



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel



Vision

To be a community of intentional disciples, united and guided by the Holy Spirit of the Risen Lord.

Priorities

Worship – Evangelization – Service

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR - A

29th & 30th Nov 2025

READINGS AT MASS

Is 2:1-5. The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom

Ps 121:1-2,4-5,6-9. *Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

Rm 13:11-14. Our salvation is near

Mt 24:37-44. The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect

Stay Vigilant

Because the Son of Man Is Coming

We used to enjoy reading stories about admirable watchtowers and the great heroes and heroines who stayed awake to guard our towns and dwellings against those who wished us harm. Today, however, we live in a world of advanced technology, and we seem to be losing the art of vigilance. Cameras, alarms, drones, and other devices now do the watching for us. They are indeed convenient, but little by little our natural ability to be attentive, an ability built into us by the Creator and once sharpened by living close to nature, is fading. I fear that we may lose essential qualities of what it means to be truly human. Humanity has fallen, yet each of us remains the best of God's creation, and so it is vital for us to preserve our authentic human identity.

As we begin a new Advent 2025, a season of waiting, renewal, and hope for the Second Coming of Christ, let us allow nothing and no one to replace the longing of our hearts for him. He wants us to wait for him, because having him in our heart, at the center of our life, everything in us will change for better. He will bring the whole kingdom of God into us, he comes with peace and eternal love, and so we can be totally renewed and revitalized. So, Jesus does not want this Christmas decorations to replace our personal longing for him. From the beginning he taught, "You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect" (Matthew 24:37-44).

In summary, let us stay vigilant. Let us guard the lamp of our soul through an interior and exterior attentiveness to the presence of Christ. May we be ready when he comes for us so that we might sing 'Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord' (Ps 121).

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

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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

Nov 30th 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

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DIOCESAN AND PARISH NOTICES

1. Christchurch Diocese Clergy Appointment 2026: The following appointments have been made:

Fr Tien Cao – Timaru & Waimate- Parish Priest

Fr Tang Phan - Timaru & Waimate - Assistant Priest

Fr Chris Friel - Opihi - Parish Priest

Fr Vincent Barboza - Stella Maris - Assistant Priest

Fr Jolly - Arakaparambil - Mackenzie - Parish Priest

Fr John O'Connor - Diocesan Missioner

Please join me in praying for my new mission, for all the priests appointed, and for our parish as we enter this time of transition.

I am personally grateful to God for these nearly three years in this parish. My time in the Mackenzie Catholic Parish has felt like the experience of Peter, James, and John on the mountain of the Transfiguration—being with the Lord in the company of Moses and Elijah. Each of you has been like Moses and Elijah to me. Now it is time for me to go down the mountain. 😊 Please pray for our incoming priest, Fr Jolly, and welcome him with the same kindness and generosity you have shown me.

2. Mackenzie Parish AGM: – Thank You: A heartfelt thank you to all who helped prepare and run our Parish AGM. In particular, we are grateful to those who diligently prepared the reports and to everyone who attended, especially the two from Twizel. It was a blessed time to look back, give thanks, and recognize God's work among us this past year. May we continue to grow in holiness and deepen our trust in his love. And may the Holy Spirit make us ever more courageous in sharing that love with all those around us by a new spirit of evangelization.

3. Mass Offerings: Deceased family members of Carpenter and Naughton

4. Advent Calendar: During Advent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick will be offered after every Mass on the Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays. Further details will be provided soon.

5. Scripture Focus This Advent: You are invited to prepare for Sunday Mass by reading and reflecting on the Scripture we will hear that weekend. Marist priest Fr Frank Bird has for several years been helping people make those preparations through his Living the Word project. As the name suggests, Living the Word is an invitation for Catholics and others to allow the Word of God to shape their lives. You can download the resources, and access other rich content, at www.livingtheword.org.nz/pray

6. Safeguarding Is Everyone's Responsibility: The Catholic Diocese of Christchurch has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is fully committed to safeguarding all those involved in its activities, ministries, and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is our highest priority. We are pleased to announce that *Clodagh Ward* will be visiting our parish to provide an important update and offer a presentation on safeguarding. *Talk Times:*

Saturday, 13th December – 3:30–4:30 pm, *Twizel*. **Sunday, 14th December** – 10:30–11:30 am, *Fairlie*

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
Nov 29 th	Sue Atkinson	Lenise Kearns	Bronwen Dauvin
Dec 6 th	Mary Murdoch	Carolina Aldabe	Sandy Murray

Church set up for NOV 2025: Mary Murdoch

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
Nov 30 th	Terry O'Connell	Terry O'Connell	Cath Hanrahan	Kevin O'Neil	Cindy Sheehan
Dec 7 th	Kevin O'Neil	Kevin O'Neil	Christine O'Connell	Cindy Sheehan	Rose Struthers
Morning Tea: Dec 7 th		Cath Hanrahan			
St. Patrick's Church Cleaning		21 Nov/28 Nov		Cindy Sheehan / Cath Hanrahan	
Parish Contribution: Bank Account: 03 – 1592 – 0602199 - 20 Ref. Mackenzie Catholic. Code: (Surname)					