



Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Amberley | Cheviot | Hawarden | Culverden | Waiau | Hanmer Springs
Parish Office: 138a Carters Road, Amberley | PO Box 143, Amberley 7441
www.facebook.com/catholichurunui | www.catholichurunui.nz

Third Sunday of Easter

Year B

15 April 2018

Sunday Masses

Third Sunday of the Month

Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs

Sunday Mass

9am Cheviot

10am Amberley

6pm Culverden

Weekday Masses

Tuesday

12pm Beatitudes

Wednesday - Friday

9am Amberley

Reconciliation

Anytime

by appointment

Rosary

Wednesday

1:30pm Amberley

Sharing the Faith

If the point of last Sunday's gospel was on experiencing the risen Lord, the point of today's gospel seems to be on sharing our faith with others. Christ wants his followers to be his witnesses. We are called to be witnesses of Christ, that means, that we are called first to have a personal experience of Christ and then to share this experience with others. Our faith is like a flame: the more a piece of wood passes the flame to others the more brightly it burns, but if it refuses to pass on the flame, it stands in danger of losing even its own flame.

Two disciples met the risen Lord on the way to Emmaus. They came back to Jerusalem to share their experience with the apostles. Christ makes himself present in the process of sharing their faith experience with the other unbelieving disciples. Now the eleven apostles and their companions are in turn enabled to experience the risen Lord. And it takes no stretch of the imagination to see that for the two who shared their experience this would be a big strengthening of faith, a big empowerment.

How do we witness to Christ? It is not by threatening people with eternal hellfire. It is not by arguing with them on controversial theological issues. It is simply, as the two disciples on the way to Emmaus did, by telling the story of our personal encounter with Christ. It is sharing with them why we are Christians. As St Peter tells us, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). God bless you all.

Fr Mathew

TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 3:13-15

You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

SECOND READING: 1 John 2:1-5

Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins, and those of the whole world.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:35-48

It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS | THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:8-12 + Psalm 118 + 1 John 3:1-2 + John 10:11-18

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 | sijvm17@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

PARISH GIVING ENVELOPES Parish Giving Envelopes for 2018 - 2019 and the tax receipts for 2017 - 2018 will be distributed THIS weekend of 14/15

YOUTH GROUP any families wanting to join us at youth group please contact Laura & Simon 0277225468 All families welcome.

WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE as of the 17th April, weekday Masses on a Tuesday will be 12pm at the Community of the Beatitudes, Leithfield and Wednesday - Friday will continue to be 9am at Amberley.

PARISH ROLL if you have moved or are new to the area please get in touch with us at the parish office. It's helpful having everything up to date and to keep in touch with the latest notices and updates.

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



SUPPORT THE PARISH and have a holiday at the same time! This Flat in the heart of Hanmer Springs is probably the best value in town. A comfortable refurbished flat with SKY TV and WIFI all for \$80 a night during the week and \$130 a night at weekends. To book, simply search 27 Amuri Ave, Hanmer Springs on www.bookabach.co.nz

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. Feel free to bring a donated gift for the prize table!

PRAYER

DIOCESAN CLERGY ASSEMBLY CHRISTCHURCH – SEPTEMBER 2018

Assembly Prayer

O God, the greatness of your love holds firm undisturbed by ceaseless change.

From the cross, Jesus, your Son and High Priest, cried his loss while embracing your call. Though close to despair he taught the lesson of trust and unfailing hope.

Your priests of Jesus Christ live in a time of unprecedented change with both uncertainty and opportunity. Changes unheralded push horizons too far to see.

Renew in us Christ's lesson of trust and hope That doubt may not conquer

and, like him, we may embrace your call. Strengthen us to see your great unchanging love unfolding in our lives and ministry.

Amen.

If you would like to make regular financial donations to support our parish and the priests of the Diocese this can be done in two ways: Through the envelope system or by automatic payment/internet banking. Please provide your contact details and indicate your preferred method of contribution and a set of envelopes our bank account details will be forwarded to you.

One of the benefits of being enrolled in the Parish Giving Programme, as opposed to making loose cash donations in the collection basket is that your donations are recorded each week and a tax receipt is sent to you at the end of the financial year (31 March). Our parish is registered as a charitable organisation and you can claim back 33.333% of your donations by submitting a simple Tax Credit Form (the IR526) which can be downloaded from the IRD website www.ird.govt.nz.

Please place this form in the collection basket:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I prefer Envelopes

Automatic Payments

DIOCESAN NOTICES

MASS OF THE NEOPHYTES Parishes throughout the Diocese celebrated the rites of initiation at Easter. The Church envisions all newly initiated, or neophytes, to share Mass with their Bishop. All are welcome to this Mass of the Neophytes, Saturday 5 May at 9:00 am at Christ the King. A reception will follow.

A DAY WITH MARY will be held at St Peter and Paul's Church Halswell on Saturday 5th May 2018 commencing at 9 30 am and concluding at 3 00pm. More information please ring Janet 03 960 5294.

VILLA MARIA COLLEGE Open Day: Tuesday 8 May 2018 9.00am-2.00pm. Villa Maria College invites friends, parents and their daughters to see the College at work on our Open Day. The Principal, Ms Deborah Brosnahan, will address parents and girls in the College Auditorium at 9am, 11am and 1pm. For further information, please contact the College Office, telephone 348 4165 or go to www.villa.school.nz

NATIONAL MARRIAGE TRAINING WEEKEND Those involved in marriage education (or those wishing to be involved) are invited to the National Catholic Marriage Training Weekend on the weekend of 18th – 20th May 2018, at Chateau on the Park, Christchurch. The theme is "Christian Marriage: Radical Demands – Extravagant Mercy".