

Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

2nd Sunday of Lent

Year C

17 March 2019



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 Waiiau
(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

A call to change

The Transfiguration of Jesus is the event that communicates an open door between earthly ordinariness, (days and weeks of routine and mundane and struggling existence), and divine eternity. In this moment Peter, James and John got a taste of something more; so much so that they could not even put it into words and did not speak of the event when they went down the mountain. With the birth of Jesus God comes to earth. With the Transfiguration humans taste heaven. This is what happens every time we celebrate the Mass and the sacraments of the Church. The door between heaven and earth is thrown open by God: we express our struggle and our sin and God pours grace onto us and into us and we are enticed into the divine life of God.

When we leave the church after Mass we changed. Like Peter James and John we will struggle to put this experience into words. We are not even really sure what has happened. The fact is, we have tasted heaven and in the most tangible form of Holy Communion, heaven has come INTO us. We are different, and because of this, even though we go home into the same realities and relationships, every moment of the week ahead is different. This taste of heaven enables us to live fully in every earthly reality.

An Invitation: We often understand prayer as us speaking to Jesus. Set aside five minutes of stillness and silence twice every day this week and gently hear the Father tell you as he told the disciples of Jesus at the Transfiguration: "This is my beloved son Jesus. Listen to him."

Fr. John O'Connor www.foodforfaith.org.nz

TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:5-12 17-18

Abraham put his faith in the Lord.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Christ will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS | 3rd Sunday of Lent Year C

Exodus 3:1-8 13-15 + Psalm 102 + Corinthians 10:1-6 10-12 + Luke 13:1-9

We Remember

Masses have been requested and offered for:

Recent: Flora Gilroy

*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 Secretary

Tues & Thurs 8am - 9.30pm Treasurer

PARISH SECRETARY: Sarah Blair

catholichurunui@gmail.com

PARISH TREASURER: Elaine Ramsay

catholichurunuitreasurer@gmail.com 021 136 7753

WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE (this week only) Masses will be at the Beatitudes at **12pm Tues - Fri**. You are welcome to join them for Stations of the Cross on Friday at 3pm.

THIS IS THE SEASON OF LENT a season to be closer to God and seek forgiveness from God. During this time of 40 days, if you know anyone in your area who would like to have a visit from a priest, please let Fr Mathew know and he can visit them. Reassuring them of healing, hope and strengthening of faith.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AMBERLEY we will be having Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent after the 9am Mass. **(except this week)**

LENTEN REFLECTION every Wednesday during Lent with Fr Mathew in the Amberley church hall after morning mass. **(except this week)**

UPDATE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS after the passing of our parish council secretary and a few resignations last year, we have since welcomed Jane Schwass (secretary), Simon Gannaway (Culverden), Phillipa O'Brian (Waiiau), Ian Hunter (Hanmer Springs).

MARRIAGE UNPLUGGED When was the last time you and your spouse had a day designed just for the two of you? Marriage Unplugged is designed to equip you with tools to help you build the kind of marriage you desire and have some fun while doing it. **Saturday, April 6th 2019** 9am-4pm Fourviere House of Prayer and Retreat 67 Leithfield Rd, Leithfield Registration: \$35 per couple Spoiler alert: There is no group sharing – or group work! For further information and to register contact Joanne joannehassan4@gmail.com or call 03 310 6044.

ROLL UPDATE if you have changed your contact details recently or know of a parishioner who has moved from your church area, please contact the parish office.

MASS OFFERING CARDS these are available from the parish office.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

LEADERS of Liturgy of the Word with Children Tuesday, **19th March** 7.00-9.00pm, Cath Edu Office Registration by 12 March to Mdaly@chch.catholic.org.nz 03 353 0758. New & experienced leaders welcome. Come learn what the Church envisions for her children.

MASS IN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE This year there will be a Mass in Spanish every second Saturday of the month at 5 pm at St Teresa's in Riccarton.

PREGNANCY CENTRE VOLUNTEER TRAINING DAY Are you caring and compassionate? If you are, please consider volunteering at the Pregnancy Centre. We have many ways you can defend, protect and serve life. We can train you to take calls, sort donations, do needs assessments, and give pregnancy tests. To register for our next Volunteer Training on **Tuesday 26 March** from 10am-2:30pm, please contact Carly at 03 351 3227

“In meditating on the Transfiguration of Jesus, we can learn a very important lesson: first of all, the primacy of prayer, without which the entire commitment to the apostolate and to charity is reduced to activism. In Lent we learn to give the right time to prayer, both personal and of the community, which gives rest to our spiritual life. Moreover, prayer does not mean isolating oneself from the world and from its contradictions, as Peter wanted to do on Mount Tabor; rather, prayer leads back to the journey and to action.” *Pope emeritus Benedict*

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF CARITAS Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, the Catholic Agency for Justice, Peace & Development is celebrating 50 years of ‘love in action’ this year and to mark this wonderful milestone there will be an anniversary Mass at the Pro-Cathedral at 10.30am on **Sunday 24th March** you are all warmly invited.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS All are welcome to join us and pray the Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral each **Thursday** at 5.30pm.

LEARN HOW TO MAKE ROSARY BEADS Saturday **23rd March** 1pm at St Francis de Sales Church 41 Victoria St, Rangiora. Come and make your own and hear about the Christocentric history and traditions of the rosary. Suggested donation \$20.00.

DOVE Catholic Fellowship for Women of all ages gathers every second Saturday of the month – at Christ the King from 1 – 3:30pm. Under the authority of the Bishop, we offer teachings, prayer ministry, reconciliation and fellowship. No sign up required, simply come along. Contact Diane 0274312026 or www.dove.org.nz or DOVE Fellowship Christchurch Facebook page.

AN INVITATION to a time of stillness and silence before the Blessed Sacrament, every Tuesday of Lent, 5.30 - 6.30 at St. Mary's pro-Cathedral. Come for a few minutes or the full hour. 5.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 5.50pm reflection, concluding with Benediction at 6.20.

A TIME OF RENEWAL The Cathedral Parish is organizing a Time of Renewal, Rosary – Adoration – Reflection - Movie “Jesus of Nazareth” the passion of Jesus. Bring along family members and friends. Everyone is invited. Join for a cup of coffee after the programme. **Saturday, 6 April 2019**. From 1.45pm to 3.15pm at Cathedral Parish, 373 Manchester St.

CATHOLIC SHOP Lent & Easter resources and gifts now available, including reflections, books and candles. Visit us at 373 Manchester Street, Christchurch, next to St Mary's Pro-Cathedral. catholicshop@chch.catholic.org.nz or Ph 03-366-2853. Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 10am-1pm.

PRO-LIFE FACTS The Parliamentary Justice Select Committee after considering 35,000 written submissions with 90% opposed to euthanasia will soon deliver its report to Parliament on the End of Life Choice bill. This will be followed by the second reading of the bill. We all have a duty to defend the lives of the most vulnerable members of our community, the aged, the disabled and the seriously ill. Euthanasia is about doctors killing their patients or assisting in their suicide. Right to Life encourages you to contact your local MPs to ask them to vote against this dangerous and evil bill. For more pro-life information.