



# Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

Amberley | Cheviot | Hawarden | Culverden | Waiau | Hanmer Springs  
Parish Office: 138A Carters Road, Amberley | PO Box 143, Amberley 7441  
www.catholichurunui.nz

### Weekend Masses

#### Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs  
(Every Saturday)

6:30pm Culverden  
(1st, 2nd & 3rd Saturdays)

#### Sunday Mass

9am Amberley  
(Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot  
(1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Only)\*

10.30am Hawarden  
(4th Sunday Only)

11.30am Waiau  
(5th Sunday Only)

12pm Sanctuary of  
Fourvière, Leithfield

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday  
7am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday  
12pm Sanctuary of  
Fourvière, Leithfield

### Reconciliation

By Appointment  
or before Mass  
(but not the last 5 Minutes!)

### Rosary

Wednesday  
1:30pm Amberley  
Church Hall

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 19 February 2023

#### But I say this to you....

"You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..."

Christ gives a new standard based not just on the requirements of justice – giving each their due – but based on the law of grace and love. The Old Law which Jesus refers to can be found in the book of Exodus (21:23-25) "If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe". This law was not normally taken literally but served as a guide for a judge in a law court for assessing punishment and penalty (see Deuteronomy 19:18).

Our Lord teaches that we must not only avoid returning evil for evil, but we must seek the good of those who wish us ill. Why? Because God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. God's love embraces saints and sinners alike. That is the challenge of the Christian faith; to learn to treat others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated – with loving-kindness and mercy.



#### Blessings, Fr Michael

#### SUNDAY'S READINGS:

**FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18**  
*You must love your neighbour as yourself*

**Psalm Response:**  
The Lord is kind and merciful

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23**  
*You belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48**  
*Love your enemies*

#### HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Use Hymnal)

721 How Great Thou Art

803 Love is His Word  
Ka Waiata

Ka waiata  
Ki a Maria  
Hine i whakaae  
Whakameatia mai  
Te whare tangata

Hine purotu  
Hine ngakau  
Hine rangimarie  
Ko te Whaea  
Ko te Whaea  
O Te Ao  
(o Te Ao)

I sing to Mary  
Our mother  
The one who heard  
God's call  
The call to be the mother  
of our Lord  
(of us all)

Gentle woman  
Loving mother  
Our Lady Queen of  
Peace  
I sing to Mary the  
mother of Our Lord  
(of us all)

**FORMED CATHOLIC RESOURCE ONLINE**

Fr Michael's Recommendation for this week: *"Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent"*. (Search for it on [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)). For parishioners who have not made use of the parish Subscription, please do so before we .....

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2023**

Please remember the candidates in your prayers. Later on, prayer cards with their names will be created for parishioners to take home and be reminded to pray.

**CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION**

Caritas Lenten Reflection and prayer for Lent has the theme **"I am the Light of the World"**.

Parishioners residing in Culverden will meet with the Anglicans over the Lenten Programme. Commencing 1 March @6pm and every Wednesday of Lent. 1 Stock Rd. Culverden. Queries to: 0277138250

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians, Culverden, Friday 3rd March, @ 7pm. All welcome

**AUCKLAND FLOOD APPEAL** - Bishop Michael has launched an Auckland Flood Appeal to provide support to those in Auckland who have been severely impacted by the recent flooding and its effects. Please donate to our fundraising account: 03 0802 0948733 22 with the following information: Particulars: Your surname and initials. Code: AKL.

Reference: Your Phone Number.

For receipt, email: [giving@cdoc.nz](mailto:giving@cdoc.nz) with the date of donation, the amount, your phone number and your email/postal details.

**TURKEY/SYRIA EARTHQUAKES**

Caritas Aotearoa NZ is accepting donations to help the people of south-eastern Turkey and northern Syria, affected by the earthquake and aftershocks of Monday 6 February. You can donate online through the Caritas Emergency Donation tab at this link: [www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online](http://www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online) (Please specify that your donation is for Turkey Earthquake), or donate via the Caritas bank account: 03-0518-0211216-00 (please include your first & last name and put Turkey as the code.)

**ENTERING THE SEASON OF LENT - ASH WEDNESDAY**

+ 7.00am Mass, Amberley

+ 5.30pm Mass, **Hanmer Springs** (*New Brighton Catholic school in attendance*)

+ Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service, Cheviot

(*St John's Anglican Church, led by Anglican Minister, time to be advised*)

While one of the aims of the Season of Lent is the interior conversion of the heart, we nevertheless express our penitential mood through external concrete signs and gestures. In Lent there is definitely a starkness in our liturgies for Sundays and weekdays. Some of these external signs are expressed in our liturgies and through the change in appearance in our churches, including:

- † The liturgical colour of purple, the same as that for a funeral;
- † The 'Gloria' is neither said nor sung, and there is no incidental music – the only music is to support singing;
- † The disappearance of the word 'Alleluia';
- † There are no flower decorations in the Church;
- † People leave the church in silence, at the end of Mass, in keeping with the penitential mood, and 'Fasting'.

These external signs set the tone for our Lenten Season, paving the way towards the **Holy Week** celebrations.

Apart from the above, there are also many concrete exercises that help us to actively participate in the Lenten spirit:

- **Stations of the Cross**, particularly on Fridays. In **Amberley at 5:30pm**, Fr Michael will lead it next Friday, and hope there are parishioners who can lead them on other Fridays, or in our **other churches**. He has several different sets of prayers/reflections which he can provide so that each Friday's Stations will be different – just ask him.
- More opportunities to go to **Confession**, as we approach Holy Week.
- **Alms Giving** Envelopes are available on the pews for donations for projects (by Caritas) that promote social justice and peace.

There are of course, many other ways of seeking internal conversion of the heart, and the Church very much encourages us to take our own initiative in finding ways, befitting of our circumstances, **to pray, fast and give alms in Lent**.

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**Parish Treasurer:** Elaine Ramsay - [catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com) Office Hours Tuesday 8am - 9.30am