PARISH NEWSLETTER



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.catholichurunui.nz





Holy Masses



Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs (Every Saturday)

7pm Culverden (Every Saturdays)

Sunday Mass

8.30am Amberley (Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot (1st & 3rd Sundays Only)

10.30am Hawarden (2nd & 4th Sunday Only)

12pm The Beatitudes, Leithfield

(Closed in January)

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 8:30am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday 12pm The Beatitudes, Leithfield



Adoration & Reconciliation

1st Friday of the month from 7:30am

Confession by Appointment or before Mass



Rosary

Wednesday 1:30pm Amberley Church Hall

Kalavale

Parish's cup of tea & raffles 1st Sunday of the Month.

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

Do whatever he tells you!

In the gospel of this 2nd Sunday in ordinary time, we read about the miracle of Cana (read John 2, 1-11). Jesus came to a wedding feast but something unfortunate happened. The host ran out of wine. It is noteworthy that in Jewish weddings, wine is the "life of the party," a vital serving for the party's success.

Hence, to run out of wine in the midst of the feasting could spell disaster. It was Mary who noticed the predicament of the newly-wed couple.

She approached her Son to do something to save the family from a big embarrassment.

"Woman, what's that to me? My hour has not yet come," Jesus said. Meaning, it's not yet the right time to begin his divine mission.

But Mary was confident. So she instructed the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." We can see here the maternal power and influence of Mary over her son. Jesus could not disobey his mother. Incidentally, fundamentalist Christians and Protestant brethren criticise Catholics for praying to the Blessed Mother. "Why do you still go to Mary? Why not go straight to Jesus Christ?" they claim.

Obviously, we can pray directly to Jesus but the gospel today shows clearly how Mary can serve as a mediator or "go-between" to her Son. Hence, this practice has biblical basis.

The Lord performed his first miracle, transforming six jars of water into the best quality wine.

"If you invite Jesus in your home, you're never the same again," a writer once said. Have you ever consciously invited Jesus into your home in a practical way? For instance, would a visitor see any evidence on your walls that your family has a reminder of Jesus and Mary? For instance, through a crucifix, a sacred picture or the enthronement of Christ the King?

Or would he or she say, "I see that your kids are fans of Michael Jackson or Madonna" If your daughter brought home a classmate for the weekend, would she say afterwards: "Your family is really Christian. I can't remember praying at meals as I prayed in your home." Or comments like, "I've not seen family members putting down one another in your home."

Once we invite Jesus in our home or in our life, we can expect something special to happen. He will not make life for us completely free of sufferings but he will bless your marriage, your home, transforming what's imperfect, like our mistakes, our heartaches, our sins into the best of wine, giving us new hope, new efforts, healing, forgiveness, faith amidst our problems.

Invite Jesus now and make Him stay in your homes.

From the workshop - words on St Joseph - Fr Calloway's book Page 125, 33

Did you know there is a liturgical feast that celebrates the marriage of Mary and Joseph? It's called the feast of the Holy Spouses. This feast goes back to the 15th century. There has never been a man more in love with a woman than St Joseph was in love with Mary. St Joseph will help men to be holy and chivalrous again.

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

The bridegroom rejoices in his bride

Psalm 95(96):1-3,7-10

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

The Spirit distributes gifts to different people just as he chooses

GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

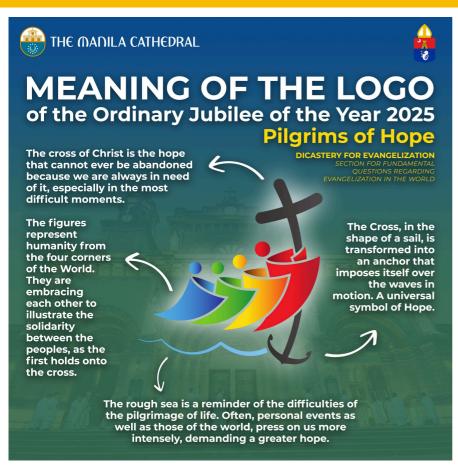
'My hour has not come yet' - 'Do whatever he tells you'

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

697 Sing a new Song317 Father in my life I see938 Soul of my Saviour360 Ave Maria

JUBILEE YEAR 2025



How our Diocese will mark the Jubilee Year

The Jubilee Year will open in our Diocese on Sunday 26th January 2025, with Bishop Michael celebrating Mass at 4.00pm at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral.

Throughout the year it is intended there be opportunities for celebrations of Jubilee Masses for various groups.

Pilgrimages are an important element of the Jubilee Year. The designated pilgrimage sites for our diocese are:

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch.

St Patrick's Church, Akaroa

The St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Catholic Parish of Opihi, Temuka.

Sanctuary of Fourviere & Shrine of Mary, Mother of Light, Leithfield.

Read more about these sites here: https://cdoc.nz/news-events/jubilee-year-pilgrimage-sites-announced

A Eucharistic procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi (Sunday 22nd June) is being organised.

Following the successful one day Prayer Conference held in 2024, a further Conference is planned for August 2025.

A Northland pilgrimage to significant sites of our Catholic Faith in Aotearoa.

There will be a concerted effort to invite people to undertake volunteer prison visiting ministry.

A small prayer book will be developed entitled "Pilgrimage of Hope"

A programme called Exodus will be offered during Lent, inviting men to prayer, fraternity and practise of disciplines.

NOTICES

Opening of the Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

Bishop Michael will open the Jubilee Year for our diocese with Mass on **Sunday 26th January, 4pm at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral.** For more information about the Jubilee visit https://cdoc.nz/jubilee or contact Mike Stopforth, Bishop's Pastoral Office, mstopforth@cdoc.nz