



19 July 2026 - 16th 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)

"God Is Patient. Will We Be?"

My dear brothers and sisters,

The three readings today give us one beautiful message: **God is patient because He wants to save us, not destroy us.**

In the first reading from **Wisdom**, we hear that God is powerful, yet He rules with **justice, mercy, and patience**. God does not rush to punish people. Instead, He gives them time to change. His strength is shown not by anger but by mercy.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the **wheat and the weeds**. The servants want to pull out the weeds immediately. But the master says, "Let both grow together until the harvest." Why? Because pulling the weeds too early might also destroy the wheat. Jesus teaches us that God sees what we cannot see. He knows every heart. He gives sinners time to repent and good people time to grow stronger.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that we are not alone. Sometimes we do not know how to pray or what to say. We may feel weak, tired, or confused. But the **Holy Spirit prays within us**. Even when our words fail, God understands the prayers of our hearts.

This message is very important in our daily life. We live in a world where people quickly judge, criticise, and cancel others. Families break because they stop being patient. Friendships end because people refuse to forgive. But Jesus invites us to be different. Instead of judging quickly, let us pray. Instead of giving up on people, let us hope. Instead of hating the weeds, let us help the wheat grow.

St. Francis de Sales wisely said, "**Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself.**" If God is patient with us every day, then we should also be patient with others and with ourselves. God has not finished His work in us yet.

Brothers and sisters, every one of us has both wheat and weeds in our hearts. We all have good qualities and weaknesses. The good news is that God never stops loving us. He patiently works in us through His Word, the Holy Spirit, and the Eucharist so that one day we may become a rich harvest for His Kingdom.

This week, instead of judging or giving up on someone, will I choose God's patience by praying for that person and showing one act of mercy?

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 32

"Satan fears your spiritual father because St Joseph is a humble creature of flesh and blood, the perfect reflection of the Father of Lights... an icon of God the Father."

FIRST READING: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

You will grant repentance after sin

Psalm

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words

Matthew 13:24-43

Let them both grow till the harvest

**HYMNS for SUNDAY
MASSES**

(May vary on the day)

883: Christ be our light

605: Take our Bread

865: I the Lord of sea and sky

721: How great thou art

Catholic Teaching on Sin, Salvation, and Grace

Q: What is sin?

A: Sin is an offence against God. It is a thought, word, action, or failure to act that goes against God's law and His love. Sin damages our relationship with God, with other people, and even with ourselves. The Catechism teaches that sin is "an offence against reason, truth, and right conscience" (CCC 1849). Serious sin, called mortal sin, destroys God's life of grace in the soul, while venial sin weakens our friendship with God (CCC 1854–1863).

Q: What is salvation?

A: Salvation is God's gift of freeing us from sin and giving us eternal life through Jesus Christ. Because of His suffering, death, and Resurrection, Jesus opened the way for us to be reconciled with the Father. The Church teaches that salvation comes from God's grace and is received through faith, the sacraments, and a life of love and obedience to Christ (CCC 1691–1698, 1987–1995).

Q: What is grace?

A: Grace is the free and undeserved gift of God's own life given to us. It helps us believe in Him, avoid sin, and do what is good. Sanctifying grace, first received in Baptism, makes us children of God and strengthens us to live holy lives (CCC 1996–2005). We cannot earn grace; it is a loving gift from God.

Q: How can we live this teaching every day?

A: Every day we are called to avoid sin, trust in Jesus for our salvation, and cooperate with God's grace. We do this by praying daily, reading Scripture, receiving the Eucharist, going regularly to Confession, forgiving others, and practicing acts of charity. When we fall into sin, we should never lose hope. God is always ready to forgive those who sincerely repent. Living in God's grace brings true peace, joy, and the hope of eternal life. As Catholics, we are called not only to receive God's grace but also to share His love and mercy with everyone we meet.

Notices

Adoration: Amberley: every Thursday 7&8pm - other churches: lease see Fr Rex if you are interested.

Sign - welcome to Amberley Catholic Church: we have permission from both Tranzit & HDC for this.

Curious about Catholicism: look out for this in the latest Hot Line.

Homeschoolers Mass with Bishop Michael Gielen: Wed 22nd July at 9:30am Kaiapoi.

All are welcome, including families, grandparents, and friends. Afterward, bring a plate to share and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee together!

Young Men's Youth Group - St Michaels Troops August 8th

Do you long for authentic brotherhood and a space to grow deeper in faith alongside other men? St Michael's Troops is an event for men aged 16-35 seeking strength, discipline, and purpose rooted in Christ. This morning event in Riccarton includes Mass and formation, physical activity, and shared BBQ. Join us, and bring a mate. Register now at fitforthekingdom.com.au

Statement from Bishop Michael regarding St Thomas of Canterbury College.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The recent news that the Christian Brothers are seeking to sell the land and buildings at St Thomas of Canterbury College is a source of deep concern.

For over half a century, St Thomas's has been an integral part of Catholic education in Christchurch. The Diocese gifted to the Christian Brothers the land on which the school sits – a place which has served the education of young men of faith, character and intellect.

As the Catholic Bishop of Christchurch, I have made it clear to the principal, Steve Hart, and to the chair of the school's board that I will stand alongside the college to ensure St Thomas's remains a Catholic college.

That in no way detracts from the responsibility held by the Church and the Christian Brothers to provide reparation to those who have suffered abuse.

I will walk with the school community to achieve the outcome we all desire: the continuation of Catholic education on that site.

+ Michael Gielen, Bishop of Christchurch