



PARISH NEWSLETTER

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

AMBERLEY | CHEVIOT | HAWARDEN | CULVERDEN | HANMER SPRINGS
Parish Office: 138A Carters Road, Amberley, PO BOX 143, Amberley 7441
www.catholichurunui.nz



02 August 2026 - 18th 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

CDOC - Catholic Parish of
Hurunui Trust

03-1592-0522332-20
(Westpac)

Jesus Is Enough: Trust the Lord Who Never Stops Providing.

Today's readings give us one beautiful message: **God will never leave us hungry when we trust Him.** He feeds our body, our heart, and our soul.

In the first reading, Isaiah invites everyone: **"Come to the water... come and eat."** God offers His love freely. We do not have to earn it. He welcomes everyone who is thirsty, tired, and broken.

The Responsorial Psalm reminds us: **"The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs."** God knows what we need even before we ask. He may not always give us everything we want, but He always gives what is best for us at the right time.

In the Gospel, Jesus sees a large crowd. They are hungry, but instead of sending them away, He tells the disciples, **"Give them something to eat yourselves."** They only have five loaves and two fish. It seems too little. But when they place their small gift into the hands of Jesus, He blesses it, breaks it, and feeds more than five thousand people. There are even twelve baskets left over. With Jesus, **little becomes more than enough.**

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, **"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."** God does not ask us to have everything. He only asks us to offer what we have.

In the Second reading St. Paul gives us another reason to trust. He says that **nothing can separate us from the love of Christ**—not trouble, suffering, fear, or hardship. When we belong to Jesus, we are never alone.

The challenge for us this week is simple: **Place your "five loaves and two fish" into the hands of Jesus.** It may be your time, your kindness, your prayers, your forgiveness, or your small act of generosity. What seems small to you can become a great blessing in God's hands.

When life feels empty, remember this truth: **Jesus is enough. He feeds the hungry, strengthens the weak, and fills every heart that trusts in Him.** Let us come to Him with confidence, because His love never fails, and His hands are always open to provide for His children.

Reflection Question: *What small gift can I place into the hands of Jesus this week so that He may use it to bless others?*

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 53

"A Christian is called to have faith in Jesus and trust in Him.... St Joseph is a model of faith and trust, He knows who Jesus is and trusts him. St Joseph exercised an active, trusting, and zealous faith."

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-3

Come and eat

Psalm

The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:35,37-39

No created thing can ever come between us
and the love of God made visible in Christ

Matthew 14:13-21

The feeding of the five thousand

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

695: Glory and Praise

603: Blessed are you Lord

832: One bread one body

360: As I kneel

Q: What are the Four Last Things?

A: The Four Last Things are Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell. The Church also teaches about Purgatory, the state of purification for those who die in God's grace but still need cleansing before entering heaven. These truths remind us that our earthly life is a preparation for eternal life (CCC 1020–1060).

Q: What does the Catholic Church teach about death?

A: Death is the end of our earthly life, but it is not the end of our existence. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, death has become the doorway to eternal life for those who believe in Him (CCC 1005–1014).

Q: What happens after death?

A: Immediately after death, every person undergoes the Particular Judgment, where Christ judges each soul according to its faith and deeds (CCC 1021–1022). At the end of time, there will also be the Last Judgment, when Christ will reveal God's justice and mercy before all people (CCC 1038–1041).

Q: What is Heaven?

A: Heaven is eternal happiness with God. It is the perfect fulfilment of our deepest desire, where we see God face to face and share forever in His love and joy (CCC 1023–1029).

Q: What is Hell?

A: Hell is the eternal separation from God chosen by those who freely reject His love and die in mortal sin without repentance (CCC 1033–1037).

Q: What is Purgatory?

A: Purgatory is a temporary state of purification for those who die in God's friendship but still need to be purified before entering heaven (CCC 1030–1032). The faithful on earth can help the souls in Purgatory through prayers, sacrifices, and especially the Holy Mass.

Practical Implication:

Remembering the Last Things encourages us to live each day with faith, hope, and love. We should avoid sin, receive the Sacraments regularly, forgive others, perform works of charity, and pray for the dead. As the saints often reminded us, "**Live each day as if it were your last, and love God above all things.**" When we keep eternity in mind, we make better choices and grow closer to Christ, who desires that all people be saved and share eternal life with Him.

Notices

Prayer Intention: We pray for the quick recovery of our parish priest Fr Rex Ramos from his surgery.

Curious about Catholicism? Look out for the booklets, pamphlets, and prayer cards from the *Catholic Enquiry Centre*, now available at your church.

Prayer Vigil for the unborn - Saturday 8th August from 1:30pm to 2:30pm - Hagley Park.

Mattai Street East Entrance. Bring a rosary, all welcome to attend and pray.

Schedule: Rosary + Divine Mercy Chaplet + Hymns and National Anthem.

A message from Bishop Michael:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is with a heavy heart that following a canonical process conducted by the Bishop of Aberdeen, the Most Rev Hugh Gilbert, I inform you that Fr Michael Mary, formerly Superior of the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer, has been excommunicated from the Catholic Church, dismissed from ecclesiastical office, and prohibited from celebrating Mass or the other sacraments. Furthermore, the religious body known as the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer is no longer recognised as being in communion with the Catholic Church. Accordingly, I urge the faithful of the Diocese of Christchurch to have no dealings with them in matters of faith, worship, or the sacraments. At the same time, we continue to pray for their repentance and reconciliation, trusting in the mercy of God and the Church's desire to welcome all who sincerely seek to return to full communion. The Diocese continues to support those with a particular devotion to the Traditional Latin Mass at Kaiapoi.