



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

'The Exaltation of the Cross'

13th & 14th Sept 2025

READINGS AT MASS

- *Numbers 21:4-9.* When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.
- *Psalms 77.* Do not forget the works of the Lord.
- *Philippians 2:6-11.* Jesus humbled himself, therefore God has exalted him.
- *John 3:13-17.* The Son of Man must be lifted up.

The Exaltation of the Cross

Just as the New Zealand flag represents New Zealanders on the world stage, so too the Cross is the sign of Christ's saving act. Where the Cross is present, there is Christ; and where there is a Christian, there is a Cross. Pope Francis reminded us that we cannot find Christ without the Cross, and we cannot carry the Cross without Christ. It is only in our relationship with Christ that we find the strength and love to carry it.

For many of us, the Cross is not only a piece of wood lifted high in our churches but also the weight of our daily burdens; the failure, the worries of family life, the struggles of work and finances, the pain of sickness, or the loneliness of loss. Yet, in the light of faith, which is our trust in God's plan, and in the light of Scripture, where God reveals his will, the Cross becomes the means of our salvation in Christ. Firstly, the disobedience of Adam and Eve at the tree in Eden led to sin and separation from God; but the obedience of Christ on the tree of the Cross restores our original relationship with God and renews harmony within the human family. Secondly, just as the wood of Noah's ark saved his family, so the wood of the Cross saves the world. Without the ark, Noah's family would have perished in the flood. Without the Cross of Jesus, humanity is left to sink in the brokenness and sin of the world.

As we pray on Good Friday: *"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world."* The Cross itself was once a sign of shame and death, but God has transformed it into the instrument of hope and redemption. For those who feel overwhelmed by life's trials, the Cross reminds us that suffering is not the end, that God can bring new life even out of pain. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life (Jn 3:14-15). For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him (Jn 3:17). As the image of the serpent in the desert was given to heal those who had sinned, so the image of Christ on the Cross brings us healing and salvation.

Finally, true wisdom reminds us that salvation does not come through technology or ideologies, whether old or new, but only through Christ. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life (Jn 3:16).

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 28th Sept 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. Mass Count & Parish Census: Over the next five weekends, our parish will be conducting a Mass count and a Parish census during all services. This important effort will help us gather accurate information so that we can better plan and prepare for our future parish initiatives.

We kindly ask for your cooperation and participation to ensure we have complete and reliable data. Thank you for your support and for being an active part of our parish community!

2. Join Us For 10 Weeks To: Explore the mystery of God, Jesus and Church in other words FREEDOM Mackenzie Catholic Parish - Alpha Gathering

DATE: Thursday 02 October 2024 thru 04 December 2025

TIME: 6pm – 7: 30pm Meal included. “Come with an open heart. In a friendly circle, we’ll hear the story of Jesus—who freely chose the Cross so that we might be truly free. Let the Holy Spirit meet you there, and discover the freedom that the Church has guarded for centuries.” Register your interest to participate today (it would be so encouraging). **CONTACT:** MARY 0274 245 733 and ROSALIE 0272 336 343

3. The Age of Authenticity: A New Path to Renewal

In today’s world, personal authenticity is often seen as the highest good. But what does this mean for the Church’s mission in a culture shaped by secularism? Together, **Bishop Mark Edwards** and **Sr Kathryn Kingsley, MGL** will explore this cultural shift through the lens of Charles Taylor’s *A Secular Age*—a work that has shaped how many understand belief and unbelief in modern times.

This conversation will:

- Unpack how the “Age of Authenticity” is influencing hearts and minds today
- Offer insight into how the Church can respond meaningfully in this cultural moment
- Inspire leaders and parish teams with practical ideas for renewal and mission

🔗 **Register here:** <https://divinerenovation.org/calendar/the-age-of-authenticity-a-new-path-to-renewal/>

Feel free to pass this on to anyone who you feel might be interested.

We hope to see you for what promises to be a timely and thought-provoking conversation.

4. Prayer Request: At their August 2023 Conference meeting, the bishops received a request from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (EOHSJ) in NZ for an annual day of prayer to be added to the liturgical calendar. In response, Conference agreed to ask EOHSJ to provide two prayers of the faithful to be offered to parishes throughout New Zealand for use in liturgy on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sunday, 14 September 2025. The EOHSJ has written to Conference providing the following prayers for this year:

- *For the Order of the Holy Sepulchre and its work* – that the LORD will give unfailing help to the work of the Order as it seeks to support and strengthen the Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land We pray to the Lord
- *For the Christians of the Holy Land* - that God in His kindness will give grace and peace to all Christians who live and worship in the lands where Our Lord Jesus Christ walked and taught. And may they be strengthened to be witnesses of peace and reconciliation to all who live in those lands.... We pray to the Lord.

5. 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. Prayer cards are available at the back of your church or [online at the Diocesan website](#).

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
13 th Sept	Chris Grant	Carolina Aldabe	Rosalie Ardagh
20 th Sept	Rosalie Ardagh	Bronwen Dauvin	Mary Murdoch

Church set up for September 2025: Lenise Kearns

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex’Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
14 th Sept	Lisa Holden	Lisa Holden	Cath Hanrahan	Neville Smith	Mary Calder
21 st Sept	Christine O’Connell	Christine O’Connell	Rosemary Moran	Abella Family	Lisa Holden

Morning Tea: Carmel & Fergus Daly – 5th Oct 2025

St. Patrick’s Church Cleaning Roster: 12 Sept/19 Sept Rosie Clark / Tessa Gallagher

Parish Contribution: Bank Account: **03-1592-0602199-20**

Ref. Mackenzie Catholic. Code: (Surname)