



# 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, 3rd & 5th Saturdays)  
*(Remember to base the Vigil  
on the Sunday of the month)*

#### Sunday Mass

8.30am Amberley  
(Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot  
(1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays Only)

10.30am Hawarden  
(2nd & 4th 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

St Joseph Men's Group  
2nd & 4th Monday  
7pm-9pm Amberley Hall

Third Sunday of Advent Year B

17 December 2023

### Gaudete! Rejoice!

If you have the Roman Missal, or read in advance the Scripture readings on the lectern, you would find that for every Mass, there is an "Entrance Antiphon". For the third Sunday of Advent the Entrance Antiphon is: *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near"*. (Phil 4: 4-5). It is from this antiphon that the third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called **Gaudete** Sunday, or 'Rejoice' Sunday (Rejoice = **Gaudete** in Latin).

The call to 'Rejoice', marked by the lighting of the pink candle on the Advent wreath, is a reminder that the feast of the Lord's coming is now near, spiritually and literally (Christmas is only a few sleeps away!). In this context of joyful anticipation, this Sunday's Gospel (John 1:6-8, 19-28) urges us to meditate again on St. John the Baptist. Last Sunday we were already presented with the figure of John the Baptist where he was crying out for us to 'prepare a way for the Lord'. This Sunday the Gospel passage reveals to us the mission of the Baptist, described now as "a man... sent from God", that is, God's "missionary", who "came for testimony, to testify to the light," Jesus, the divine Word. John is also very clear; he is neither the Christ, nor the prophet Elijah. He claims for himself only the humble role of a herald of someone greater who is to come after him – someone who he is not fit to undo His sandals. Contrast this clarity of identity, and calling in life, with that of Adam and Eve. They ate the forbidden fruit because they wanted to be like God, and wanted to usurp the role of God. There is that tendency in all of us, who are tarnished by sin, to want to be like God!

We can learn from John the Baptist; that is, to have the clarity of mind of knowing who God is and who we are, and of pointing others to God.

### God bless, Fr Michael

*P/s: The Priestly Appointments for 2024 will be made public this Sunday, and I will announce at Mass who my replacement is. The new priest will officially be on deck on the last Sunday of January 2024*

### SUNDAY'S READINGS:

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

*He has sent me to proclaim  
a year of favour from the Lord*

#### Psalm Response:

*My soul rejoices in my God.*

#### SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

*May you all be kept safe for the coming of our  
Lord Jesus Christ*

#### GOSPEL: John 1:6-8,19-28

*'There stands among you  
the one coming after me'*



### HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

94 On Jordan's Bank

No Gloria

64 Litany of the Word

365 Immaculate Mary (vs 1,7 8)

**Normal Weekend Masses pre-Christmas:**

Saturday 23rd

5pm Hanmer Springs

7pm Culverden (@ Amuri School's Gymnasium  
(see below, "Simbang Gabi")**Sunday 24th**

8:30am Amberley

Hawarden's Mass *Cancelled*For Christmas Mass Times around the Diocese, go to: <https://cdoc.nz/christmas>**CHRIST-MASS 2023****Sunday, Christmas Eve 24th December**

6:30pm Carols + 7pm Christmas Vigil Mass - Culverden

9:30pm Carols + 10pm Christmas Vigil Mass - Hanmer Springs

**Monday, Christmas Day 25th December**

8:30am Carols + 9am Christmas Day Mass - Amberley

(Pre Mass Carols?) 9am Christmas Day Mass - Cheviot

**CATHOLIC RESOURCE  
ONLINE [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)***Fr Michael's Recommendation for**this week is: "Prepare the Way by Bob Rice"  
(Search these words).***BISHOP'S APPEAL 2023** - The envelopes are in the foyers of the churches. The appeal goes towards the formation of 6 seminarians of our Diocese. You can also donate online.**ST JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP** had its last meeting for the year last Monday. It will recommence on Monday February 12th 2024**GET INFORMed** on what's going on in the Diocese by picking up the latest copy of the complimentary Diocesan Newsletter (INFORM). In the latest edition Hurunui parish has a feature page, and so has the Beatitudes.**FEEDBACK ON LOCATION OF CATHEDRAL** can be done via an online survey. Online feedback is encouraged, but if you wish to submit a paper copy, please contact your Parish office. The feedback process starts this Monday and concludes at the end of March 2024. To access the survey and information on our website, please scan the QR code or visit: <https://cdoc.nz/cathedral>**ADVENT RECONCILIATION – Rite 1**~~SATURDAY 2nd December  
2.30-3.30pm CULVERDEN (during 24hr Adoration)~~~~FRIDAY 15th December  
7.00 - 8.00pm AMBERLEY (Confessional)~~**SUNDAY 17th December**

11.00 - 11.25am CHEVIOT (Hall)

**SATURDAY 23rd December**

3.00-4.00pm HANMER SPRINGS (Front Flat)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Michael Pui - [nzmichaelpui@gmail.com](mailto:nzmichaelpui@gmail.com) - 03 319 8730**Parish Email:** [catholicurunui@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunui@gmail.com)**Parish Treasurer:** Thomas Peacock - [catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com) - Office Hours Tuesday and Friday 8:30am - 10:30am**SIMBANG GABI CULTURAL CELEBRATION** is a nine-day series of devotional Masses celebrated in various parishes by the Filipino-Chaplaincy of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch as part of preparing spiritually for Christmas. One of the Masses will be in Culverden at 7pm Mass as a Saturday Vigil Mass on the 23rd December. However, because of this Mass, Hawarden is cancelled.. Come and experience a Mass that has around or more than 500 people attending!**A LOW SENSORY MASS** will be celebrated by Fr Do Nguyen on Saturday 23rd December @4pm at St. Patrick's Church in Kaiapoi, 61 Fuller St. Kaiapoi. This Mass involves dim lights, no music, no incense, or anything like this. It is designed for people who are on the autistic spectrum, people who have had brain injuries, strokes, or who have sensory processing disorder.**24h ADORATION CHAPEL** - Subs are required over Christmas / New Year. Over the past 10 years the Diocesan Perpetual Adoration Chapel has remained open throughout the Christmas period. We have a large number of people going away and require extra people to help out. If you are going to be at home this Christmas and would be happy to cover an hour or two please contact Matt on 027 536 9407 or [chchadoration@gmail.com](mailto:chchadoration@gmail.com)**PRAY FOR PEACE** in the Holy Land. As the conflict in the**Prayer for the Holy Land**

Jesus, protect the innocent and vulnerable, comfort the suffering, and give courage and wisdom to leaders in the Holy Land. Amen.

Holy Land continues to escalate, Caritas NZ is asking us to join together as a faith community to pray for all those affected by this conflict. More information on the prayer, the "Peace Lamp" and Caritas' work in the Holy Land can be found on <https://www.caritas.org.nz/where-we-work/holy-land>.