



09 August 2026 - 19th 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)

Be Still: God Speaks in the Storm

Today's readings give us one beautiful message: When life is full of storms, stay close to God because He is always with you.

In the first reading (1 Kings 19:9, 11-13), the prophet Elijah was tired, afraid, and wanted to give up. He expected God to appear in a strong wind, an earthquake, or a fire. But God came in a gentle whisper. Elijah learned that God often speaks quietly to hearts that are willing to listen.

In the second reading (Romans 9:1-5), St. Paul shows us a heart full of love. He was deeply saddened because many of his own people did not accept Jesus. Yet he never stopped loving them or praying for them. Paul teaches us that real love never gives up on others.

In the Gospel (Matthew 14:22-33), the disciples were in a boat during a violent storm. They were frightened. Then Jesus came walking on the water and said, "Take courage. It is I. Do not be afraid." Peter walked toward Jesus, but when he looked at the strong wind instead of Jesus, he began to sink. Jesus reached out His hand and saved him.

How often do we do the same? We worry about money, sickness, family problems, loneliness, or the future. We focus on our fears instead of looking at Jesus. But the Lord is saying to us today, "Do not be afraid. Keep your eyes on Me."

St. John Paul II often repeated the words: "Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ." When we trust Jesus, He gives us peace even if the storm around us continues. My dear brothers and sisters, storms are part of life, but they do not have the final word. Jesus does. He is in our boat. He never abandons His people. When we pray, listen to His quiet voice, and keep our eyes fixed on Him, we will find strength and hope.

Reflection Question:

When the storms of life come, do I focus more on my fears, or do I keep my eyes on Jesus who is always with me?

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

"The Holy Spirit wants you to know and love St Joseph. With the exception of Our Lady, the Holy Spirit was more active in St Joseph than any other saint. The earthly father of Jesus never did anything without seeking the direction of the Holy Spirit."

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13

The Lord was not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire

Psalm

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on the water

**HYMNS for SUNDAY
MASSES**

(May vary on the day)

824: Awake from you slumber

609: in bread we bring you

720: Be still for the presence of
the Lord

922: Bind us together

Q: What is the Christian moral life?

A: The Christian moral life is the way we live as followers of Jesus Christ. It is not only about avoiding sin but about loving God and our neighbour in everything we do. Through Baptism, we receive new life in Christ and are called to become holy by following His example (CCC 1691–1698).

Q: What guides Christians in making good moral choices?

A: Christians are guided by the Word of God, the teachings of the Church, a well-formed conscience, and the grace of the Holy Spirit. The Ten Commandments and the teachings of Jesus, especially the commandment to love, are the foundation of Christian morality (CCC 1776–1802; 2052–2557).

Q: Why is conscience important?

A: Conscience is the inner voice that helps us recognise what is good and avoid what is evil. Catholics have the duty to form their conscience through prayer, Scripture, the Catechism, and the teachings of the Church so they can make choices that reflect God's will (CCC 1776–1785).

Q: How does God's grace help us live a moral life?

A: We cannot live a holy life by our own strength alone. God's grace, especially through the Sacraments, gives us the power to resist temptation, grow in virtue, and remain faithful to Christ (CCC 1810–1811; 1996–2005).

Q: What is the practical implication in daily life?

A: Living the Christian moral life means choosing honesty instead of lying, forgiveness instead of revenge, kindness instead of selfishness, and love instead of hatred. It means treating every person with dignity because each one is created in the image of God. At home, at work, at school, or in the community, every decision is an opportunity to show that we belong to Christ. By praying daily, receiving the Eucharist, going to Confession regularly, and following our well-formed conscience, we become living witnesses of God's love. The Christian moral life is not simply following rules—it is becoming more like Jesus every day and helping others encounter His love through our words and actions.

Notices

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.

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

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

CBS CHORAL FESTIVAL - Sunday 9th August at 2.00pm - St Mary's Pro-Cathedral.

All welcome to a free Choral Festival featuring community, church, youth and concert choirs. Visit cdoc.nz/news-events/cbs for more details.

ST JOHN PAUL II CENTRE RACE NIGHT 2026 - Friday 28th August - Addington Raceway.

Join 200+ people from across the Diocese for a lively night at the trots — harness racing, a 2-course dinner, and our famous Priest Punter of the Year competition. Every ticket goes toward our work of helping marriages and families to flourish across the Christchurch Diocese. Book at jp2.org.nz/racenight

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

The New Zealand Bishop's Conference has transferred the celebration of the Feast of the Assumption to the Sunday, 16th August this year.

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