



MACKENZIE CATHOLIC PARISH

Albury-Fairlie-Tekapo-Twizel

Communion / Participation / Mission



THE LORD IS RISEN - ALLELUIA!

27th & 28th April 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

Jesus Is the Vine; We Are the Branches. Remaining In Him, We Bear Fruit in Plenty (John 15:1-8)

In today's era, many people advocate for spirituality without religion. Some are not interested in any specific form of institutional religion but pay attention to their inner life, maintaining necessary purity in the hope of freeing themselves from what causes unhappiness, insecurity, and concerns.

They believe that purely human, secular, experiential practices accumulated over time can liberate them from negative thoughts, words, and deeds by accumulating positive energy. Such practices may bring about certain psychological and physical results, but they can hardly fill the constant void in the human soul.

Why does it not work?

Being made in the image of God, our heart is only fully satisfied when centered on the Creator. As St. Augustine prayed, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." As social beings, humans always need to connect, to relate, to have 'Someone' to accompany and guide them, and to give them the necessary light to nurture true hope in radical liberation, the sense of divine peace of the Holy Spirit that the world cannot provide. From a Christian perspective, we can only experience heaven when we know how to connect with God through a life of prayer and carry out God's will in the most faithful way.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks to us in the language of the vineyard. He presents himself as the true vine, God the Father as the vinedresser, and we, his disciples, as the branches. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it remains connected to the vine, we cannot bear the spiritual fruits of the Holy Spirit unless we abide in Christ. Thus, remaining in Christ means making our home in him, allowing his words to dwell richly within us. It means surrendering ourselves to him, aligning our will with his, seeking to abide in his love and truth. When we do so, we bear fruit in abundance, reflecting the glory of the Father.

Fr. Tien Cao

"Invoking the Holy Spirit: A Prayer for Parish Transformation and Growth"

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Parish Contacts

7 Gall Street, Fairlie 7925

Parish Website:

www.mackenziecatholicparish.nz

Parish Facebook:

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

Parish Priest:

Fr. Tien Cao

M: 021 181 4721

E: petercaochtien@yahoo.com

PARISH MASS TIMES

FAIRLIE - ST. PATRICK'S

Sunday 9:30 am

Tue – Fri

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter Mass

28th April 2024 at 6:00 pm

Reconciliation by appointment

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 –

+64 3-685 8659

principal@stjofairlie.school.nz

NEWS AND NOTICES

1. Parish AGM: This year's Parish AGM will take place in Twizel before Mass on Saturday, May 4th, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend, so please mark your calendars for this date. We look forward to seeing you there; your presence and feedback will be very helpful for the community. If you can't be there, you can still send your feedback via one of the parish council members. Thank you.

2. Pray Before Every Sunday Mass: We are excited to reintroduce this ancient prayer that we believe encapsulates our shared aspirations for our community: *'Invoking the Holy Spirit: A Prayer for Parish Transformation and Growth.'*

In this prayer, we call upon the Holy Spirit to reignite our hearts with love, to renew our spirits with courage, and to guide us with clarity in our journey of transformation and growth as a parish. As we gather together in prayer, may the Holy Spirit empower us to be wise and to find solace in His presence, leading us closer to Christ and His abundant blessings. Let us join together in invoking the Holy Spirit to breathe new life into our parish, to inspire us to greater heights, and to strengthen our bonds of faith and fellowship.

Alongside this prayer, we will also introduce to you a new advisory body of the parish – the Senior Leadership Team who work closely with Fr. Tien Cao for the commitment that is entrusted to our parish. This body will meet every second week for 1.5 hours; further details will follow. The Parish Council will continue functioning as usual. Please keep them in your prayers.

3. Praying the Rosary for the Parish: By praying the Rosary, Catholics seek Mother Mary's intercessions and guidance in our spiritual journey, asking for her help in living a life more closely aligned with the teachings of Jesus Christ. It's also a way for us to express our love and devotion to Mary, whom we believe holds a special place in God's plan for humanity. The Rosary, with its repetition of prayers and meditation on various mysteries from the lives of Jesus and Mary, is considered a powerful tool for spiritual growth and reflection.

- **In Twizel:** There is a New Rosary group that will start meeting at Kathleen and Brian Carpenter's house every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. Please join them in praying for the parish.

4. Mass Offerings: For Ian Munro, sister Dieu, Maurice Reese-Jones, and those whose death anniversaries occur during this time.

5. Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College: Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering a lecture series called A Taste of Theology. Topic 2 is entitled "Celebrating Christian identity, life and mission rooted in the Word of God", revisiting Dei Verbum, the Dogmatic Constitution on divine revelation. Speaker is Rev Dr Kevin Waldie SM. This is on Tuesday, 7th May 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm on Zoom. For a fee of \$60 you get access to all nine courses in this lecture series. To register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology

6. Diocesan Office Move: The Diocesan offices are moving to new premises at 391 Moorhouse Ave. The offices will be closed on Monday, April 29 to complete the relocation process. They will reopen at the new premises on Tuesday, April 30. Anyone visiting the Diocesan office after April 30 must report to Reception at the primary entry point at 391 Moorhouse Ave. Please call 03 366 9869 if you have any queries. Please note: The CDF remains available on April 29, either via email or CDF Online. If you need to contact the CDF on that day, please email cdf@cdcc.nz

ALL SAINTS TWIZEL ROSTER

Date	Reader	OHP	Extra-Ordinary Minister
27 th April	Gerry Dauvin	Lenise Kearns	Sandy Murray
4 th May	Elizabeth Higgins	Kathleen Carpenter	Bronwen Dauvin

Church set up for April 2024: Elizabeth Higgins

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH FAIRLIE ROSTER

Date	Reader	Prayers	Ex'Ord Minister	Collector	Greeter
28 th April	Tony Hill	Tony Hill	Leonie Guiney	Lisa Holden	Mary Calder
5 th May	Ava Gamleth	Ava Gamleth	Cath Hanrahan	Kevin O'Neill	Tony Hill

Morning Tea: Lisa Holden

Cleaners: 19 Apr/26 Apr Cindy Sheehan / Cath Hanrahan