#### 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





**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)

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#### **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

#### Until when?

In today's Gospel (Lk. 18, 1-8), Jesus reminds us about the necessity of unceasing prayer. Yes, a prayer each day keeps the adversary away. How regular is your prayer life? How tenacious and how persistent are you in your prayer? The Lord reminds us today to pray, to pray always and to pray without ceasing.

"Act as if everything depended upon you, and pray as if everything depended upon God." Has there been an instance in your life when all you could do was just to really pray? Have you ever experienced utter helplessness, and all you could do was to surrender everything in God's hands? We don't have to go through desperate moments to pray that way. May we learn to be more trusting in God and more hopeful in our prayer day by day.

Until when should we pray? There are people who have stopped praying because they claim their prayers are not answered anyway, or because they cannot stand the delay. True prayer is surrendering everything to God's will, including the timetable.

Instead of praying, "Lord, I want it, and I want it now," we should learn to pray, "Lord, I want it, but according to your will, according to your plan, according to your wisdom, and in your own sweet time. Amen."

Human as we are, we only see what immediately lies before us. Let us not forget that there is a "big picture," and that God, because He is God, sees not only the micro and the macro of everything. It is not easy to surrender everything to God in prayer. Often, because of lack of trust or because of impatience, we do things according to our own will and according to our own time frame; and, more often than not, we find ourselves in more complications and in deeper trouble than when we first started. May we not have too many regrets later in life, may we not say to ourselves: "If only I obeyed, if only I really listened to God ..."

Today is World Mission Sunday. It is our turn now to share our faith with the world, to dialogue with other faiths and cultures, and discover our commonalities rather than the things or issues that divide us. Yes, let us all do our share in pursuing our mission for God's kingdom, worldwide and creation-wide.

Remember: God answers prayers not "according to the availability of funds." But according to His goodness and wisdom. Let us all be rest assured that God knows what is best for us. All the more reason for us to trust. And remember, in everything that happens, there is a reason, and there is a mission.

Lord, help me to believe and proclaim "until then!" instead of doubting and asking "until when?" Amen.

## FIRST READING: Exodus 17:8-13

As long as Moses kept his arm raised, Israel had the advantage

#### Psalm 120(121)

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

# SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

The man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

The parable of the unjust judge

**From the workshop-** words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 192

As Jesus worked many miracles during his time on earth like the cleansing of the ten lepers, St Joseph is credited with miracles as well.

"On June 7 1660 in Contignac France, St Joseph appeared to a shepherd, spoke to him, and worked miracles and wonders of healing."

# **ADVANCE NOTICE**

Parish Mini Retreat at Hawarden on Saturday 1st of November: All Saints day.

The day starts with Mass at 10am in Hawarden followed by three talks by Dr Robert Loretz on the theme of the Beatitudes and a shared lunch finishing by 4pm.

# Hanmer Springs 1 bedroom flat: next to the church.

Available now at \$350 per week. contact Adrienne 020 40429790

## World Mission Sunday & Mission Month

Pope Pius XI established World Mission Sunday in 1926 to unite the Church in prayer and financial support for mission work, a tradition that continues on the penultimate Sunday in October. It means Mission Sunday on 19th October 2025 is the 99th World Missionary Day.





Pope Francis declared October 2019 as the Extraordinary Missionary Month. It was an intentional expansion of the mission focus beyond just a single day to the entire month of October. 2019 was also a time to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the encyclical <a href="Maximum Illud">Maximum Illud</a> (On the Propagation of Faith throughout the whole world) written by Pope Benedict XV.

# 1 MINUTE CATECHESIS - The Eighth Commandment – Part I (CCC 2464-2513)

The Eighth Commandment is: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour." Ex. 20:16.

The Eighth Commandment forbids misrepresenting the truth to others. God is truth and wills that we live and speak truthfully. God manifested His whole truth in Jesus Christ. Christ calls us to follow and imitate Him. When we refuse to follow God's will and fail to commit ourselves to the truth, we sin against Him. We also act contrary to our nature, which is naturally attracted to the truth, especially religious truth. The beauty of truth leads us to live good, moral lives that are spiritually joyful.

In justice, we owe the truth to one another. Being truthful means being honest but also discrete, meaning we know how to differentiate between what we should say and what we should keep secret. We have the obligation to bear courageous witness to the truth of Jesus Christ and the Gospel. We do this by taking part in the life of the Church and clearly demonstrating our faith through words and actions. Such witness is an act of justice because it makes the truth known to others. The most supreme witness one can give is to accept martyrdom in order to uphold the truth of our faith.

Lying is the most obvious sin against truth. To lie is to speak or act with an intent to deceive a person who has the right to know the truth. A lie injures our relationship with God, the truth, and our neighbour. Jesus condemns lying as the work of the Devil, in whom there is no truth. The seriousness of a lie depends upon the truth it offends, the circumstances, the liar's intentions, and the harm suffered by others. A lie is a grave sin when it does grave injury to the virtues of justice and charity or entails the risk of deadly consequences. Lying is destructive to society because it undermines trust and tears the fabric of our relationships.

Reflect: "Blessed are the clean of heart for they will see God." Matt. 5:8. "Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its Creator." Col. 3:9-10