



06 September 2026 - 23rd 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)

"Love Enough to Care"

Today's readings give us one strong message: Christian love means caring enough to help one another become better.

In the first reading, God tells Ezekiel that he is a watchman. A watchman must warn people when danger is coming. If he sees the danger but says nothing, he fails in his duty. In the same way, when we see someone we love doing something wrong, sometimes we must have the courage to speak—not to judge, but to help.

The Gospel gives us a practical way to do this. Jesus says, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone." Notice: Jesus does not say, "Tell everyone." He says, go to him privately.

This is important because sometimes we do the opposite. Someone hurts us, and instead of talking to that person, we talk to everybody else! We tell our friends, our family, even social media. Jesus says: Talk to the person, not about the person.

But how should we correct someone? St. Paul gives us the answer in the second reading: "Love does no wrong to a neighbour." Correction without love becomes criticism. Correction with love becomes an act of mercy.

Sometimes loving means saying, "Brother, sister, I think this is hurting you." Sometimes it means saying, "I am sorry." Sometimes it means forgiving. And sometimes it means listening instead of fighting.

Jesus also reminds us: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." When we come together with love, forgiveness, and prayer, Jesus is present among us.

So, let us not become people who spread problems. Let us become people who heal relationships. Let us not gossip about others. Let us pray for them, speak to them with love, forgive them, and help them return to God.

Our challenge this week is simple: If there is someone with whom you have a problem, take the first step. Pray first, then speak with love.

Reflection Question

Is there someone I need to forgive, speak to, or lovingly help—and what is stopping me from taking the first step?

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord has meant insult for me

Psalm

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.*

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-10

Your only debt should be
the debt of mutual love

Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother listens to you,
you have won back your brother

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

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 41

St Joseph Head of the Holy Family, Pray for us Families around the world will experience a revolution of holiness if husbands imitate St Joseph. His fatherly example shows that strength, authority, and headship are meant to be at the service of others.

ONE MINUTE CATECHESIS - Catholic Teaching: The Authority of the Pope and Bishops to Teach the Faith

Q1. Why do the Pope and bishops have authority to teach the Catholic faith?

A: The authority of the Pope and bishops comes from **Jesus Christ**, not simply from human appointment. Jesus entrusted the apostles with the mission of teaching and guiding His Church. The bishops are the successors of the apostles, and the Pope, as Bishop of Rome and successor of St. Peter, has a special role in preserving the unity and faith of the whole Church. The Catechism teaches that the bishops are "**authentic teachers**" of the apostolic faith and are given the authority of Christ (CCC 888).

Q2. What is the "Magisterium" of the Church?

A: The **Magisterium** is the teaching office of the Church. Its responsibility is to authentically explain and preserve the Word of God contained in **Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition**. The Magisterium is not above God's Word; it is its servant. It faithfully guards, explains, and passes on what Christ entrusted to the apostles (CCC 85-86).

Q3. What exactly do the Pope and bishops teach?

A: In communion with one another, the Pope and bishops teach the faithful **what to believe, how to live, and what to hope for**. The Catechism says they teach "the truth to believe, the charity to practice, the beatitude to hope for" (CCC 2034).

Q4. Does this mean the Pope can teach anything he wants?

A: No. The Pope and bishops are servants of Christ and the Gospel. Their teaching authority is directed toward protecting and explaining the **deposit of faith** handed down by Christ and the apostles. In certain definitive teachings concerning faith and morals, the Church has the charism of **infallibility** (CCC 891).

Q5. What is the practical implication for Catholics?

A: We should not treat the teachings of the Pope and bishops as merely personal opinions. We should **listen, learn, pray, and respond with faith and humility**. In a world where many voices claim to know the truth, Catholics can confidently look to the Church's authentic teaching authority for guidance.

Practical challenge: *Do I sincerely listen to the teaching of the Church, or do I accept only those teachings that agree with my personal opinion?*

Notices

Kalevale: This Sunday cup of tea after Mass and buy a raffle ticket at Amberley.

Adoration of The Most Blessed Sacrament: Amberley, every Thursday 7pm.

Amberley church painting: volunteers needed - between Monday 23 September and Friday 03 October.

We have been given a council grant to hire a platform and paint the church spire. While we do that we will paint the walls as well. If you would like to help contact Steve 027 211 5958.

Advance Notice of activities we did last year and happening again in 2026:

Ecumenical service in Hawarden (Masons Flat) 11 October, to acknowledge the return of spring.

Parish day of reflection at Hawarden Saturday 07 November- All Welcome.

Parish procession Amberley to Beatitudes Sunday 29th November- All Welcome.

WORLD YOUTH DAY APPLICATIONS HAVE OPENED!

Young Adults, now is the time to move for the opportunity of a lifetime - joining with Catholics from all over the Diocese, and the world for an incredible experience. All the information is at www.cyt.org.nz/worldyouthday with applications closing at the end of September.

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