



04 October 2026 - 27th 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

THE FRUIT GOD IS LOOKING FOR

Today's readings give us one strong message:

God has given us so much. Now He is looking for good fruit from our lives.

In the first reading, Isaiah speaks about a vineyard. The owner planted it carefully. He prepared the soil, planted good vines, and expected good grapes. But when harvest time came, the vineyard produced bad fruit. The vineyard represents God's people. God gives us His love, His Church, His family, our gifts, our time, and many opportunities. But God does not give these things only for ourselves. He expects us to produce good fruit.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells another story about a vineyard. The owner sends servants to collect the fruit, but the workers reject them and even kill them. Finally, the owner sends his own son. The son represents Jesus. And we know what happened. Jesus was rejected and killed. But the story does not end there. Jesus becomes the stone rejected by the builders, but He becomes the cornerstone. Through His death and resurrection, He brings salvation to us.

So the question is:

What kind of fruit are we producing? Are we producing love... forgiveness... kindness... patience... generosity... and faith? Or are we producing anger, selfishness, gossip, resentment, and division?

St Paul gives us a beautiful answer in the second reading: "Do not be anxious about anything." Instead, pray. Think about what is true, good, pure, lovely, and worthy of praise. My dear brothers and sisters, sometimes we worry too much about what other people are doing. We complain about the Church. We complain about our family. We complain about life.

But today Jesus says: Look at your own vineyard. What fruit are you producing?

God is patient with us. He does not give up on us. Every new day is another opportunity to change and produce better fruit. This week, let us produce one good fruit every day: one act of kindness, one word of forgiveness, one prayer, one act of generosity. Remember: God has planted His love in us. Let us not waste it. Let us give Him good fruit.

Reflection Question

If God came today looking for the fruit of my life, what would I give Him?

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

You should always strive to defend the person and the name of Jesus against all blasphemy and sacrilege....You must resemble your spiritual father, always willing to sacrifice yourself for the Church. St Joseph Zealous defender of Christ, pray for us.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

Against the Lord's vineyard

Psalm

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:6-9

If there is anything you need, pray for it.

Matthew 21:33-43

This is the landlord's heir: come, let us kill him

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 does the Gospel of Matthew 21:33–43 teach us about planned giving?

A: Jesus tells us the parable of the vineyard. The landowner carefully prepares the vineyard and then entrusts it to tenants. But the tenants forget that the vineyard belongs to the owner. They begin to act as if everything belongs to them. This Gospel reminds us of an important truth: Everything we have is ultimately a gift from God. We are stewards, not absolute owners. Our homes, income, abilities, time, health, and possessions are blessings entrusted to us by God.

Q: What does the Catechism teach about this?

A: The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the ownership of material goods is legitimate, but our possessions have a social purpose. We are called to use what we have for the good of ourselves and others (CCC 2402–2404). The Catechism also teaches that Christians have a responsibility to support the needs of the Church according to their abilities (CCC 2043). Therefore, planned giving is not simply about giving money. It is an act of stewardship.

Q: How does this apply to our Hurunui Parish?

A: Our parish is the vineyard entrusted to us today. We have churches and communities across Amberley, Hawarden, Culverden, Hanmer Springs, and Cheviot. We have received something beautiful from those who came before us. Now it is our responsibility to care for it and pass on the faith to those who come after us. When we give regularly, we help provide for worship, parish ministry, evangelisation, pastoral care, maintenance, and the future of our parish.

Q: What should planned giving mean for me?

A: It means asking: “Lord, what have You entrusted to me, and how can I use it for Your glory?” Do not think, “This is all mine.” Instead, think: “Lord, everything I have is Your gift. Help me to use it wisely and generously.”

Practical Challenge

This week, look at your time, talents, and finances. Choose one concrete way to give back to God through your parish. We are not the owners of God's vineyard. We are His stewards. Let us care for His vineyard with grateful and generous hearts.

Notices

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

This Sunday: Kalevale at Amberley after Mass.

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.

Amberley church painting: Roof painting will be almost done by this Sunday.

