

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

3rd Sunday of Lent

Year C

24 March 2019

Turn to God

In a Catholic funeral liturgy we often pray "life is changed, not ended." In Aotearoa New Zealand our lives have been changed with an act of terrorism bringing trauma, grief and pain to our city, our country and our world.

The response of the Muslim community has been faith-filled and generous. As they prepare to bury their dead they express confident hope in God's eternal welcome for their loved ones. Muslim leaders have been generous in receiving the support and love of the people of the land they know to be their new home.

Christianity and Islam are two of the three (with Judaism) great monotheistic (one God) faiths. Together we are the descendants of Abraham who was the first to speak of *one* loving God in an environment heavy with cult rituals to please and appease temperamental gods. The belief in *one* God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is the greatest unifying conviction in human history.

As Bishop Paul Martin reflected in his homily less than twenty-four hours after the tragedy "*we know that our loving God has not caused this pain, but the freedom God gives us as a mark of his great love has been tragically misused and abused.*"

Our basic human thirst is for God. God shows his love for us by giving us adult freedom, a freedom that we can use for good or for evil. When we live in harmony with God's desire for us we are living on holy ground. On this sacred soil strangers become friends and we are awakened to the fact that those we had feared as foreigners are, in the light of divine love, our sisters and brothers.

An Invitation: Take time each day this week to pray the Prayer of St. Francis for peace. You might like to save it to your phone or print it to carry in your pocket. Pray especially with your children and grandchildren so teaching them that prayer is the best immediate response to suffering and evil.

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



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

TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8 13-15

This is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."

SECOND READING: Corinthians 10:1-6 10-12

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS | 4th Sunday of Lent Year C
Joshua 5:9-12 + Psalm 33 + Corinthians 5:17-21 + Luke 15:1-3 11-32

We Remember

Masses have been requested and offered for:

Recent: For those who lost their lives in the recent terror attacks.

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mathew Valloppallil MCBS
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

03 319 8730
Friday 10am - 2pm Secretary
Tues & Thurs 8am - 9.30pm Treasurer

PARISH SECRETARY: Sarah Blair
catholichurunui@gmail.com

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Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ

This has been a very significant week for our country as we comes to terms with the events of 15 March. The violence inflicted on a particular group in our community is hard to comprehend. Words cannot convey the distress this has caused our Muslim brothers and sisters. Our prayers are with all those who are suffering.

This week St Mary's Pro-Cathedral has been a place of prayer and so many have gathered there to pray for peace and for all concerned. Today I will be attending the Interfaith gathering at the Peace Bell at Hagley Park to express our solidarity with those involved.

Our chaplains at Christchurch Hospital and our police chaplain have been providing pastoral support to those working with the community and those who have been injured.

The outpouring of support from across Aotearoa and the world has been a grace for us. I have received numerous messages from bishops, communities and individuals.

Please continue with me to pray for those who have died, for the Muslim community and for the whole of our country.

In Christ

+ Paul Martin

PARISH NOTICES

FR MATHEW attended a service of prayer and hope at Latimer Square Thursday night to pray for the victims of the recent attack in Christchurch. There were a good crowd of a few hundred including Imams of the Muslim communities. We continue to keep them in our prayers.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES are now available at each church.

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)**

Parish of the Good Shepherd Reconciliation

Thursday 11 April

6-7pm Reconciliation (Rite II) Amberley

Friday 12 April

6-7pm Reconciliation (Rite II) Hawarden

Saturday 13 April

4-5pm Reconciliation (Rite II) Hanmer Springs
7.15-7.45pm Reconciliation (Rite II) Culverden

Sunday 14 April

11.45-12.30pm Reconciliation (Rite II) Cheviot

DIOCESAN NOTICES

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

THE CANTERBURY INTERFAITH SOCIETY invites you to join us at the Peace Bell in the botanic gardens on **Sunday the 24th of March at 2pm** for a time of prayer for healing for the city and in support of the Muslim community who are suffering so deeply.

MASS FOR LIFE The Christchurch Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's League are holding a Mass for Life on Monday 25th March at 7.00pm at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, 373 Manchester Street. All very welcome.

WILDER 5 April @ 7:30pm, Te Manawa Atawhai Centre (by Villa Maria College) Adoration and Praise & Worship as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Prayer Teams available. A time where we combine worshipping God together with a chance to connect deeper with Him individually. If you have any questions, please contact Sam @ CYT ssivertsen@chch.catholic.org.nz

ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES you are invited to the inaugural Dio Date Night, 18th May. Enjoy a buffet dinner, entertainment and top tips for enriching your marriage at the Rata Lounge, Cashmere. \$65 per couple. Register before Wed 1st May. Phone Maria, John Paul II Centre for Life 351 3225. Limited to 50 couples.

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 beginning at 6.20.

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. Following the Mass there will be some time of conviviality in the hall.

THINKING DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Speak to any priest or contact Vocations Director Fr. John O'Connor vocations.chch@gmail.com