



24 May 2026 - Pentecost - 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)

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

Every Thursday 7pm  
1st Friday / month 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

**"Peace, Power, and Purpose: The Gift of Pentecost"**

Dear brothers and sisters of our Hurunui Parish family, on this Feast of Pentecost, I write to you today from the beautiful and remote Chatham Islands. Though I am physically away from you, I carry you in my prayers and in my heart. Across the distance, we remain united as one family of faith through Christ, His Word, and the Holy Spirit.

Today's Gospel (John 20:19-23) begins with the disciples hiding behind locked doors. They were afraid, uncertain, and anxious about the future. Jesus had died, and they did not know what would happen next. Fear had closed not only the doors of the room but also the doors of their hearts.

Yet something beautiful happens. Jesus enters despite the locked doors and says, "Peace be with you." He does not begin with blame. He does not say, "Why did you abandon me?" Instead, He offers peace.

This is the first gift of Pentecost: **peace**.

How often do we also live behind locked doors? Some among us may carry worries about family, health, work, finances, loneliness, grief, or uncertainty about the future. Even in our beautiful Hurunui communities, hearts can quietly carry burdens unseen by others. Jesus comes to us today as He came to the disciples and gently says, "Peace be with you." His peace is not the absence of struggles but the assurance that He walks with us in the middle of them.

Being here in the Chatham Islands has deepened this Gospel for me. I have met Catholics living in a remote place where access to the sacraments is limited and where a priest may only come a few times each year. Yet despite the distance and challenges, there is a deep hunger for God—a longing for the Word, for prayer, and especially for the Eucharist. It reminded me of something we sometimes forget: what is always available to us can easily be taken for granted.

When Catholics here gather, there is joy and gratitude because they hunger for Christ. Their witness asks us an important question: *Do we hunger for Jesus with the same desire?* Do we treasure Sunday Mass, prayer, and the gift of community?

The second gift of Pentecost is **power**.

Jesus breathed on the disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Those frightened men became courageous witnesses. The Holy Spirit transformed fear into faith and weakness into courage. In our parish life, when we feel tired, discouraged, or stretched, the Spirit strengthens us to continue—to forgive, to pray, to serve, and to love.

The third gift is **purpose**.

Jesus says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Faith is not meant to stay inside church walls. Mission happens in ordinary ways: checking on a neighbour, comforting someone grieving, helping at parish events, encouraging a struggling friend, or simply showing kindness.

Dear Hurunui parishioners, even from the Chatham Islands, I want to remind you: Jesus still enters locked doors. He still says, "Peace be with you." He still breathes His Spirit upon us and sends us into the world with renewed hope.

**Practical Reflection Question:**

*What "locked door" in my life—fear, resentment, worry, loneliness, or complacency—am I being invited to open so that the Holy Spirit may bring peace, courage, and a deeper hunger for Christ?*

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-11**

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

**Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34**

*Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.*

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13**

In the one Spirit we were all baptised

**John 20:19-23**

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

**HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES**

*(May vary on the day)*

**276:** Come Holy Ghost

**609:** in bread we bring you

**865** Here I am Lord

**864** God's Spirit is in my Heart

**From the workshop-** words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 22

Through consecration to St Joseph, the Holy Spirit will recognise St Joseph in you and pour extraordinary graces into your heart mind and soul. You can be a saint! Ask the Holy Spirit to make you another St Joseph.

**One Minute Catechesis - Catholic Teaching on Pentecost and the Holy Spirit**

**1. What is Pentecost in the Catholic Church?**

Pentecost is the feast that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, fifty days after Easter. It is considered the birth of the Church because the disciples, strengthened by the Holy Spirit, began courageously preaching the Gospel after being fearful and hiding (Acts 2:1-4).

**2. What does the Catechism of the Catholic Church teach about Pentecost?**

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that Pentecost reveals the mission of the Holy Spirit in the Church. Through Pentecost, Christ pours out the Holy Spirit upon His followers to sanctify, guide, and strengthen them in continuing His mission in the world (CCC 731-732).

**3. Who is the Holy Spirit?**

The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives in the hearts of believers, helping them grow in holiness, prayer, truth, and love.

**4. What gifts does the Holy Spirit give to Catholics?**

The Holy Spirit gives seven gifts: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These gifts are received especially through Baptism and strengthened in Confirmation to help Catholics live faithful and holy lives (CCC 1830-1831).

**5. How does the Holy Spirit help us in daily life?**

The Holy Spirit helps us pray, guides our decisions, strengthens us during difficulties, and inspires us to live with love, patience, kindness, and self-control (CCC 1832). He gives courage to forgive, wisdom to choose what is right, and peace during times of fear or worry.

**6. What is a practical way to live Pentecost every day?**

A practical way is to invite the Holy Spirit into daily life through prayer. Before beginning the day, we can pray: "Come, Holy Spirit, guide me today." By listening to the Spirit, we become more patient at home, kinder to others, stronger in struggles, and joyful witnesses of Christ in our families, workplaces, and parish communities.

**Notices**

**Amberley - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: every Thursday evening between 7 to 8pm.**

Please take this as a personal invitation to spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

As he said "He will be with us always even to the end of time"

**Hurunui Ministers Association: Combined Pentecost Service:**

'They were all with one accord in one place.' (Acts 2:1)

**Sunday 24th May 2026 5-6pm followed by a cup of tea (please bring a plate)**

Chapel of the Beatitudes Community 67 Leithfield Road, Leithfield

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