



18 January 2026 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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 AmberleyTuesday - 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**Do you always crave for attention and recognition?**

Whether we admit it or not, there are times that we gloat about ourselves and we crave to be recognised. This is one of our human frailties to raise ourselves in the altar of prominence most especially when we gain something for ourselves. Or when there is an opportunity for us to be recognised we immediately grab that fleeting moment of opportunity.

There are even some who change with time; for example in friendship some are like weather conditions. They often change as they gain riches and higher life status. But least we forget that whatever we have now is temporary. Someday or even sooner what we have now may be taken from us and we end up with nothing.

So let us keep our feet on the ground, let us at all times follow the humble path of John the Baptist so that we could become effective heralds for Jesus. Let us share Jesus if not in our words we do it through our actions. Many do not know Jesus because we don't live the teachings of Jesus.

John lived to the hilt the teachings of Jesus, he did not compete with Jesus for attention. He instead let Jesus shine not minding if some of his followers left him for Jesus. Why? For the simple reason that John was so secure in His role as the precursor for the messiah.

Insecurity was never in the bones of John, he let Jesus bloom as he silently did his role outside of the fleeting lights of recognition.

"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." The presence or absence of humility can make or break a person's life, mission, and ministry.

If John the Baptist had illusions of greatness and had issues about his role and identity, then the work of salvation could have been delayed, hampered, or all together derailed. May we not be stumbling blocks to God's plans in our lives, and in other peoples' lives. May God grant us the grace to learn when to stand our ground, and when to step aside so that others can pass. And may God grant us the wisdom and the willingness to do so. We all have our opinions, but we don't have to be highly opinionated. Again, we have to learn the art of listening to others, and stepping aside when necessary, for the sake of the greater good.

We still have much to learn from John the Baptist whose only agenda was to be a herald, a messenger of the Lord. Let us imitate his honesty to make sure that we are not preaching ourselves; and his humility, to make sure that we are not carrying out our personal agenda.

Lord, teach me to learn when to step aside so that others may pass. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION for 2026**Enrolment closing Sunday 1st March 2026**

The Hurunui Parish of the Good Shepherd will be offering to prepare candidates to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Michael Gielen will be administering the Sacrament at the 10:30am Mass in Hawarden on Sunday 26th April 2026.
(*Good Shepherd Sunday, Hurunui patronal feast day*)



FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:3,5-6

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth

Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace

GOSPEL: John 1:29-34

'Look: there is the Lamb of God'

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

864 God's Spirit is in my Heart

768 Our God Reigns

660 Godhead here in hiding

340 My Soul Proclaims

LIGHT OF FAITH**Why does the Sacrament of the Eucharist have so many names?**

The Eucharist, one of the seven sacraments, is called by many names because a single name cannot exhaust the richness and meaning of this Sacrament. Each name presents to us a certain aspect of this Sacrament. Knowing therefore all the names of this Sacrament instituted by Christ at the Last Supper will give us a deeper understanding and appreciation of it.

The most common term for the Eucharist is the **Mass or Holy Mass**. We call the Eucharist Mass because at the end of the celebration we are all sent forth to fulfil God's will in our daily lives. Missa (mass) comes from Latin word, missio).

The Holy Mass is termed **Eucharist** because it is an action of thanksgiving to God for all his blessings. Eucharist is derived from the Greek term eucharistein, eucaristia which means **thanksgiving**.

The Holy Mass is referred to as the **Lord's Supper**, because of its connection with the supper, which the Lord took with his apostles on the eve of His passion.

The Breaking of the Bread is another name of the Eucharist because Jesus used this rite, when as master of the table he blessed and distributed bread and above all at the Last Supper. It is the by the Breaking of the Bread that His disciples will recognise the Lord after His resurrection.

Eucharistic assembly is another term for the Mass because the Eucharist is celebrated amid the assembly of the faithful, the visible expression of the Church.

The Mass is the **Memorial of the passion**, death and resurrection. In the celebration of the Mass, we commemorate or remember Jesus, His words and His actions.

The Mass is the **Holy Sacrifice** because it makes present sacramentally the one sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

The Mass is the **Holy and Divine Liturgy** because the Church's whole liturgy finds its centre in the celebration of these Sacred Mysteries. In this holy and divine liturgy, we celebrate the mysteries of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We speak of the Eucharist as the **Most Blessed Sacrament** because it is the Sacrament of sacraments. It is the Sacrament of the sacraments because in partaking of Holy Communion we receive not just grace which each sacrament gives but the giver of grace Himself, Jesus. The consecrated hosts reserved in the tabernacle are designated by the name of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The Eucharist is called **Holy Communion** because by this Sacrament we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ.

We also call the Eucharist the **Holy Things** for they are truly and substantially the Body and Blood of our saviour, the Son of God. Finally, the Eucharist is also referred to as the Bread of Angels, Bread from heaven, medicine of immortality and viaticum (food of the dying person on the way to heaven)

(See Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1328)

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 141

Just as Jesus was chosen to be the Saviour of the world, St Joseph was chosen by God to be the protector of the child Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary. "the angel reassured Joseph that God had chosen him to take the child and his mother into his home..."Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home (Mt 1:20)".