



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.catholicurunui.nz

Weekend Masses



Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs
(Every Saturday)

7pm Culverden
(Every Saturdays)

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
8:30am 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

Second Sunday of Lent Year B 25 February 2024

ARE YOU REALLY LISTENING?

Do you know why it is difficult to talk with some people? It is simply because they keep talking. In Sunday's Gospel (Mk. 9, 2-10) we note the interplay of speaking and listening at the Transfiguration scene.

Peter, so overwhelmed by their mountaintop experience, tells the Lord that he will make three tents in the place. While he is still speaking, he is interrupted by a voice that says: "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

This story is a good reminder for all of us to learn to really listen to the Lord. Many times, even in prayer, especially in prayer, we talk too much. We do not really listen. We do not give the Lord a chance to talk to us because we are the one talking much. LISTEN! Listening is praying! Transfiguration happens when we talk less and listen more, when we think less and pray more. Simply, when we are mindful of the needs of people around us, and that there is a God greater than us. How many of us are like Peter, telling the Lord about our plans, about our activities and about our achievements, so that we often forget to ask Him His plans and put everything we do and hope to achieve under His master plan and will? All too often, we forget that everything happens, and should happen according to His will, according to His time, according to His pleasure. Listen to the Lord more so that we will know his plans for us. A very practical suggestion so that we can really listen to the Lord during the Lenten season—text and Internet abstinence. Aside from giving up on our vices or pleasures, he urges us to refrain from those things that are causing problems at home or disruptions at work. Giving up on meat this Lenten season should not just be taken literally. The invitation is for all of us to minimise, if not altogether, remove our greed. Are you listening?



Lord, help me to listen, really listen to you and to your people. Amen.

God bless, Fr Rex

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18
The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith

Psalms Response:
*I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.*

SECOND READING: Romans 8:31-34
God did not spare his own Son

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-10
This is my Son, the Beloved

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

842 Hosea
840 God of Mercy and Compassion
865 Here I am Lord
883 Christ be our Light

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
at the Culverden church.

Thursday 29th of February at 7pm.
Everyone warmly welcomed

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT - It is a good spiritual exercise to do the Stations of the Cross in Lent, and especially on Fridays. Fr Rex will lead one every Friday, and he is hoping volunteers to lead one as well in each of our other churches at what ever time suits. This way, the parish community can take some initiatives.

Every Friday during Lent, there will be 7:30am Adoration & Confession followed by 8:30am Mass (Amberley)

Friday, 1st March

Amberley at 7pm

Culverden at 7pm

Friday, 8th March

Amberley at 7pm

Culverden at 7pm

Friday, 15th March

Amberley at 7pm

Culverden at 7pm

Friday, 22nd March

Amberley at 7pm

Culverden at 7pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 - Enrolment closing 21st April 2024



This year, children will be making their First Holy Communion on the Vigil of the Feast of CORPUS CHRISTI (Body and Blood of Christ) on SATURDAY 1st June 2024 in Culverden.

Enrolment: Parents are to enrol their child using the form overleaf. The completed form, payment of \$50 (\$80 for two from the same family) and a copy of the baptismal certificate must be lodged at the parish office no later than Sunday 3rd March 2024. The minimum age to prepare for First Holy Communion is 8 years. The child will have to be baptised a Catholic and parents are members of the parish*.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION for 2024 - Enrolment closing 21st March 2024



The Hurunui Parish of the Good Shepherd will be offering to prepare candidates to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on the Vigil of Pentecost (Saturday 18 May). Bishop Michael Gielen will be administering the Sacrament. The Church where the preparatory sessions and Mass will take place will depend on where a larger number of candidates showing interest are from. Registration forms are in the Church foyer and on the parish website. www.catholichurunui.nz (The registration form makes more sense if its printed as 'Landscape, double sided, & folded into A5')

PARISH YOUTH GROUP (4th Sunday) this Sunday 25th of February, in the Hawarden Presbytery after the 10.30am Mass. This will be followed by a shared lunch, and then Youth and Parents activities separately.

INVITATION TO SIGN UP AT THE PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL THIS LENT

Pope Francis notes that "it is good to adore in silence before the Most Blessed Sacrament, to be in the consoling presence of Jesus and there to draw the apostolic impetus to be instruments of goodness, tenderness and welcome in the community, the Church and the world." For more information please contact Matt O'Connell on 027 536 9407, chchadoration@gmail.com or <https://perpetualadoration.chhcatholic.nz/>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 1st March

"I Beg you..beg with one another in Love"

A service prepared by the WDP Committee of Palestine - St Andrew's Presbyterian church Amberley at 11am followed by shared lunch.

ST JOSEPH'S MEN'S GROUP (2nd & 4th Monday) next Monday 26 February from 7 pm - 9 pm at the Parish Hall. All men are welcome and encouraged to become better equipped to be more like St Joseph, the protector of Jesus and Mary. Contact Rob 02254676341 or Mark 0277027889.

RETREATS WITH THE COMMUNITY OF THE BEATITUDES at 67 Leithfield rd, Leithfield.

The Beatitudes Community warmly invites you to consider booking one of the retreats in March.

St Joseph, men's retreat from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th March *Rediscover who St Joseph was for the Holy Family of Nazareth and who he is for each one of us now.*

Easter Triduum Retreat from Thursday 28th to Friday 31st March *Share the prayers times of the members of the Beatitudes and take part of the beautiful liturgy of the Triduum to go deeper into the Mystery of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

For bookings: contact us at retreats@beatitudes.nz

For more information and to get the full calendar of the Beatitudes Retreats 2024, please contact

Thomas Peacock at thomas@beatitudes.nz

Visit our website: <https://www.beatitudes.nz/>