



27 September 2026 - 26th 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



Amberley

Adoration & Reconciliation
Every Thursday 7pm

Culverden

Adoration, Reconciliation & Mass
Every 1st Friday/month 6pm

Confession by Appointment
or before Mass

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

DON'T JUST SAY YES — LIVE YOUR YES

My dear brothers and sisters, today, both the first reading and the Gospel give us one strong message: God is not looking only at what we say. God is looking at what we do.

In the first reading, Ezekiel tells us that if a person turns away from sin and begins to do what is right, that person will live. This prepares us for the Gospel.

Jesus tells us about two sons. The father says to the first son, "Go and work in the vineyard today." The son answers, "I will not." He says No to his father. But later, something happens. He changes his mind. He goes to the vineyard and does what his father asked.

Then the father goes to the second son and says the same thing. The second son answers, "Yes, sir." It sounds like the perfect answer. But he does not go.

So Jesus asks: "Which of the two did his father's will?" The answer is obvious: The first son. Why? Because in the end, his actions showed his obedience.

This is exactly what Ezekiel is teaching us. A person may have made mistakes in the past. A person may have said "No" to God before. But if that person turns around and begins to do what is right, God welcomes that change. On the other hand, we can say many beautiful things about our faith, but if we never put them into action, our words mean very little.

Brothers and sisters, sometimes we are like the two sons. We say, "Yes, Lord, I will forgive." But we continue to hold the anger. We say, "Yes, Lord, I will pray." But we never make time for prayer. We say, "Yes, Lord, I will help." But when someone needs us, we are too busy.

The Gospel reminds us: God wants our "Yes" to become action. And there is hope here. If today we realise that we have been saying "No" to God, we can still change. The first son changed his mind. We can change too. We can begin again.

So this week, let us not only say, "Yes, Lord." Let us show our "Yes" through one simple action: forgive someone, help someone, pray, attend Mass, visit someone who is lonely, or become more generous. Our words say what we believe. Our actions show that we truly believe.

Reflection Question:

What is one "Yes" I have been saying to God—but have not yet put into action?

From the workshop- words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 52

The virtue of obedience is not only for nuns and priests. Everyone needs to be obedient to divine law... and going to confession when you fall into sin are ways of showing that you trust St Joseph Most Obedient, pray for us.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:25-28

When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live

Psalms

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-11

Be united in your love

Matthew 21:28-32

Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering
the kingdom of God before you

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(May vary on the day)

695: Glory and Praise

609: in bread we bring you

865: Here I am Lord

360: As I kneel

Q: Why is planned giving important for our Hurunui Parish?

A: Our parish is not just a building. The Church is all of us. Our parish community stretches across Amberley, Hawarden, Culverden, Hanmer Springs, and Cheviot. Our churches, worship, pastoral care, evangelisation, and outreach need the participation and generosity of our parishioners. Planned giving helps us support the mission of Christ in a regular and responsible way.

Q: What does the Catechism teach about our possessions?

A: The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the goods of creation are intended for the good of all (CCC 2402). We may own and use material goods, but we also have a responsibility to share them with others. The Catechism teaches Christians to practise charity and generosity, especially toward those in need (CCC 2443–2449). So, what we have is not only for ourselves. Our blessings can become instruments of God's love.

Q: Is planned giving simply about paying parish expenses?

A: No. It is part of our Christian responsibility. The Catechism teaches that the faithful have the duty to contribute to the needs of the Church according to their abilities (CCC 2043). When we support our parish, we help the Church continue its mission of worship, evangelisation, service, and charity.

Q: Does everyone have to give the same amount?

A: No. We give according to our circumstances and ability. We should not compare our gift with someone else's gift. What matters is the generous heart behind our giving. In today's Gospel, Jesus shows us that God is generous. He does not measure generosity in the same way we do.

Q: What if I cannot give much?

A: Give what you can. And remember that generosity is more than money. We can give our time, talents, prayer, service, and encouragement.

Our Challenge

This week, pray: "Lord, everything I have is a gift from You. What can I generously give back?" Then make a simple plan for regular giving according to your circumstances. A generous heart builds a generous parish, and a generous parish becomes a living witness to Christ.

Reflection Question:

"Am I grateful for what God has given me, and am I willing to share my blessings with my parish and others?"

Notices

Adoration of The Most Blessed Sacrament - Amberley: Every Thursday 7pm & ½ hr before the weekday Masses.

Amberley church painting: volunteers needed.

We are now painting the Amberley church as you can see. If you would like to help just turn up at 9am next week.

This Sunday 27th September is Planned Giving Sunday: For those new to the parish this is a time for you to sign on. There are forms at Mass for you to do this- welcome to our parish. For others if your details have changed, please amend these now.

Sunday, 4 October 2026 - Celebrating the Centennial of Venerable Suzanne Aubert
at the Sanctuary of Fourviere, 67 Leithfield Road, Leithfield.

You are warmly invited to the Sanctuary of Fourviere to celebrate the life and legacy of Venerable Suzanne Aubert. This local celebration will be held in communion with the Catholic Bishops of New Zealand, who will be celebrating a National Centennial Mass in Wellington. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m., followed by a procession from the chapel to the "Red Shed", a replica of the shed in which Mother Aubert lived and worked during her time in Hawke's Bay. Following the procession, pilgrims and visitors are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy fellowship in the peaceful surroundings of the Sanctuary gardens.

God bless you all,

The Beatitudes Community - Sanctuary of Fourviere NZ.

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

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

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