



21 June 2026 - 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 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

"Do Not Be Afraid: Trust God, Stand Firm, Stay Faithful"

Today, all three readings give us **one inspirational message: When life becomes difficult, do not be afraid, because God is with you.**

We all know that life is not always easy. Even here in beautiful **Hurunui**, many families carry silent struggles. Some worry about work. Some struggle with family problems. Some feel lonely. Some are carrying pain that nobody sees. Today, God speaks to all of us: **"Do not be afraid."**

In the **First Reading**, the prophet **Jeremiah** was suffering. People were against him. They wanted him to fail. He felt surrounded by enemies. But Jeremiah did not give up. Why? Because he trusted God. Even in fear, he said: *"The Lord is with me like a mighty champion."*

Sometimes we also feel like Jeremiah. People criticise us. Others misunderstand us. Life becomes heavy. But faith means remembering: **God never abandons His people.**

In the **Second Reading**, **Saint Paul** reminds us that sin entered the world through Adam, but something greater came through Jesus Christ — **grace**. Sin brings darkness, but Jesus brings life. We all make mistakes. We all fall. But God's mercy is always bigger than our failures.

This means our past does not define us. God's grace can change us. No matter what burden we carry, Jesus says: *"My love for you is greater than your sin."*

Then in today's **Gospel**, Jesus says again and again: **"Do not be afraid."** Three times He tells His disciples not to fear. Why? Because fear can stop us from living our faith. Sometimes we are afraid to pray in public, afraid to speak about God, afraid to defend what is right, afraid to live as true Christians.

Jesus reminds us: *"Even the hairs of your head are counted."* Imagine that! God knows us completely. If God cares for even the birds in the sky, how much more does He care for you?

So here is the message for all of us today:

Trust God in trials. Like Jeremiah.

Receive God's grace. Like Saint Paul teaches.

Stay faithful without fear. Like Jesus commands.

Brothers and sisters, the world today teaches us to trust money, success, and comfort. But Christ teaches us something better: **Trust God first.**

Remember this simple line today:

"Fear looks at problems. Faith looks at God."

As members of the Good Shepherd Parish, let us walk into this week with courage. Problems may come. Difficult people may come. Suffering may come. But if God is with us, we are never alone. Amen.

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 49

"St Joseph was courageous and fearless. He feared nothing other than offending God and exercised tremendous fortitude in his protection of Jesus and Mary."

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:10-13

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

Psalm

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-15

The gift considerably outweighed the fall

Matthew 10:26-33

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

883: Christ be our Light

786: Turn to me

607: Let all Mortal Flesh

824: Awake from your slumber

ONE MINUTE CATECHESIS - Catholic Teaching on Jesus Christ: True God and True Man

Q: Who is Jesus Christ according to Catholic teaching?

According to the Catholic Church, Jesus Christ is both **true God and true man**. The Church teaches that Jesus is not partly God and partly human, but fully divine and fully human at the same time. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that Jesus is the eternal Son of God who became man for our salvation (CCC 464–469). He is one divine Person with two natures: divine and human.

Q: Why is it important that Jesus is true God?

Jesus being true God means He has divine power and authority. He reveals God perfectly, forgives sins, conquers death, and brings salvation. The Catechism teaches that “the Word became flesh” because only God could save humanity completely (CCC 456–460). Since Jesus is God, Catholics trust His teachings and worship Him.

Q: Why is it important that Jesus is true man?

Jesus became truly human so He could fully share in human life. He experienced hunger, tiredness, suffering, friendship, sadness, and even death (CCC 470–478). Because He became human, Jesus understands human struggles and shows people how to live in obedience, love, and holiness.

Q: What is a practical implication in daily life?

Since Jesus is true God and true man, Catholics are called to both **trust Him and imitate Him**. When facing suffering, loneliness, or fear, believers can pray with confidence because Jesus understands human pain. In daily life, Catholics try to follow His example of kindness, forgiveness, humility, and love in family, parish, work, and community life. Jesus is not distant—He walks with His people every day.

Notices

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

Helpers needed

Please consider becoming a volunteer for the following roles in our parish: Greeter, parish working bees, cleaner for church and parish centre, and Lector. Contact Maria 0272167000 if you are able to help. Thank you.

Cathedral Fundraising is now underway; expect to receive a letter on this shortly.

Parish AGM - 23rd June 2026 - AMBERLEY

The Parish AGM will be in the **AMBERLEY church hall from 6pm to 6:30pm**. All Welcome.

Invitation from the Waimakariri Parish: Chervier Centre, Rangiora - Retreat: “Made for more”. All welcomed!

Encounter God in a new way, discover your true identity, and embrace your mission with passion and power.

This retreat unfolds over a series of transformative sessions that include dynamic talks, deep prayer experiences and practical workshops. It is led by Fr. Dominic Sultana, a Catholic priest from Malta, an author and an international speaker who has led numerous retreats and missionary initiatives across Europe, the United States, and Canada over the last 20 years.

Dates and Times: Fri 3rd July 7-9pm; Sat 4th July 9.30am-5pm; Sunday, 5th July 1-6pm

Weekend Cost: \$40/ person. please bring a lunch item on Saturday to share.

To register: Email Juanita Kearns (evangelisation@waimakariricatholic.org.nz)

Parish Priest: Fr. Rex Ramos - padrepio1428@gmail.com - 03 319 8730 **Parish Email:** catholicurunui@gmail.com

Parish Treasurer - Secretary : Thomas Peacock - catholicchurunitreasurer@gmail.com - Office Hours Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm