



26 October 2025 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

## Holy Masses

Saturday Vigil5pm Hanmer Springs  
(Every Saturday)7pm Culverden  
(Every Saturdays)Sunday Mass8.30am Amberley  
(Every Sunday)11am Cheviot  
(1st & 3rd Sundays Only)10.30am Hawarden  
(2nd & 4th Sunday Only)12pm The Beatitudes,  
Leithfield  
(Every Sunday)Weekday MassesMonday - Friday  
8:30am AmberleyTuesday - Saturday  
12pm The Beatitudes,  
Leithfield

## Adoration &amp; 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

## Who's right?

In today's Gospel (Lk. 18, 9-14) Jesus warns us against self-righteousness. People who think of themselves as better or holier than others need to work on Humility. The truth of the matter is, we are all members of the human race; and the bottom line is, we are all sinners in need of God's mercy and redemption.

Here is story about self-righteousness, which I would like to share. A man attending a Mass claimed he was so shocked when the man in front of him lighted a cigarette during the homily, so much so that he almost dropped the beer bottle he was drinking from!

It happens that we are scandalised when others do bad things, but it can also happen that we are doubtful or unbelieving when others do good things. In both instances, knowingly or unknowingly, we are guilty of self-righteousness.

It is wrong to think that going to heaven is a race or a contest. It is doubly wrong for anyone to think that going to heaven is the exclusive right of the righteous. The truth of the matter is that none of us deserves heaven, and that we cannot appropriate heaven with our good deeds. If on earth we can bribe our way through almost anything, not so in heaven. We cannot buy heaven, we cannot claim heaven. What then is the ticket to heaven? Humility. Let us all do our very best, and trust with all Humility in God's mercy and love.

If you look at the lives of the saints, there are no proud saints. Proud and self-sufficient people cannot qualify for the kingdom of God precisely because they are too proud to accept their faults and admit their brokenness. So, along with Humility, the other key we all need in our spiritual life is Honesty. With Humility and Honesty, one can't go wrong.

When was the last time you made a good confession? When was the last time you said to God in all Honesty and with all Humility: "Lord, I am really sorry, have mercy on me, a sinner"? If you have not done that for a long time now, then maybe it is time to do just that, and acknowledge your need for God.

There are two kinds of people who refuse to go back to God in repentance: Those who think of themselves as hopeless sinners and unworthy of God's forgiveness; and those who think of themselves as righteous who don't need God's forgiveness. Be more alarmed of the latter.

All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day remind us of eternity. Some of us get so engrossed with worldly things we forget that eternity is waiting. We all will leave this world someday. We all will go. But, where are we going? From God we came, to God we will go back. Make sure as you journey on, make doubly sure, that to God is where you are heading.

Perhaps if you and I weren't so self-righteous, we could have been more loving of those who have gone ahead of us. Perhaps we could have been more listening, more understanding, more forgiving of them. Let us not wait for death to settle our quarrels and sins. Let us not give up our efforts to let people know they are appreciated and loved while they are still living.

**Lord, help me to focus on Your righteousness, not on my own righteousness or on others' righteousness. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19**

The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds

**Psalm 33(34):2-3,17-19,23***The Lord hears the cry of the poor.***SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18**All there is to come now is the crown  
of righteousness reserved for me**GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14**The tax collector, not the Pharisee, went home  
justified.**HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES***(May vary on the day)***695** Glory and Praise**603** Blessed are you Lord**720** Be still for the presence of the Lord  
Give Thanks

## PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

The month of November, especially All Souls Day (November 2), is a traditional time for visiting graves of loved ones, as the anniversary of death. On the first eight days of November, that is, November 1-8, we may gain a plenary indulgence not for ourselves but for our departed brothers and sisters.

### How do we gain plenary indulgence for our beloved dead?

We may gain plenary indulgence for our beloved dead by fulfilling the following conditions:

1. We visit a cemetery, where the dead members of our family is buried. If it is impossible for us to visit the cemetery where the remains of our beloved dead are laid to rest, we can visit any cemetery.
2. We pray for our beloved dead (e.g. responsory for the dead)
3. We attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. This can be done before or after we have visited a cemetery and prayed for our dead.
4. We pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (e.g. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be)
5. The plenary indulgence applied for our beloved dead can only be gained once a day.

On other days of the year, only partial indulgence for our dead is gained.

### Why do we do all these for our dead?

We offer our prayers, Masses, indulgent acts on their behalf since they can no longer do all these for themselves. We make reparation for the sins and the consequences of the sins our loved ones had committed which they might not have done while they were still alive.

### Why do we say R.I.P. (rest in peace) when we remember and pray for our beloved dead?

When we die we rest from worldly desires and preoccupations. In death, everything stops.

The soul of the dead is restless when it has earthly attachments including sins and its consequences.

So, when we pray "eternal rest grant unto him/her oh Lord...May he/she rest in peace" we entrust the soul of beloved dead to the justice and mercy of God so that He may graciously welcome the soul of His child to His kingdom. In God and with God, there is everlasting peace, life, joy and happiness. This is what we pray for our departed brothers and sisters. This too is what we desire for ourselves at the hour of our death.

**May all the souls in purgatory finally find their rest in heaven with God. Amen**

## Notices

### **ALL SAINTS DAY: Parish Mini Retreat - at Hawarden - Saturday 1st of November.**

The day starts with Mass at 10am. Followed by three talks by Dr Robert Loretz on the theme of the Beatitudes and a shared lunch finishing by 4pm. All welcome - please bring a plate.

### **All SOULS DAY: Sunday 2nd Nov.**

Fr Rex will offer the Mass for the repose of the souls of the departed members of the Hurunui parishioners families.

**MASS FOR ALL SOULS In the month of November.** A Box will be placed for you to inscribe and place the names of your dearly departed will be placed in three churches, Hanmer Springs, Culverden & Amberley. Masses will be offered for them for the happy repose of their souls. *If you want specific Mass intentions to be offered, please give it to Fr Rex directly and not placed in the box.* Please, do not encourage the celebration of Halloween amongst our youth. It may lead to warp ideas of the dead and loss of our tradition to pray for them.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** *Offering a Mass is a beautiful way to place our intentions, and those of our loved ones before Jesus. A Mass offering can be for oneself, a love one, a sick person, or a soul in purgatory. Masses can also be offered on special occasions - birthdays, wedding or baptism anniversaries or just as a gesture of love!*

Mass Intention Envelopes are available in the church foyers. Alternatively you can use a blank envelope and write the name of the person and the intention on it. All envelopes can be placed in the collection baskets at Mass. The expected donation for a Mass offering is \$10 or \$100 for a novena of Masses.