

Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Amberley | Cheviot | Hawarden | Culverden | Waiau | Hanmer Springs
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The Ascension Of The Lord

Year B

13 May 2018



Sunday Masses

Second Sunday of the Month

Saturday Vigil
5pm Hanmer Springs
Sunday Mass
8.30am Hawarden
9am Cheviot
10am Amberley
11.30am Waiau

Weekday Masses

Tuesday
12pm Beatitudes
Wednesday - Friday
9am Amberley

Adoration

Thursday
9.30am - 10.00am

Reconciliation

Thursday
9.30am - 10.00am

Anytime
by appointment

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley

Feast of Ascension and Mothers Day

The church celebrates the **feast of Ascension** today. Beginning with the incarnation of Jesus and ending with his second coming, there are six important components of Christian faith: the incarnation, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, the Pentecost and the second coming. The very act of the ascension of Jesus brings the fruit of the ascension. The fruit of the ascension is two advents or two comings; the coming of the Holy Spirit and the second coming of Christ at the end of the world as the judge.

With the ascension, the work of Jesus on earth is over and now we are given the baton to run and finish the race successfully, and hand over the baton to the next generation so that they in turn may run the race well. Let us earnestly desire for the coming of the Holy Spirit who strengthens us in everything.

As we celebrate **Mothers Day** today, we thank our mothers, pray for them and honour them by offering our mothers on the altar of God. There is a beautiful Spanish proverb: "An ounce of mother is better than a pound of clergy." This is a day to admit gratefully the fact that none of us is able to return, in the same measure, all the love that our mothers have given us. We offer our Eucharistic celebration today for all the mothers whether they are alive or have gone for their eternal reward. God bless you all.

Fr Mathew



TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into Heaven.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at His right hand in Heaven.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:15-20

The Lord Jesus was taken up into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS | PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-11 + Psalm 104 + Galatians 5:16-25 + John 15:26-27, 16:12-15

Of your charity pray for

*the happy repose of the souls
of those who have died in our
families and parish community*

May they rest in peace

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mathew Valloppallil MCBS
022 301 7976 | sijivm17@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
03 319 8730
Tuesday & Friday 10am - 1pm

PARISH SECRETARY: Sarah Blair
catholichurunui@gmail.com
PARISH TREASURER: Liz James
catholichurunuitreasurer@gmail.com

WAI AU ACCOMODATION we have a family of four in need of rental accomodation in Waiau. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

WEEKDAY MASS NOTICE Fr Mathew will be joining our priests from around the diocese next week for their annual Solidarity Week. There will be no weekday Masses from 22-25th May.

PENTECOST BEATITUDES NIGHT Join the Beatitudes Community for an evening of prayer and the conclusion of the novena for Pentecost, a teaching, the Litany of the Holy Spirit. Saturday 19th May, 5.30 - 7.30pm. Prayer is followed by a pot luck dinner. Please bring a plate. Our Lady of Fourvière House of Prayer and Retreat, 67 Leithfield Road, Leithfield 7481. Phone (03) 314 8837

COMBINED CHURCHES PENTECOST SERVICE will be held at The Holy Passion of Our Lord Amberley at 3pm on 20th May. All welcome!

OFFERING MASS FOR A SPECIAL INTENTION It is a praiseworthy tradition to have Mass offered for a special intention and especially for the happy repose of a person who has died. Take an envelope from the church foyer or collect one from the parish office and fill in the details on the envelope. If the Mass is being offered for someone who has died, their name will be published in the newsletter so that others may pray for them as well. It is usual to make an offering to the priest of \$10 for each Mass offered.

JOIN US FOR THE KALAVALE RAFFLE all parishioners are welcome to a cup of tea after 10am Mass in Amberley on the first Sunday of the Month. The raffle supports the Tongan Mission run by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. It is a great social occasion for parishioners while raising funds for those in need.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 if you know of any young adults 18+ interested in attending WYD 2019 please contact the parish office. Email catholicurunui@gmail.com or phone 03 319 8730.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

GOLDEN CATHOLICS The next Golden Catholics get together will be held on Wednesday, 13 June 2018 at 11.30am – 1.30pm at St Joseph's Parish Centre, Vagues Road, Papanui. All those receiving the Gold Card are most welcome. Lunch will be provided. If you wish to attend please contact your parish secretary before Friday, 8 June 2018.

FIREPOWER YOUTH RALLY 15th of June 7pm - 9.30pm South City C3 Church, corner of Colombo and Moorhouse. Come experience CFC: Singles and Youth for Christ, as they share their story and testimonies about how our God is "Unstoppable" and how we should be "All Out For Christ". A night filled with live worship, testimonies and fellowship! For more info contact Delbert Castillo, Parish Support Coordinator for the Catholic Youth Team dcastillo@chch.catholic.org.nz or 03 353 0705

for the Law Commission Opposing the Decriminalisation of Abortion

You are encouraged to speak up in defence of God's precious infants by making a brief submission to the Law Commission. Our PM, Jacinda Ardern, has directed that the Law Commission review our abortion laws to "make changes to ensure our abortion laws are consistent with treating abortion as a health issue that is a reproductive choice for women, and not a criminal issue".

This proposal will effectively mean that those unborn who are classified as unwanted will be deprived of the protection of the Crimes Act and allowed to be killed. However the unborn children who are classified as wanted, will retain the protection of the Crimes Act and of the state.

Submissions are required to be with the Law Commission **before 5pm on 18th May 2018**. Please make a submission in your own words.

Here are several suggested points you may like to use in your submission

I oppose the decriminalisation of abortion because....

- It would deprive the unborn child of current protection under the law. It would be a declaration by the state that *a woman can terminate the life of her child for any reason*, e.g, the baby being the wrong sex and for disability such as Down syndrome.
- It would no longer be a crime to kill the unborn child, an innocent human being. It would be a declaration by the state that it has no interest in protecting you or your child from the violence of abortion.
- It would provide a cover for crimes against women, rape, incest and sexual abuse. If we followed the Victorian model, it would allow abortion up to birth.

Law Commission- Post, PO Box 2590, Wellington, 6140. Email alr@lawcom.govt.nz. For further information go to www.chooselife.org.nz or www.righttolife.org.nz. Thank you for defending life.

DIOCESAN NOTICES CONT.

CATHOLIC SHOP For the Marian month of May, see us for reflections & rosaries. We have great gift ideas for First Holy Communions, too. Open Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Visit us at 373 Manchester Street, Christchurch, next to St Mary's Pro-Cathedral. Ph 03 366 2853.

THURSDAY TALKS WITH THE COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN All are welcome to listen to this 9 week series on an Introduction to Philosophy (with special talks on the Ascension and Pentecost) by the Community of St. John. They begin May 10th and the final talk July 5th. Held in St. Teresa's Parish hall, 8 Puriri St Riccarton at 7.30pm

PRAYER SERIES Noticing God's Presence: Scripture and sacred music lead into an extended time of silent prayer. Tuesdays 15 and 22 May, 10.30-11.30am, at Te Manawa Atawhai Catherine McAuley Centre at Villa Maria College. (Rosary House Spiritual Life Centre).

P.A.T.H.S. (Post Abortion Trauma Healing Service) is charitable group based in Christchurch, which provides support nationally for those negatively impacted by a recent or past abortion. For more information about our service visit www.postabortionpaths.org.nz