



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

4th & 5th Oct 2025

READINGS AT MASS

- *Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4. The upright man will live by his faithfulness*
- *Psalms 94(95):1-2, 6-9. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*
- *2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14. Never be ashamed of witnessing to our Lord*
- *Luke 17:5-10. Lord, 'Increase our faith.'*

Lord, Increase Our Faith

When the disciples asked Jesus, “*Lord, increase our faith*” (Lk 17:5), they were not asking for something abstract. They were asking for the strength to trust him more, to hand over their lives more completely, and to walk more confidently in his way.

Faith is not a theory. It is alive and organic like a seed planted in the heart. And like any living thing, it grows when nurtured, or it withers when neglected. Prayer, the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and reconciliation, are the water and nourishment of faith. Without them, our trust in God dries up little by little. But when we remain rooted in Christ, faith blossoms and bears fruit.

Faith is also risky. To live by faith means no longer clinging to control, but entrusting ourselves entirely to God. Jesus himself prayed in the Garden: “*Not my will, but yours be done*” (Lk 22:42). To pray with faith is to step into the unknown, led by the Spirit, willing to go where God calls. It is both dangerous and glorious; dangerous to our false securities, but glorious because it opens us to God’s plan.

The Church teaches that faith and reason are like two wings lifting the soul to truth. God gave us reason, a hunger in our hearts for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. But reason alone can grow tired and even fall into despair. Faith, illuminated by the Spirit, lifts reason beyond itself, giving us a glimpse of the eternal truth revealed in Jesus Christ. In him, what was hidden to philosophers and prophets became visible and tangible: the Word made flesh (Jn 1:14).

This is why faith is not blind superstition, nor is reason cold calculation. Together, faith and reason harmonize, pointing us to Christ who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Jn 14:6). Saint John Paul II once said that “*the boldness of faith must be matched by the boldness of reason.*” Both are gifts of God.

But ultimately, faith is not first about ideas. It is about relationship. To believe is to entrust our life to a Person, Jesus Christ. It is to say with Saint Paul: “*I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; and the life I live now in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me*” (Gal 2:20).

Finally, faith will sometimes lead us where we do not expect. It will ask us to carry the cross. It will ask us to forgive, to trust, to surrender. But it will also fill us with peace and joy that the world cannot give. So today, with the apostles, let us pray again: “*Lord, increase our faith.*” And let us nurture that faith daily, in prayer, in the sacraments, in Scripture, and above all, in living relationship with Jesus.

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 Oct 26th 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. Welcome Fr. Michael Pui: This weekend Fr Michael, who used to be Parish Priest of Pleasant Point and Mackenzie, is celebrating Mass in our parish. It's been about 20 years since he was in Fairlie! He is now the National Director for the Pontifical Mission Societies, so he will say a few words to ask for your support of the Pope's Missionary endeavours. October is Mission Month, and on 19th October, we will have a collection for Mission Sunday. We pray that the Lord will continue to work wonders in and through him, and we encourage everyone to support his mission. Thank you.

2. Twizel – An Invitation to Pray the Rosary for World Peace Before Mass in OCT: Pope Leo XIII has encouraged the faithful to pray the Rosary daily during October for peace in the world. We warmly invite you to join us in praying the Rosary for **World Peace** before Mass.

When: Saturdays — October 4, 11, 18, 25, and November 1

Where: All Saints Church, Twizel

Time:

- 4:15 pm – Gather and prepare for prayer
- 4:30 pm – Rosary begins promptly (concluding before Mass)
- 5:00 pm – Holy Mass

3. Support Life Sunday 2025: Pilgrims for Hope – Building a Culture of Love and Life

Each year, on the second Sunday of October, the Church in Aotearoa celebrates Support Life Sunday. As the New Zealand bishops reminded us in the 2023 document, Te Kahu o te Ora: “We do not need to look far to recognise that our world requires a lot of healing. All around us, we experience divisions that are the result of human behaviours and institutions.” Support Life Sunday 2025 provides an opportunity, within this year of Jubilee, to focus on how we can better support a culture of love and life through prayer and action. Find out more at <https://catholic.org.nz/resour...>

4. Month of the Rosary: Let every parishioner of the Mackenzie Parish pray the Rosary every day. October is designated as the Month of the Holy Rosary, a devotion that involves meditating on the life of Christ and Mary. This dedication stems from the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, which is observed annually on October 7th. Together, let us pray for peace in our heart, in our homes, in our world, and particularly for our Mackenzie parish new vision, which will be unfolded during Oct.

5. Inform Out Today: The latest Inform is available for collection today at the back of the church. Read about all the current news and activities in the diocese. It can also be read online at <https://cdoc.nz/inform>

6. Mass Count & Parish Census: Over the next few more 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!

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
4 th Oct	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin
11 th Oct	Christ Grant	Bronwen Dauvin	Rosalie Adargh

Church set up for Oct 2025: Sandy Murray

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
5 th Oct	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Mercedes Abella	Lisa Holden	Christine O'Connell
12 th Oct	Kevin O'Neil	Kevin O'Neil	Neville Smith	Kevin O'Neil	Cindy Sheehan

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

St. Patrick's Church Cleaning Roster: 10 Oct/17 Oct Jo O'Neill / Mary Harris

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

Ref. Mackenzie Catholic. Code: (Surname)