Holden

St. Patrick's Church Cleaning Roster: 1 Aug/8 Aug Cindy Sheehan Cath Hanrahan