



23 MARCH 2025 - 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C

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
(Every Sunday)**Weekday Masses**Monday - Friday
8:30am AmberleyTuesday - Saturday
12pm The Beatitudes,
Leithfield**Adoration
& Reconciliation****1st Friday of the month
from 7:30am**Confession by Appointment
or
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**BEARING FRUIT**

In today's gospel, Jesus tells us about the parable of the fig tree that was fruitless. But instead of cutting it down right away, the gardener suggested that they wait for another year, cultivate the ground and fertilise it, so that the tree may bear fruit in the future. Our God is a God who waits, who gives us all the chances to live fruitful lives. Let us not keep the Lord waiting, for He is also a God to whom, sooner or later, we will make our final accounting.

Are you living a fruitful life?

Or are you like the fig tree, merely occupying space and exhausting the soil? To whom much is given, much is also required. Let us make sure that we do not spend our lives getting all and having all, giving nothing and leaving nothing behind. When we reach our sunset years, may we not be filled with regrets that we had lived an empty, meaningless, and fruitless life.

"If you do not repent, you will perish." The Lord tells us today that without true repentance, there can be no true living and no fruit-bearing. "Have mercy on me, oh God, I am a sinner." Unless and until we have deeply experienced the reality of being a sinner and being forgiven, we may end up living mediocre and calculated lives, filled with complacency, conceit, and spiritual pride. Repentance is the fertile ground where true living and real loving really begins.

Think about this for Lent: *"The more we are humble, the less we tumble; the less our ego needs praise; and the more our spirit receives grace."*

Lord, remind me that life is not so much about getting as giving and fruit-bearing. Amen.

March 19th 2025**Hurunui Parish consecration to
St Joseph after the 7pm Mass.**

Thank you to Fr Rex for the Mass, Robert for the music, and all who participated in the 33 day consecration journey using Fr Don Calloway's book.

Thank you to St Joseph for the many blessings you have brought and continue to bring to us each day.



From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 263

After the Consecration: "The fruit of consecration to St Joseph is for you to resemble your spiritual father and become Joseph-like in virtue".

There are some helpful suggestions for all of us on this page of the book.

To all who participated well done and thank you; those who missed the opportunity- the books are here in the parish to be used by anyone at anytime.

Request from St VINCENT de PAUL

We are desperately looking for staple pantry and bathroom items to help our less fortunate families. Please remember them when you are shopping.

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8,13-15

'I AM has sent me to you'

Psalms 102(103):1-4,6-8,11

The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12

The life of the people under Moses in the desert
was written down to be a lesson for us

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

'Leave the fig tree one more year'

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

842 Come back to me

607 Let all mortal Flesh

846 Amazing grace

229 All glory Lord and honour

LIGHT of FAITH

Are acts of repentance appropriate on other days during Lent?

Yes. The Code of Canon Law states, "All Fridays through the year and the time of Lent are penitential days and time throughout the universal Church" (CIC 1250).

Why are acts of repentance appropriate at this time of year?

Because it is the time leading up to the commemoration of our Lord's death for our sins and the commemoration of his resurrection for our salvation. It is thus especially appropriate to mourn the sins for which he died. Humans have an innate psychological need to mourn tragedies, and our sins are tragedies of the greatest sort.

What are appropriate activities for ordinary days during Lent?

Giving up something we enjoy, engaging in physical or spiritual acts of mercy for others, prayer, fasting, abstinence, going to confession, and other acts expressing repentance in general.

VISITA IGLESIA AND PILGRIMAGE TO AKAROA - 30th MARCH - 4th SUNDAY of LENT

8:30 AM: MASS at Amberley (starting point of Pilgrimage)

Churches to be visited (Prayer Stations)

1st Station: The Church of the Holy Passion of the Lord, 138A Carters Road, Amberley

2nd Station: The Sanctuary of Fourviere, at the Beatitudes Community, 67 Leithfield Road, Leithfield

3rd Station: St. Bede's College Chapel, 210 Main North Road, Papanui, Christchurch

4th Station: St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, 373 Manchester St., Christchurch

5th Station: Our Lady of Victories Church, 106 Main South Road, Sockburn

6th Station: Carmelite Monastery Chapel, 52 Halswell Road, Hoon Hay, Christchurch

7th Station: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 29 Rue Lavaud, Akaroa

Visita Iglesia (Church Visit) - A Roman Catholic Lenten tradition of visiting churches to pray and reflect on Jesus's suffering and sacrifice. This tradition provides believers with an opportunity to deepen their spiritual journey and meditate on the significance of Jesus' sacrifice. (We encourage carpooling)

For more information pls. contact Fr. Rex 0220775318 padrepio1428@gmail.com

NOTICES

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP at the Amberley Church Hall at 5:30 Tuesday 8th April.

All volunteers in the parish are warmly invited to attend this workshop, please mark it on your calendar, and take advantage of the opportunity.

WORKING BEE at the Hawarden Church and grounds Thursday 10th April from 10am.

Calling all able bodied volunteers from Hawarden and beyond to pitch in for a clean up day. There is plenty of scraping/painting/cleaning/gardening to do. So bring a sun hat, tools, lunch and a smile to join in the day, starting at 10am.

Parish Administrator: Fr. Rex Ramos - padrepio1428@gmail.com - 03 319 8730 **Parish Email:** catholichurunui@gmail.com

Parish Treasurer - Secretary : Thomas Peacock - catholichurunuitreasurer@gmail.com - Office Hours Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm