



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)

The Beatitudes, Leithfield
11am - Every Sunday

Weekday Masses

Amberley
Mon - Fri: 8:30am

The Beatitudes, Leithfield
Mon & Thurs: 6pm
Other week-days: 12pm



Adoration & Reconciliation

Amberley

1st Friday of the month
from 7:30am

Confession by Appointment
or before Mass



Amberley Church Hall

Rosary

Wednesday 1:30pm

Kalavale

Parish's cup of tea & raffles
1st Sunday of the Month.

St Joseph Men's Group

2nd & 4th Monday 7pm-9pm

"From Doubt to Divine Mercy"

On this beautiful feast of Divine Mercy, we are invited to reflect on one powerful truth:
Jesus meets us even in our doubt with mercy.

In this Sunday gospel (John 20:19-31) we remember Thomas, the apostle who struggled to believe. When the others said, "We have seen the Lord," Thomas could not accept it. He said he needed to see and touch the wounds of Jesus. Many of us are like Thomas. We doubt. We question. We struggle to believe, especially when life is hard, when prayers seem unanswered, or when the world is full of pain.

But what does Jesus do? He does not reject Thomas. He does not scold him harshly. Instead, Jesus comes back—specifically for him. He shows His wounds. He invites Thomas to touch His side. This is Divine Mercy in action. Jesus understands our weakness. He comes close, not to punish, but to heal and to strengthen our faith.

Divine Mercy means that God never gives up on us. Even when our faith is weak, His love is strong. Even when we doubt, He still seeks us. The wounds of Jesus are not signs of defeat—they are signs of love. They remind us that Jesus knows our pain and carries it with us.

Like Thomas, we are called to move from doubt to faith. After encountering Jesus, Thomas makes one of the most beautiful professions of faith: "My Lord and my God!" This is the journey of Divine Mercy—from doubt to trust, from fear to faith.

Today, Jesus also comes to us. He says, "Peace be with you." He invites us to trust in His mercy, even when we do not fully understand.

Question for reflection:

What is one doubt or struggle in my life that I need to bring to Jesus and trust in His Divine Mercy?

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 21

St Joseph wants you to be docile to the directions of the Holy Spirit so that you can be lead in the ways of holiness.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common

Psalms 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

You did not see Christ, yet you love him

John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came again and stood among them

**HYMNS for SUNDAY
MASSES**

(May vary on the day)

- 267: Christ is risen today
- 603 Blessed are you Lord
- 832 One bread one body
the Good Shepherd Hymn

Parish Council Meeting 02 April 2026 at Hawarden.

1. April 26 Confirmation and pic-nic arrangements
2. Rosemary Banks talks to the PC about her role as director of the Cathedral fundraising for the Hurunui
3. Outreach- thoughts and ideas discussed
4. St Roch's retreat SRR and St Raphael's parish centre rental SRPC can now be promoted throughout the diocese
5. Maintenance- the Hawarden church has a new coat of paint

Q: What is a Catholic patronal feast?

A: It is a special celebration of a patron saint or a title of Jesus or Mary chosen by a parish or community. It honours their life and asks for their help.

Q: What is the Catholic theological significance of celebrating a patronal feast?

A: It has deep meaning in our faith, and it is supported by the teachings of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*:

Spiritual connection: The patron is our protector and intercessor. The Catechism teaches that the saints continue to care for us and present our prayers to God (CCC 956).

Communion of Saints: We believe that the Church is one—on earth, in purgatory, and in heaven (CCC 954–959). We are one family with the saints.

God is present in the liturgy: The Catechism teaches that the liturgy is the work of Christ and His Church, where we truly meet God (CCC 1069–1070).

Call to holiness: All the faithful are called to holiness and perfection in love (CCC 2013–2014). The saints show us how to live this call.

Identity and mission: The Church exists to continue the mission of Christ in the world (CCC 849–851). The patron helps guide this mission.

Q: Why is the celebration important for the community?

A: It builds unity and belonging. The Catechism teaches that the Church is a communion of believers united in Christ (CCC 787–790). Celebrating together strengthens this unity.

Q: How does the feast help us grow in faith?

A: It is a time for learning and reflection. The Catechism encourages us to learn from the lives of the saints who are examples of faith and charity (CCC 2030).

Q: What role do culture and tradition play in the feast?

A: Cultural celebrations express faith in daily life. The Catechism says that popular devotions and traditions can help deepen faith when they are in harmony with the Church (CCC 1674–1676).

Q: Why do we ask for the saint's intercession?

A: Because the saints are united with Christ and can pray for us. The Catechism clearly teaches that their intercession is powerful and helpful (CCC 956).

Q: What are the practical applications in daily life?

A: Imitate the saint: Live a life of love and service.

Pray more: Join the liturgy and pray daily.

Build unity: Help, forgive, and care for others.

Renew your faith: Live your mission as a Christian every day.

Q: What is the main message of a patronal feast?

A: God is near, the saints pray for us, and we are called to live holy and loving lives every day.

NOTICES

Parish Feast Day Invitation

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Parish warmly invites you and your family to join us in celebrating our **Parish Feast Day on Sunday 26th April 2026**.

The celebration will begin with a **Holy Mass at 10:30am**, to be presided over by **Bishop Michael Gielen**.

During the Mass, we will also witness the beautiful celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

After the Mass, everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a **Parish Picnic**. Lunch will be provided, and we kindly ask you to bring a plate to share as a sign of our unity and generosity.

There will be only one Mass on this day.

All parishioners are encouraged to come together and attend the celebration at **Hawarden**.

For those who may have difficulty with transportation, we are happy to help. If you need a ride, please **signify your name on or before April 21**, and we will do our best to arrange transportation for you. Kindly let us know.

Let us come together as one family in faith to celebrate this joyful occasion. We look forward to seeing you all!

God bless.

Fr. Rex

Parish call

For the picnic shared lunch after the Mass on the 26th April, we need disposable cutlery sets: plates, glasses, forks, knife and spoons etc... for 300 people. We warmly invite those who can to donate towards it. Please put the word "cutlery" as reference on your payment. Thank you very much. Fr Rex Ramos.