



23 November 2025 - Christ the King - Solemnity - 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

## KING OF HEARTS

The solemnity of Christ the King is the last Sunday in the liturgical year of the Church. Although we customarily open the New Year on January 1, in the Church, a new year begins with the first Sunday of Advent. We have had 52 Sundays behind us. Fifty-two straight Sundays, as there are also fifty-two cards in every deck of cards. Today, the fifty-second Sunday of one year, let us meditate together on the mystery of the message of Christ as our king.

A deck of cards carries several images of a king.

The first image is the king of clubs. A club is an extension of a violent hand. A club is an extension of a hostile man. Christ cannot be king of clubs because Jesus is not here to sow violence. Jesus is not here for hostility. Jesus is here as a king of peace. Jesus is here, gentle and humble of heart, not to sow enmity among us. Jesus is here so that all may be brothers and sisters to one another.

Neither can Jesus be king of spades. A spade is used to throw dirt. Jesus is not here to make our lives dirty. Jesus is here to cleanse us from everything that defiles us. Jesus is not the king of spades because Jesus is not in the grave. Jesus is risen from the dead. Jesus is not king of spades because the business of Jesus is not to make other people dirty, to make people look at the grave dug by spades. The business of Jesus is to give hope and purity to us.

Jesus cannot be king of diamonds for He came to bless our poverty. Jesus came to bless our pains and our aches. Jesus is not here to make our lives easier and more comfortable. Jesus is here to give meaning and purpose to our crosses and pains and trials.

If Jesus is neither king of clubs, spades and diamonds, he can only be king of hearts. Jesus is that kind of king. Jesus is king of the universe, but Jesus cannot be king of the universe unless He is king of hearts.

If Jesus is truly our king, therefore, there can be no Christians who are Christians of spade. Let us just stop our gossiping, our intrigues, our destruction of one another. Jesus cannot be king of clubs. Let us just stop our intention to take revenge. Let us stop our intention to get even with those who have hurt us.

Jesus cannot be king of diamonds. As Christians we should see the blessing and meaning in our poverty, in our cross, in our pain.

The solemnity of Christ the king will be an empty day and pass like an ordinary Sunday unless Jesus is first born in our hearts. Let us check our hearts and see if Jesus is indeed there.

**Lord, help us to become servants with a heart like You, our King with a heart. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 5:1-3**

They anointed David king of Israel

**Psalms 121(122):1-5***Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.***SECOND READING: Colossians 1:12-20**The Father has created a place for us  
in the kingdom of the Son that he loves**GOSPEL: John 2:13-22**

Today you will be with me in paradise

**HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES***(May vary on the day)***706** Praise to the Holiest**601** Praise to the Lord the Almighty**660** Godhead here in hiding**347** O purest of Creatures

## PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We have been called Pilgrims of Hope for this Holy Year 2025.

### What does it mean to be a Pilgrim?

A Pilgrim is not a tourist. A Pilgrim has a destination. The starting point is the Lord, and our ending point is the Lord and our companion is the Lord. A pilgrimage is a holy journey, and it is a journey step by step done with God as our companion. God walks with us and His name is Emmanuel. When we reach our Pilgrim end, we know that it is the Lord holding out His hand to welcome us. Life is a pilgrimage. Don't forget you have a faithful companion and that is the Lord.

### How to receive Plenary Indulgence

A plenary indulgence during the 2025 Jubilee Year is a grace from the Catholic Church that removes temporal punishment for sin.

The indulgence applies to sins already forgiven. A plenary indulgence cleanses the soul as if the person had just been baptised

### How to obtain a Plenary Indulgence

- Be detached from sin: Avoid sin, even venial sin
- Sacramental Confession. Confess your sins
- Receive Communion: Receive Holy Communion
- Pray for the Pope: Pray for the Pope's intentions
- Make a pilgrimage: Visit a major Papal Basilica or a church designated by the local Bishop.

The designated pilgrimage sites for our diocese are:

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch.

St Patrick's Church, Akaroa

The St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Catholic Parish of Opihi, Temuka.

Sanctuary of Fourviere & Shrine of Mary, Mother of Light, Leithfield.

- Perform an act of mercy: Help the sick, disabled, or poor, or volunteer in your community
- Fast: Abstain from "futile distractions" like social media or television
- Donate: Help the poor
- Support religious works: Support religious or social works, especially those that defend life

### Benefits of a plenary indulgence

Cleanses the soul as if the person had just been baptised

Can be applied to souls in purgatory

Allows people to discover God's mercy

Opens hearts and minds to the need to forgive others

## Notices

**MASS TIMES - Fr Rex is away.**

**Saturday 22nd November**

5pm Hanmer: Fr Alister

7pm Culverden: Fr Alister

**Sunday 23rd November**

8:30am Amberley: Fr Larris

10:30am Hawarden: Fr Larris

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE WALK: Sunday November 30th.**

Amberley (after 8:30 Mass) to Leithfield. More details and info displayed on your church board.

**Fr Rex:**

- The 2025 Advent Novena will be from 14 to 22 December, in Culverden.
- On the Feast of the Good Shepherd 2026 confirmations with the bishop presiding on April 26th.