



1 June 2025 - The Ascension of the Lord - 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 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

Reach out

Today is Ascension Sunday. The risen Lord empowers His disciples to become His witnesses. As He is taken up to heaven, He blesses them, and they are filled with joy, praise, and courage. From cowards hiding in the dark and laden with fear, they become vanguards, going out far and wide, proclaiming the Gospel and the Christ.

Nothing and no one can destroy or hinder us if we are clothed with power from on high. Along with the mission from the Lord are the power and protection of the Holy Spirit. As we go about our mission, may we learn to rely more on God's power and less on our own. God is faithful to His promise. He will provide.

Today is also World Communications Day. Along with the Ascension is the mission to "go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all creation." This mission is now carried out, far and wide, through the media and social communications. The teachings of Christ are now available in print, on radio and television, and in social networks. But that which can promote justice, peace, and understanding can also be used to malign, destroy, and spread lies.

Apart from world communication, there is a lot of communicating to be done at the personal level. A lot of problems and issues can be resolved, a lot of things can be clarified, if we are open to dialogue. All this can happen if we take the time and effort to open up and reach out to each other. By all means, let's communicate. By every means, let's communicate! Yes, let's reach out!

The Ascension was a goodbye. It was a glorious moment, but it was also a sorrowful moment. We all have our painful and sorrowful moments. Let us take courage in what our Lord said: "Truly I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy." (Jn. 16, 20)

Sharing with you this meaningful prayer: "Lord, teach me to be patient with my trials. Let me not settle with easy answers and quick results, but wait for the fruits that come from trusting in You." Amen.

Lord, help me to reach out to You and to others no matter what. Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Jesus was lifted up while they looked on

Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9

*God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord*

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:17-23

God made him sit at his right hand in heaven

GOSPEL: Luke 24:46-53

He withdrew from them
and was carried up into heaven

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

282 Sing to the Mountains

605 Blessed are you Lord

633 I am the Bread of life

Good Shepherd Parish Hymn

Tax Donation Receipts.

A printed copy of your Tax Donation Receipt for the financial year ended 31st March 2025 is now available for you to pick-up at the back of your church. If you want a copy to be emailed to you, please send your request at catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com

CENSUS SUNDAY follow up last chance:

For those of you that weren't able to fill in a census card after Mass the last two weeks- we have another chance this week. There is one card to be completed for each household, not matter if you have been here all your life or if you have just arrived. It has name, address and basic details about you and children; this helps us plan for sacramental programs in the future. It also has the various activities you may wish to be part of- so please tick any boxes that interest you. Phase two of the Planned Giving exercise will happen in July once we have collated all of the census responses.

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 70

If you or someone you know is sick, go to St Joseph. Jesus wants you to go to your spiritual father and ask him for help and healing. It's up to God whether or not a physical healing will be given, but it doesn't hurt to ask. St Joseph Hope of the Sick, pray for us.

(1 – MINUTE CATECHESIS) The First Commandment – Part I (CCC 2083-2141)

The First Commandment is: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them." Ex. 20:2-5.

We believe in God and worship Him alone. We accept His words and authority, have complete faith in Him, and bear witness to Him. The First Commandment embraces the three theological virtues: Faith, hope, and charity (love).

Faith helps us believe in God and fuels our moral life. We should nourish and guard our faith and reject everything opposed to it.

As baptised Catholics, we sin against faith by:

- 1) voluntarily and willingly doubting it and persisting in that doubt;
- 2) incredulity, which means neglecting or will-fully refusing to accept our faith;
- 3) heresy, which means rejecting, or stubbornly doubting, a truth of our faith;
- 4) apostasy, which means leaving the Catholic faith; or
- 5) schism, which means refusing to submit to the authority God vested in the Church and the Pope.

Hope is the confident expectation that we will be blessed by God and behold Him in heaven. It is also the fear of offending Him.

We sin against hope through:

- 1) despair, which means one stops hoping for salvation, God's forgiveness, or His help, and
- 2) presumption, which means believing one can save one's self without God's help or confidently assuming one will receive the benefit of God's power and mercy without changing one's heart.

Charity requires us to love God above all things and to love our neighbour out of love for God.

We sin against charity through:

- 1) indifference;
- 2) ingratitude;
- 3) lukewarmness; (
- 4) acedia, which means spiritual laziness, refusing the joy that comes from God, or being repelled by His goodness; and
- 5) hatred of God, which means the prideful rejection of God because He forbids sin and imposes punishments for sin.

Reflect: God understands how difficult it can be for us to follow His Commandments. Never despair when you fall short (we all do)! Humbly acknowledge that you have fallen short, be truly sorry, resolve to be better, and receive God's absolution in the sacrament of reconciliation. Reconciliation can be thought of as spiritual healthcare. We cannot be healed until we go in and confess. And just remember the sweet relief you feel after you receive absolution and perform your penance.