

# Catholic Parish of the Good Shepherd

Hurunui District, Catholic Diocese of Christchurch



*Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*17 July 2016*

## *the ONE thing*

I have been deeply heartened by the generous response of parishioners to the Thanksgiving programme. While the pledged weekly amounts continue to come in, Phil Gourdie has told me of twenty parishioners who have generously responded to be leaders and helpers in the programme. and a turnout of over 50 people for the information meetings. This is an extraordinarily high percentage of parishioner involvement and I am sure it is unprecedented in such a programme.

We have been thinking fund-raising for a full year now with the new presbytery and offices, But these parishioners have understood that just as the resolution of the presbytery issue was necessary, so too our parish needs a regular weekly income in order not only to maintain our Catholic presence in the Hurunui, but to grow. Your contributions of time, talent as well as your regular financial contributions make this growth possible.

Twelve months ago we boldly committed to the presbytery / office project. We never imagined then that we would be able to complete this project so effortlessly. We now have a second priest living in the parish, and a third priest working alongside us to support the strong Filipino community. We have made a commitment to extra Sunday Masses, and weekday Masses and these are being very well supported. In short we have turned the corner and our parish is growing.

The key to our growth (and the increased Mass attendance with our new Mass timetable is a proof of this) is the Sunday Mass and celebration of the other sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is our

hearts. In short, when we know we are living in harmony with God, everything else falls into place. Even our stress levels decrease.

Today's Gospel reading is the well-known story of Martha and Mary. Every time people hear this many women (especially) comment on how unfair Jesus is being by saying that the one who sits at his feet (Mary) has chosen the better part, and the one who prepares his food is too anxious, and worried about many things. To stay with such an initial reaction is missing the point of the encounter.

The fact is that we all worry and get anxious about many things. We do this every day. We think that busy-ness is a sign of a full life, and deep inside we carry the suspicion that the abundance of life we are promised is passing us by.

Every week a number of people speak with me about the burden that stress places on their lives. Speaking with a supportive person or even a professional counsellor is often helpful, but by the time people approach a priest they have often realised that something more is needed. Thankfully the Gospel gives us the answer.

Stress is always caused by a loss of perspective. When we become convinced that it is all about my own efforts and abilities

Let us continue to pray  
for the happy repose of the soul of  
Bishop Barry Jones.  
Pray too that all those involved in the  
process of appointing his successor will be  
open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

*"...you are anxious and worried  
about many things.  
There is need of only one thing."  
Luke 10*

then I will become burdened by the weight and importance of my own tasks.

A healthy perspective reminds us that our human health and happiness is found when we realise that our total dependance is not on ourselves, but on God. We are dependant on God for everything, and God is waiting to be asked to give us everything.

You don't even have to be at Mass to ask God this. Try it now. Talk to Jesus in the silence of your burdens and cares and ask him to give you the direction and peace that you need. **J.O'C**

## **World Youth Day 2015**

More than two million young people aged 18-35 will converge on Poland later this month to meet with Pope Francis for the World Youth Gathering. Our team of pilgrims from the Christchurch diocese (pictured below on their departure earlier in the week) left Christchurch this week and are currently in Italy before heading to France then Poland.

Already they have discovered that a pilgrimage is not a vacation or a tourist trip. A pilgrimage is a journey of faith. It is intense and at time trying. In the early church pilgrims would journey for weeks on foot to holy places as a way of deepening their knowledge of and experience of Jesus Christ.

Keep our Christchurch pilgrims in your prayer especially Corrigan. Unfortunately Patch is now unable to make the trip. I have assured the group of our parish prayer for them, and I have asked them to pray specifically for us.



**CYT Young Adults Retreat 2016: 'Journey to the Father'** Join us for a weekend of prayer, adoration, fellowship and much more for all Young adults. Friday 26<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August at Wainui. \$80 p/person, places are limited. Register online at [www.cyt.org.nz/journey](http://www.cyt.org.nz/journey) or contact Tim (022 3834508) for more info.

**Biblical Perspectives for the Year of Mercy**, a presentation by Sr Kathleen Rushton RSM: "The Great River of Mercy". Tuesdays 26 July and 2 August, 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Venue: St Joseph's Parish Centre, Vagues Road, Papanui. Indication of attendance helpful: Phone (03) 379 1298 or Email [roho@xtra.co.nz](mailto:roho@xtra.co.nz). (Rosary House Spiritual Life Centre Programme)."

**St Patrick's School (Greymouth)** celebrating 150 years and is publishing memories. We would like contributions of up to 500 words (approximately) by Monday 10 October. We look forward to hearing your: Funny stories, memories of the Mercy Sisters and/or Marist brothers and memories of historical events photos would be very gladly received! All contributions may be sent to the school office, 13 Puketahi Street, Greymouth 7805 or emailed to [office@stpatriksgm.school.nz](mailto:office@stpatriksgm.school.nz)

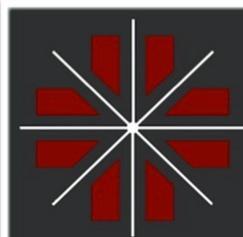
**PHILIPPINES MISSION OPPORTUNITY** St Joseph's Parish, Papanui are planning a second mission trip to Tacloban in the Philippines from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017. They are keen to involve people who have dental or medical expertise to join the mission. This will be an invaluable personal experience, whilst being involved in the mission of the Church and having the opportunity to share time and practical resources with the local people who are still recovering from the devastation of Cyclone Haiyan. If this sounds like you, Fr John Adams is keen to hear from you, phone 3529275.

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS.** Most hospitals no longer provide names of Catholic patients to our chaplains. If someone from your family going to hospital please advise the chaplain: Burwood: Kirsten Challies 027 437 6737 Christchurch Hospital: Angela McCormick 364 0640 (x89554) Hillmorton: Gloria Magee 027 212 7377 Princess Margaret: Gloria Magee 027 212 7377 St George's: Fr Chris Orr 351 9502

**THE CATHOLIC SHOP** is now in its new location 373 Manchester Street (next to St Mary's). Parking available. Phone 366 2853, email [catholicshop@chch.catholic.org.nz](mailto:catholicshop@chch.catholic.org.nz) Open 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.

**THINKING DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD?** Speak to any priest or contact Vocations Director Fr. John O'Connor [vocations.chch@gmail.com](mailto:vocations.chch@gmail.com)

**WYD IN CHRISTCHURCH.** On July 29th to August 2nd Catholic Cathedral and Marian Colleges are hosting a Companion event to the World Youth Day in Krakow for the Secondary School Colleges in the South Island. We are anticipating 240 students of Catholic Colleges will attend this event that includes Pilgrimage, Service, Catechesis and Worship.



[www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)  
read, watch & listen  
with Fr. John O'Connor  
& on Facebook & Twitter

### Weekday Mass Timetable

#### Amberley Church

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 9.00am

Community of the Beatitudes

#### Wednesday at 12noon

#### Confessions

Tuesday 8.40am at Amberley

Wednesday after Mass at Beatitudes

Saturday 10.00am - 10.30 at Amberley

& anytime by arrangement with a priest.

Mass times and other parish information is available on the parish website at [www.catholicurunui.nz](http://www.catholicurunui.nz)

### This week especially, let us pray for:

- + those who are suffering from ill health, especially KD, RO, PH. That they, and all who long for full health may receive anew the healing Spirit of God.
- + for those parishioners who are feeling the burden of work challenges and stress of uncertainty in their work, including those who suffer the ongoing effects of the drought.
- + the many benefactors of our parish of the Good Shepherd; those who have given generously over the 150 years that Mass has been celebrated in the Hurunui,
- + Those who give their positive conversation, time, talent, presence and prayer for our parish
- + That the parish Thanksgiving Programme may bear fruit enabling out parishioners together to be the more visible presence of Christ in the Hurunui.
- + Those who contribute financially to our parish today.



**LADIES LUNCH** Parishioners and friends are very welcome to a shared lunch on Wednesday, 20th July, 12 noon at Anne Murphy's home, 11 Leslie St, Culverden township 03 3158489. Guest speaker is Fr Anton Mclean. Will run a raffle for St Vincent de Paul. Please bring a small plate of finger food. After the last lunch we sent \$ 210.00 to Sister Aroha for the work of the Missionaries of Charity in Sri Lanka.

**WITH THE MOVE** of the presbytery to Amberley the postal address and phone number for the presbytery and office remain the same. You will always be able to contact a priest on the 03 319 8730 number. If the phone is not answered leave a message and you will have a response within the hour. The [catholicurunui@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunui@gmail.com) email is received simultaneously by Fr. John and Sarah, and will also deliver a very quick response.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.** A summary financial report for the year ended 31 March 2016 is available on the parish website together with the full financial statements.

**RACE NIGHT** John Paul II Centre for Life Race Night Friday 9 September 2016 @ Addington. This year we are planning on booking a table or three for Good Shepherd Hurunui parishioners and their friends. More information will follow, but for the moment put the date in your diary. Tickets will be \$50.00 per person and include the cost of dinner.

*Of your charity pray for  
the happy repose of the soul of:*

Vanessa Gifford  
Owen Sullivan

*May they rest in peace.*

*Masses are celebrated for those who have died (or for special intentions) as requested by parishioners. Please either email your request [catholicurunui@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunui@gmail.com) or post to the parish office.*

