



Catholic Parish of the Good Shepherd

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 20 March 2016

Holy Week Liturgies

MONDAY 21 MARCH

7.30pm St Mary's pro-Cathedral,
Mass of the Chrism

TUESDAY 22 MARCH

9.00am Mass, Hawarden

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH

12.00 noon Beatitudes Community
Mass with retreatants from the
Auckland Catholic Discipleship
College.

HOLY THURSDAY 24 MARCH

7.00pm Evening Mass of the
Lord's Supper at Community of the
Beatitudes, Leithfield (67 Leithfield
Rd) followed by prayer at the Altar of
Repose until 9.00pm

FRIDAY 25 MARCH GOOD FRIDAY

Cheviot 9.30am procession from St
John's Anglican Church gate to St
Anthony's for 10am Ecumenical
service.

Hawarden 9.30am Ecumenical
Service at the parish farm across
road from church. If wet this will be
held in the church.

Amberley Stations of the Cross
10.00am at Community of the
Beatitudes, 67 Leithfield Road.

Culverden 10.00am Ecumenical
Service at Catholic Church.

Hawarden 3.00pm, Celebration of
the Lord's Passion.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

HOLY SATURDAY 26 MARCH

8.00pm Hanmer Springs Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY 27 MARCH,

Amberley 8.00am

Cheviot 9.45am (an extra Mass)

Hawarden 10.00am

MON 28 MARCH, TUES 29, & WED 30 MARCH

12noon Mass Community of the
Beatitudes.

**Further details of times and
directions to each church at
www.catholichurunui.nz**

Weekly Lenten Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

CULVERDEN Tuesdays 7pm - 8pm
COMMUNITY OF THE BEATITUDES

Thursdays 7.15pm-8.15pm conc. with
Compline & any other church on request.
**"Here we can open our hearts to Jesus
and allow ourselves to listen to Him."**

the parish = a family

A couple of weeks ago a parishioner took me
aside to tell me that in a conversation they had
witnessed between me and another, I had
lacked patience.

I remembered the encounter, and the
parishioner was right. It was one of those days,
and things had got on top of me. I reacted too
quickly to the anger of another person. I am
grateful to the parishioner who reprimanded
me. They did so with clarity and gentleness. It
was clear to me that their motivation was to
build up our parish community.

Later in the day as I was driving I pondered
the moment when I had lost patience, and the
loving reprimand of the parishioner. It got me
thinking about the parish as a family and the
presence and place of the diocesan priest in
this parish family.

Most parishioners live in a house with other
people. In this household of family the best and
worst of each member of the family is evident.
Each member of the family is all too aware of
the strengths and weaknesses of every parent,
child and sibling. The same is true in a
Religious community of sisters, brothers or
priests. For these people their first family is the
community in which they live within the one
house.

The diocesan priest is different. Even when he
lives in a house with others (priests, friends or
housekeeper), the first family of the diocesan
priest is always the people of the parish he
serves. This relationship is the heart of the
beauty of the life of the diocesan priest. The
diocesan priest is called and appointed to live
fully immersed in the lives of the people of the
parish he serves in cities as in small
communities (Cheviot, Hawarden, Amberley or
Chatham Islands).

This means that while hopefully the
parishioners in a parish served by a diocesan
priest will see their priest at his best, too often
they will see the worst of him. As in a family at
times we wisely overlook the imperfections. At
other times it is important to challenge and
correct the priest.

Tragically, In some families, some members are
unable to say a positive word about some other
family members. Their list of their brother, sister
or cousin's faults covers every aspect of human
existence. In this situation the real problem is
not with the brother, sister or cousin.

As Catholic Christians in the Good Shepherd
Hurunui, everyone of us is a blood relative -
related by the body and blood of Jesus which
we receive every Sunday. This action makes us
family in the most real sense of the word - in
fact more real than our biological families. "My
mother and brothers and sisters are those who
do the will of my father in heaven." (Matthew
12:50).

Please pray for your priests, and especially for
me as I strive to do my best to lead all
parishioners into deeper relationship with
Jesus. **Fr. John**

Holy Week reality

These Holy Week days provide us with the
opportunity to remember the events of the life of
Jesus through which he brings us life. This
weekend's palm branches and reading of the
Passion of Jesus begins our move into Holy Week.

You might find it helpful to think of these days
before Easter as a week of retreat. While we
continue our family, school and work routines our
focus is guided beyond. In these days let us look
together to Jesus.

We remember the last days of Jesus' life: suffering
unjustly and death as a criminal. We recall the
events that gave us new life.

When we think of something that happened a long
time ago, especially when it happened before we
were born, it is easy to slip into an academic recall,
or a romantic nostalgia about the past.

In this mode we recall what has happened,
knowing that it has already happened. It is past. It
is over.

While this mode of memory can help us to learn
from the mistakes and methods of the past, this is
not the kind of memory that the church invites us to
live in Holy Week.

Perhaps it is helpful to consider an example. From
history many of us have learned of the Battle of
Waterloo. We know that this event happened. We
have no doubt since our knowledge has come to us
from many independent and reliable sources.

For the families of the (almost) fifty thousand
soldiers that died at Waterloo this event was
unforgettable. For the descendants of these
families, to have an uncle who died in the fighting
has become a badge of family honour.

But the death of Jesus is not just an 'historical'
memory for the disciple or a badge of honour for
the twenty-first century Christian.

The difference is that whereas Napoleon and his
soldiers are now dead, Jesus is alive. The blood on
the battlefields of Belgium is no longer visible. But
the suffering of Jesus continues. The life, death and
resurrection of Jesus are not simply moments of
history. These events are the present reality of the
life of the twenty-first century disciple.

Napoleon is dead and gone. Jesus is alive and
present. The community of Jesus is thriving today,
not because of our successful pastoral plans or
inclusive attitudes, but because Jesus is alive.

I invite you to immerse yourself fully in the events
of Holy Week. You have begun by being at this
Palm Sunday commemoration of the Passion of
Jesus today, or by reading this reflection. You might
continue the week by taking the opportunity for the
Sacrament of Reconciliation.

As we walk this journey together we do so not as
passive spectators or students of history, but as
struggling Christians who participate (in our own
lives) in the suffering and death of Jesus.

We know the promise too: that those who walk this
path, confident in the presence of God, journey
through the road of suffering and anxiety to share in
the glory of the resurrection. **J.O'C**

St Vincent de Paul Time to clean out your wardrobe? Proceeds raised from donations of quality clothing to St Vincent de Paul go to support those in our community who are most in need. Please drop your Sellable Clothing, shoes and bedding in to us at 265 Stanmore Road or Our Papanui Store 19 Langdons Road. If you have Furniture /Larger items please call us on 3897484 Ext 2 to arrange Collection. Volunteering involves generosity of time and spirit, and is wonderfully rewarding. If you're interested in volunteering at St Vincent de Paul Stanmore Road we'd love to hear from you. We're currently looking for people to help in our busy new store at 265 Stanmore Road. Please call Penny on 0212449966 or call for Application Form.

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration in the Year of Mercy—You are invited to the annual celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral on Sunday April 3. Reconciliation will be available from 1.30pm – 3pm followed by the Chaplet of Mercy at 3pm. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 3.15pm with Fr Rick Loughnan as celebrant. Take this opportunity to pass through the Holy Door and obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. See notice board for details or Pat on 359 2087. *"Divine Mercy is the limit to evil in the world. Face evil doing good"* - **Pope John Paul II**

Hours of mercy - Jesus youth initiative In the light of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, the Jesus Youth movement is initiating 50 days of Eucharistic Adoration across New Zealand from Easter till Pentecost. Jesus youth Christchurch is hosting "Hours of mercy" for 7 Saturdays. When:- April 2nd till may 14th (Saturdays only) 8 am to 8 pm Where:- St Teresa of Lisieux Parish, Riccarton Sign Up Online at www.hoursofmercy.org.nz or contact 022 693 6195 Do try to find some time with Jesus, our Eucharistic Lord through the "Hours of Mercy" initiative."

Rosary House Spiritual Life Centre Prayer and Reflection Day *Mercy – God's loving kindness.* Saturday 9 April, 10.30am – 2.30pm at Mary Potter Centre, 442 Durham Street North. Bring own lunch. Facilitator: Sr Mary Catherwood. **Noticing God's Presence** – Using scripture for reflection, group response and personal prayer (experience *lectio divina*). Tuesdays 12, 19 & 26 April 10.30-11.30am at Mary Potter Centre, 442 Durham Street North; session repeated at 7.30-8.30pm at 22 Gracefield Avenue, Central City. Facilitator: Sr Mary Catherwood.

Introduction to Old Testament An 18 hour course starts Thursday 7 April, @ 4.15p.m. at JPll High School, Greymouth. Wendy at WClark@chch.catholic.org.nz or 03 353 0757 or www.chch.catholic.org.nz/tci for more info.

Holy Week and Easter Liturgy Times Times for Reconciliation and Mass for Holy Week for parishes throughout the Diocese are available online at www.chch.catholic.org.nz

Chrism Mass You are invited to attend the Chrism Mass this year on Monday 21 March at 7.30pm at St Mary's Pro Cathedral. Bishop Basil will bless the oils and the priests' will renew their priestly commitment.

WYD in Christchurch Dear parishioners, 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. This is a unique opportunity for the Youth (16-18years) of our Catholic communities to come together and share their faith experiences. Please keep these students in your prayer as they are preparing themselves for this journey. As we move closer to this event, we will be asking for donations to ensure that costs are reduced for families and no one is excluded from participating. To keep up what's happening see our Facebook page: World Youth Day 2016.

Accessing support for those affected by the recent earthquakes With the recent significant earthquakes in the Christchurch area, some people may be feeling anxious, stressed or upset. Catholic Social Services are happy to be first port of call for people if you (or people you know) are suffering. 03-379 0012 or email c.s.s@clear.net.nz

Good Friday Collection Please give generously to the Holy Places collection on Good Friday. Your donation will directly help in the care, protection and preservation of the sites associated with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in the Holy Land and the pastoral care of people in the Holy Land. "this is the responsibility incumbent upon the whole universal Church with regard to the Mother Church of Jerusalem, to which all Christians have an unforgettable obligation." Pope Francis

Taize Prayer Around the Cross Wed 23 March 7pm Sacred Heart Church, Spencer Street Addington Prayer Around the Cross is a way of expressing communion not only with the crucified Jesus & with all who suffer.

Event: Antioch Camp Date: 15th – 17th April Venue: YMCA Wainui Camp Antioch is an annual Camp run by CYT for Yrs. 11-13. An opportunity for young people to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ with inspiring talks, testimonies, games, small groups, opportunity to celebrate the sacraments, praise and worship and MORE. Online Registration is open now <http://www.cyt.org.nz>. Cost \$85 per person. Contact Sinead at CYT sqilgunn@chch.catholic.org.nz // 022 010 9828.

Follow the example of Pope Francis with the Sacrament of Confession



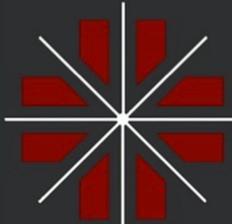
Amberley Saturday 19 March, 10-10.30
Hanmer Springs Saturday 19 March 4.15-4.45
Rangiora & Kaiapoi Saturday 19th 5.15-5.45pm
Culverden Sunday 20 March before 7pm Mass
Rangiora & Kaiapoi Tues 22 March 5.30-6pm
Hawarden Wednesday 23 March 10-10.30am
Rangiora Wednesday 23 March 5.30 - 6pm
Kaipoi Wednesday 23 March 5.30-6.30pm
Oxford Wednesday 23 March 6.30-7.30pm
Beatitudes Community Thursday 24 March 6pm - 6.45 (ie before Holy Thursday 7.00pm Mass)
& anytime by appointment with any priest

LOOKING TO OUR FUTURE In the next couple of days every household on the parish roll will receive a brochure announcing the final stage of the new presbytery / offices and car-park for the Good Shepherd parish. This appeal will close on 30 April. Members of the Parish Council, Finance Committee and Building Committee with Fr. John invite all parishioners to prayerfully consider if you are able to make a final contribution towards the project, hopefully raising the last \$60,000 and enabling the project to be completed without a loan.

PARISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Beginning this week the weekly newsletter will be printed in each town of the parish and be available on Friday afternoon. This enables the newsletter to be available in a town even in a week when there is no Mass. One person from each community is needed to pick up and take to the church. This is already sorted for Amberley, Hanmer & Cheviot. Someone is needed for Hawarden (Four Square), and a printing place and pick up is still needed for Culverden, Waiau, Scargill, Rotherham and Waikari. Let Sarah know at the parish office if you have any suggestions or are able to help.

THANK YOU to those who continue to support the presbytery build in very practical and prayerful ways. Last week's request for fence materials and builders was responded to within minutes. Members of Parish Council / Building Committee & Finance Committee will update parishioners at all Masses this weekend on the progress of the project.

 Find us on **facebook**
Catholic Hurunui

 www.foodforfaith.org.nz
read, watch & listen
with Fr. John O'Connor
& on Facebook & Twitter