



18 May 2025 - 5th Sunday of Easter - Year

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

Just keep on loving

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.

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.

Loving one another means not hurting them, not making life more difficult for them. Life is difficult enough, so let us not add more to our neighbour's struggles and problems. Forgive us Lord for the times we hurt other people, and we do not share enough of our time, talents, and treasures, especially to the poor and the suffering, because of our selfishness and pride.

In the end, may we have little or no regrets that we loved God and people too little, too late because we loved ourselves too much. Let us all help fill the world with love, in any way we can, while we still can!

"People who love each other fully and truly are the happiest people in the world. They may have little, they may have nothing, but they are happy people. Everything depends on how we love one another," (Mother Teresa).

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

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 14:21-27

They gave an account to the church
of all that God had done with them

Psalms 144(145):8-13a

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

SECOND READING: Apocalypse 21:1-5

A vision of the heavenly Jerusalem,
the bride of the Lamb

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

924 Brother Sister

920 A New Commandment

644 Alleluia Sing to Jesus

Good Shepherd Parish Hymn

CENSUS SUNDAY:

This Sunday is "Census Sunday"; and we have forms for everyone to complete at Mass. Please have a pen in your pocket when you come to Mass if you remember, (there will be some spares there if you don't).

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 54

St Joseph never doubted the divinity of Jesus. St Joseph was faithful to Jesus in good times and in bad times, in health and sickness, in riches and poverty...

Imitate the faith and loving trust of St Joseph, Be steadfast, trusting, and intrepid in your faith.

LIGHT of FAITH - The Pope

What is the pope? The pope is the bishop of the Church of Rome, Italy. Because of the importance of Rome, Tradition recognises the pope as the supreme pastor of all Christians.

Why is the Church of Rome so important? For us as Catholics, the authority of our faith must connect to the person of Jesus Christ. Matthew 16:18 reads, "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it." The Church teaches that this passage serves as evidence that Jesus appointed Peter as the leader of the Church. After Jesus rose from the dead, Tradition holds that Peter preached the Gospel in Rome and also became the leader of the Church of Rome. For this reason, the Church of Rome is seen as the principle Church among all the others in the world.

Has there always been a pope? Catholic Tradition tells us there has always been a pope, that is, there has always been a bishop for the Church of Rome. However, the word *pope* was first used to describe this bishop between the years A.D. 65 and A.D. 130.

What does the word *pope* mean? It is derived from the Latin word *pappas*, which means "father."

If Peter was the first pope, who was the second pope? Tradition holds that Peter was the bishop of Rome from A.D. 32 to A.D. 67. The next bishop of Rome was Saint Linus from A.D. 67 to A.D. 76.

How many popes have there been? There have been 267 popes.

Who can be the pope? Any Catholic priest can be elected pope. However, if the man elected pope is not a bishop, he must immediately be ordained a bishop.

What is a cardinal? A cardinal is the bishop of a city significant to the faith development of a particular country. The word *cardinal* means "hinge." Cardinals are the hinges or the key people in the direction of the Church.

Why do we have a pope? With "vicar" as its root, *vicariously* means to act through another. We believe that Christ still acts within and through the Church. This means that Christ acts vicariously through the Church. As the supreme pastor of the Church, the pope is the Vicar of Christ. We believe that Christ ministers to the Church through the pope.

What does *Vicar of Christ* mean? The Church is the Body of Christ. Through Baptism, a person becomes a member of this Body. Each person is a member of the Body just as eyes and ears are members of our own bodies. Of this Body, Christ alone is the head. It is Christ who leads, it is Christ who teaches, and it is Christ who guides. As the supreme shepherd of the Church, Christ leads the Church through the pope.

NOTICES

WAIAU CHURCH has been sold:

We are pleased to inform you that the Waiau church has been sold- the Bishop and new owners have signed up a sale and purchase agreement this week. The church will remain in Waiau and become a private Catholic chapel for a Catholic couple from the coast who will move to the Hurunui and build at Waiau in the future. The chapel can also be used by the Hurunui parish. This is the best outcome we could have hoped for.

SYMBOLON Catholic Education Course going well:

There were 15 people who showed up for the first course run by Dr Robert Loretz in Hawarden parish centre on Thursday 1st May and the sessions continue to go well.

It is a 10 week course run in the evenings, and covers the basics of our rich heritage we have in our Catholic faith. It could be made available in Amberley in the future if the interest is there. Let Fr Rex or the office know if this is something you would be interested in.

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

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