



DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

AMBERLEY | CHEVIOT | HAWARDEN | CULVERDEN | HANMER SPRINGS
Parish Office: 138A Carters Road, Amberley, PO BOX 143, Amberley 7441
www.catholic Hurunui.nz



PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

05 May 2024 6th Sunday of Easter - Year B

JUST KEEP ON LOVING

The story is told about two old friends who had a big quarrel and who had not talked with each other for years. As one of them was about to die, the priest asked the other one to come, and they were reconciled. But as his friend was leaving the room, the dying man shouted: "Remember, this counts only if I die!" In today's gospel (Jn. 15, 9-17), Jesus expresses his last wish and command: "Love one another as I love you." We as a human family, as a nation, as a community, as individuals, need to go back and really listen to this reminder again and again. The key to our problems is love, and loving more. "Love one another as I love you." He could have commanded His disciples to outsmart one another, or upstage one another, or outbuy one another, or even eliminate one another. But no, He told them to love one another. For Jesus, it is the heart that matters. Do you want to be really happy? Jesus tells us today the secret for true joy and happiness: to remain in his love, and to love others. If there is unhappiness in your life, check your love battery. Maybe you are "low bat" in your love for God and/or in your love for others. Take note: Jesus' last wish and command is not to love ourselves! Along with this is the command to bear fruit. We are not here to live useless, selfish, vain and empty lives. We have been chosen to live fruitful and meaningful lives. At the sunset of our lives we will be judged according to love.

Lord, help us to love, and to just keep on loving. Amen

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPT will be available this weekend at the entrance of the Churches. Please pick up yours.

NOTE: The person doing the prayer of the faithful will also undertake the welcome Mass introduction.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS and PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Nominations are now open for positions on the parish council. Those interested in serving on the parish council please supply your name and a few brief few lines about yourself to Fr Rex before the 1st of June 2024, the close of nominations. Email: hurunuicatholic@gmail.com. Positions available are: local representatives for: Amberley, Cheviot, Culverden, Hanmer, Hawarden; Parish Council Chairman, Parish Council Secretary, Parish Finance Committee Chairman, Property and Maintenance Committee officer. **The AGM will be held on Tuesday 11 June 7:30pm in the Amberley Church Hall**, at which there will be a statement on the accounts, on the parish by Fr Rex, and the parish Council elections. **ALL WELCOME**

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

The pagans have received the Holy Spirit
just as much as we have

Psalm Response:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-10

Let us love one another, since love comes from God

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

You are my friends if you do what I command you

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

287 Thine Be the Glory

865 Here I am Lord

629 I am the bread of life

922 Bind us together

LIGHT OF FAITH: by Fr. Rex

What is the significance of entrance procession at the beginning of the Holy Mass?

The entrance procession toward the altar symbolises our journey toward heaven. In this pilgrimage toward heaven, we are certain and confident that we will arrive safe and secure because we are accompanied by the cross, the lighted candles and the Book of the Gospels, which are symbols of Christ.

Why do we start the Mass with the sign of the cross?

The sign of the cross means three things:

- 1) It is a sign of renewal of the baptismal covenant that we have entered into.
- 2) It is a sign of our proclamation of faith in the Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- 3) It is a sign of our proclamation of the redemption brought by the cross of Christ.

What do we acknowledge in the Penitential Rite of the Mass?

In the penitential rite, we confess that we have sinned and that we are not worthy and will never be worthy of His Word and Sacrament. But still God summons us to listen to Him through the readings and to receive Him worthily in Holy Communion. In this part of the Mass, we recognize that sin is a personal choice (through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault). We do this in the presence of the Eucharistic assembly. This rite shows that sin affects not only the sinner but the Church as well.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NOTICES

KALAVALE: Our parish's cup of tea and raffles, is on **THIS Sunday, being the first Sunday of the Month.** Join us after Mass in Amberley for a time to socialise and win a few prizes.

THE LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY SISTERS

You can see the Tonga update news on the notice board of Amberley Church. The sisters will soon celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Foundation in Tonga and the book "A Faithful Presence", stories from the Little Company of Mary Mission in Tonga will be released in the Hurunui Parish. In the past year we have raised just over \$1,300.00 for the Little Company of Mary.

ST JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP: Next Monday 8th May, being the second Monday of the Month.

The Group meets from **7-9pm in the Parish Hall at Amberley.** All men are welcome and encouraged to become better equipped to be more like St Joseph, the protector of Jesus and Mary. Men, invite a friend to come along and enjoy the fellowship. Contact Rob 02254676341 or Mark 0277027889.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

12-19 May 2024.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is an annual global ecumenical celebration. **The theme for 2024 is: "You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbour as yourself."** Luke 10:27. Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all the baptised.

AN EVENING TO DISCOVER THE SYRIAC CATHOLIC CHURCH

Thursday 9th May 7pm-8:30pm.

An initiative of the Beatitudes Community.

Talk: by Most Reverend Georges Casmoussa, Archbishop Emeritus of Mosul and Syriac-Catholic Patriarchal Auxiliary of Beirut.

Venue: Holy Innocents Anglican Church, 7 Church Street, Amberley.

PENTECOST VIGIL with the Beatitudes Community - Saturday 18th May, starting 5.30pm.

Join us for an evening of prayer, and fellowship to pray for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, followed by a shared potluck dinner.

Beatitudes Community, 67 Leithfield Rd, Leithfield.

PENTECOST MEN'S RETREAT

Friday evening 17th to Sunday morning 19th May.

Beatitudes Community, 67 Leithfield rd, Leithfield.

Contact: Sr Giovanna Maria, retreats@beatitudes.nz

OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL TO THE UNBORN. Saturday 11th May

Beatitudes Community, 67 Leithfield rd, Leithfield.

10am Talk by Michael Loretz on the Pro-Life battle - *a struggle for compassionate unity.*

11am Opening of the Memorial and Blessing of the Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe

12pm Holy Mass followed by a potluck lunch