

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 The Beatitudes, Leithfield

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday 7am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday 12pm The Beatitudes, Leithfield

Reconciliation

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

Rosary

Wednesday 1:30pm Amberley Church Hall

Palm (Passion) Sunday

Year A

2 April 2023

Behold the King Comes....

We kick start Holy Week with Palm (Passion) Sunday, commemorating Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem. His entrance was greeted with joy and celebration, with words such as "Hosanna to the Son of David!", which acknowledge Him as the long awaited messiah. We re-enact this with the Blessing of the Palms and singing songs. Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem was prophesied long ago, well before it happened:

"This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass." (Zech. 9:9)"

He was received with great Fanfare being treated as a King....and rightly so, but we also know what happened five days later.....

All these dramas are captured in our Holy Week celebrations and especially the Sacred Triduum (or the

Sacred Three days) of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil. They mark the most intense celebrations for the whole Liturgical Year.

Ironically, there is something about Holy Week that does not seem to make sense to me; they require so much preparation, but other than the Good Friday commemoration at 3.00pm, the Easter Vigil is generally not well attended. Yet, of all our celebrations, the Vigil is supposed to be the Feast of Feasts. It is so rich, and complex; fire, darkness, light, Candles, Exultet, multiple readings, (and baptisms when there are candidates) etc.... It is meant to connect us to Salvation History. The death and Resurrection of Jesus IS the reason we are Christians.

Please join us (at Culverden) for the Vigil if you have never experienced it. Come with active participation in mind. Come and prove me wrong.

May your Holy Week be truly Holy

Fr Michael

P/s If we can, for Palm Sunday, we will gather outside the Church for Mass to bless the palms and then process in.

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult: I know I shall not be shamed

Psalm Response:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:6-11

Christ humbled himself but God raised him high

GOSPEL: Matthew 27:11-54

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Hymnal)

229 (Procession) All Glory, Laud and Honour

752 My Song is Love Unknown

223 Stabat Mater (Vs 1, 5, & 14 only)





FORMED CATHOLIC RESOURCE ONLINE

Fr Michael's Recommendation for this week: "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)". This is 6m video taking us through Scripture on the Passion. Search for it in "www.formed.org."



CONFIRMATION 2023

The third Preparatory Session is on this Saturday,1st April. Please remember the candidates in your prayers.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE together with the explanation of the TRIDUUM was handed out last week. It is available on the parish website: www.catholichurunui.nz. If you are attending Holy Week elsewhere, check out the times in other parishes in the Diocesan Website: www.chchcatholic.nz

CHRISM MASS will be celebrated at the Pro-Cathedral. It is the Mass where the Oils are Blessed by the Bishop. (Oil of Chrism, Oil of the Sick and Oil of Catechumens) Please note that on this Monday (3rd April), there is NO Morning Mass in Amberley, and Fr Michael would appreciate it if parishioners could attend the CHRISM Mass as a way of showing support to the priests who will renew their vows.

RECONCILIATION - Below are opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

31st March, Friday Cheviot (Hall) - 1.00-2.00pm 4th April, Tuesday Amberley (Church) - 7.00pm 5th April, Wednesday Hanmer (Flat) - 3.30 - 4.30pm 5th April, Wednesday Culverden (Ch) - 5.00-6.00pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FRIDAYS OF LENT

This coming Friday is the last Friday before Good Friday to join parishioners in a communitarian exercise of praying/walking the Stations: **Amberley @5.30pm** and **Culverden @5.00pm**.

Fr Michael has put together an original reflection/prayer for use on Good Friday.

DIVINE MERCY Sunday Annual Celebration is at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral on **Sunday 16th April**. Mass will be at 4.30 pm celebrated by Bishop Michael Gielen, preceded by confessions at 2.30pm and Chaplet of Mercy at 3pm. Contact:

and Chaplet of Mercy at 3pm. Contact; Pat Barrett 03 359 2087

GET INFORMed - Pick up a free copy of the Diocesan Newsletter this weekend





POPE FRANCIS' CALL FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH

Representatives of the four Catholic Bishops' Conferences in Oceania have approved the region's final response to the Continental Stage working document published last October for the Synod of Bishops for a Synodal Church. It will be sent to the Synod Secretariat in Rome before this week's deadline, and be published during the week after Easter. Details can be found here: https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-oceania/

THE CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE has a new website. You may wish to visit it or encouraged someone to visit who wants to find out about faith, explore Catholicism, order booklets or make a donation: https://www.catholicdiscovery.nz/

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP, Wednesday 29th March at 7pm-8.30pm — St Marys Pro Cathedral, Manchester St. Venue: Assisi Lounge. Volunteers in all parishes, including ours, are required to attend. Later, there will be a workshop held locally. It is recommended that if you have not been to a Safeguarding Workshop in the last two years that you attend this updated safeguarding workshop. People who are not volunteers but would like to know about safeguarding, are very welcome to attend to understand what safeguarding is in practice for our everyday lives. Just turn up and sign in. Contact: Clodagh Ward, email: cward@cdoc.nz Mobile: 022 0124142