

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

4th Sunday of Advent

Year C

23 December 2018



Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs
(Every Saturday)

6:30pm Culverden
(1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays Only)

Sunday Mass

9am Amberley
(Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot
(1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Only)

10.30am Hawarden
(4th Sunday Only)

11.30am Waiau
(5th Sunday Only)

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

The Spirit of Joy and Service

Today, is the last Sunday before the arrival—the Advent—of God in Bethlehem. So as to be the same as us in everything, He wanted to be conceived—as any other person—in the womb of a woman, the Virgin Mary, but by the action and grace of the Holy Spirit, as He was God. Very soon, on Christmas Day, we will celebrate His birth with great joy.

The Gospel today presents us with two people, Mary and her cousin Elizabeth, who show us with their example the spiritual attitude we should have towards this event. It should be an attitude of faith, of dynamic faith.

Elizabeth, with sincere humility, was filled with Holy Spirit, and giving a loud cry, said, "How is it that the mother of my Lord comes to me"? Nobody had explained anything to her. It was her faith alone, the Holy Spirit, that had made her see that her cousin was the mother of her Lord, of God.

So we are to live Christmas with faith like Mary and Elizabeth; with a dynamic faith. As a consequence, like Elizabeth, there is no need to hide the joy and gratitude that comes with having faith. Saint Ambrose recommends that, in these festive days, "We have all Mary's spirit for glorifying the Lord". We won't lack opportunities for sharing joys and helping the needy. God bless you all.

Fr Mathew



TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Micah 5:1-4

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

I am coming to do your will.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-44

Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS | The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Year C

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6 12-14 + Psalm 127 + Colossians 3:12-21 + Luke 2:41-52

We Remember

Masses have been requested and offered for:

Recent: Fr John Noonan
Theresa Braune
Joyce Mead
C. J Mathew

*Eternal Rest Grant unto
them O Lord.*

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

03 319 8730
Friday 10am - 2pm

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

FR MATHEW will be away in India visiting his family during the month of January. We wish him a blessed time and safe travels.

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS we inform you of the death of Fr John Noonan Thursday evening. May he rest in peace.

SITUATION VACANT we thank Liz James for all her dedication and hard work she has done for our Parish over the years she has been with us and we wish her all the best for the future. The parish treasurer position involves one day a week and Xero and payroll systems knowledge is preferred. Applications close 11th January 2019. Please send your cover letter and CV to catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com

WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE there will be no Mass in Amberley on Wednesday 26th December.

RECONCILIATION after Mass in Hawarden THIS SUNDAY 23rd December.

TOMORROW SATURDAY ANOINTING MASS in preparation for Christmas. Amberley 22nd December 10:30am. All welcome.

SACRISTY BLESSING Fr Mathew will be blessing Amberley's new sacristy after the Anointing Mass on 22nd December. You are all welcome.

TOMORROW SIMBANG GABI NOVENA MASS Fr Benito will celebrate Mass at Culverden this Saturday 22 December at 7pm (not 6:30)

CULVERDEN MASS CHANGE there will be no Mass in Culverden on Saturday 19th January.

HEARTS AFLAME 2019 any parishioners aged 18 - 35 are invited to attend 10 days of prayer, community, formation and discernment at the Catholic Event Hearts Aflame. If you would like to go but need financial assistance getting there, please contact the parish office. More information on Hearts Aflame can be found here www.heartsaflame.org.nz

FR GRAEME BLACKBURN'S FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY Tuesday 15th January 2019, 11am at Our Lady of Victories Church. All very welcome

GOING TO DUNEDIN IN THE HOLIDAYS? Why not stay at the former Seminary, Holy Cross College, in Mosgiel? Breakfast included. Check out our webpage: www.burnslodge.nz or phone 4892600 or email holycross@burnslodge.nz.

Caring for those in urgent need

During Advent, our parish is holding the **Bishop's Care Appeal**, in support of the caring ministries within the Diocese of Christchurch

Thank you!

To date, over \$68,400 has been raised. Already,

Bishop Paul has distributed



\$10,000 to help distribute food parcels to over 502 households across the Diocese this Christmas.



\$5,000 to provide food, clothing, bikes and other material goods to children in low decile schools, both Catholic and State.

There is still time to contribute! Our fundraising goal is \$100,000

Please prayerfully consider those in the humblest of circumstances with a gift to the Care Appeal. Your support is an answer to someone's prayer.

+ Bishop Paul Martin SM

Support the good works of the Church.

Give today: 03 366 9869

www.chchcatholic.nz/BCA18

YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT 25th-28th January, 2019 in Wainui. Registration is \$150. For more information please contact: stteresasyoungadults@gmail.com

POSITIONS AVAILABLE – Formation Programmes and Young Adults Ministry Coordinator+ Female Mission Team Supervisor The Catholic Youth Team (CYT) for the Diocese of Christchurch invites applications for the positions of CYT Formation and Young Adult Coordinator (27.5 hours pw) + Female Mission Team Supervisor (10 hours pw). Suitable applicants may wish to apply for both roles as a full time position. Please email us at cyt@chch.catholic.org.nz or go to cyt.org.nz for more details about the roles and required skills and experience. Applications close 9th January 2018.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOLARSHIP Bishop Paul Martin invites applications from interested individuals who would like to undertake theological studies through Good Shepherd College, Auckland or the programme at the Catholic Discipleship College, Auckland. Contact Mike Stopforth email mstopforth@chch.catholic.org.nz

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve	
Monday 24 December	5.00pm Hanmer Springs 7.00pm Culverden 9.00pm Amberley
Christmas Day	
Tuesday 25 December	9.00am Amberley 9.30am Cheviot 11.00am Hawarden

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION RITE II

Saturday 15 December	4.00pm Hanmer Springs 7.15pm Culverden <i>after Mass</i>
Sunday 16 December	11.45am Cheviot <i>after Mass</i>
Wednesday 19 December	6.00pm Amberley
Sunday 23 December	11.15am Hawarden <i>after Mass</i>