

# Catholic Parish of the Good Shepherd

Hurunui District, Catholic Diocese of Christchurch



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

24 July 2016

## keeping on keeping on

In one of my study readings this week I came across a thought-provoking piece by Pope Emeritus Benedict in which he quotes Mahatma Gandhi making the point that in our earthly existence crying is a state we often find ourselves in. While he certainly means the tears that express pain, suffering and longing, he also means the cry of the heart that we express when we are in need.

This "crying out" is not a flaw or even a limitation in our earthly make-up. It is an honest and heart-felt acknowledgement that we are dependant on God for everything, even for every breath we take. We also cannot live in isolation from other people. Humans can only achieve happiness and fulfilment in life when we move beyond the teenage battle to be independent and discover a new horizon of freedom in inter-dependance. We are relational creatures and we need relationship. This does not mean that we live in a childish dependance on each other, but instead that we together know our dependance on God.

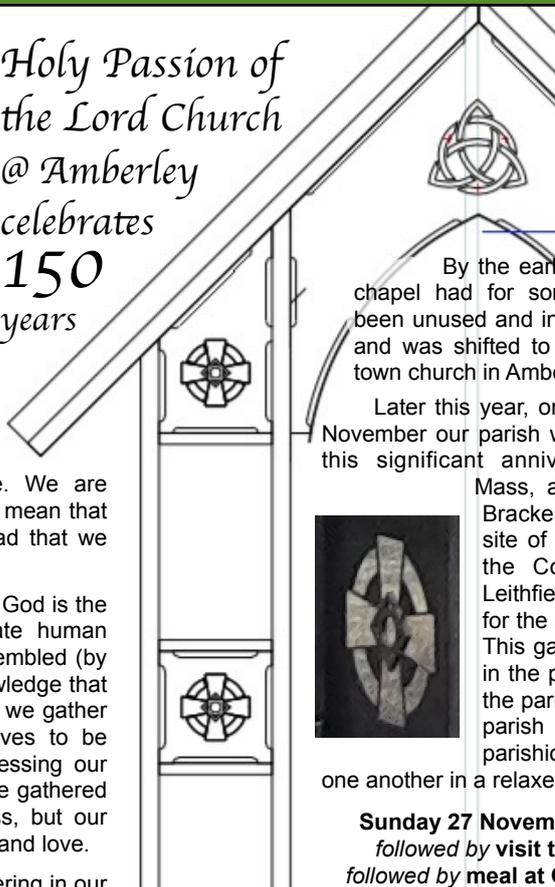
Our human acknowledgement of our shared dependance on God is the reality that builds us into a faith community. The ultimate human community is the Church because this is where we are assembled (by God) not to meet each other's needs, but to together acknowledge that only God can meet our deepest needs. Every Sunday when we gather for the Mass this is what we are doing; allowing ourselves to be assembled (by God) so that we can cry out to God expressing our need. The structure of the Mass addresses this need; we are gathered and begin by acknowledging not our strength and success, but our sin... that we may present to God our capacity for His mercy and love.

And we persist in this ritual. We keep on keeping on, persevering in our crying out. When the apostles of Jesus asked him to teach them to pray, he gave them the prayer that expresses the most fundamental human desires. We long to be in relationship with the Father, and our deepest longing is not for our success but for His kingdom to be a reality among us. We need to receive today the days needs, and to live in harmony and peace with our sisters and brothers. We need to know that we are loved by God, and to be free from all that keeps us from God.

And so we keep on keeping on praying Our Father...  
J.O'C

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.

## Holy Passion of the Lord Church @ Amberley celebrates 150 years



In 1866 Frederick Weld, the owner of the Brackenridge estate just south of Amberley (on the road to Rangiora) had just finished a brief term as Premier of New Zealand. In this year he built a chapel on his estate.

By the early 1950's the chapel had for some decades been unused and in poor repair, and was shifted to become the town church in Amberley.

Later this year, on Sunday 27 November our parish will celebrate this significant anniversary with

Mass, a visit to the Brackenridge cemetery (the previous site of the church) and a parish meal at the Community of the Beatitudes in Leithfield. More information will follow, but for the moment put the date in your diary. This gathering will be the only Mass held in the parish on this Sunday, and it gives the parish an occasion like the successful parish picnics in recent years when all parishioners have the opportunity to meet one another in a relaxed picnic environment.

**Sunday 27 November. Mass 11.00am Amberley followed by visit to Brackenridge Cemetery followed by meal at Community of the Beatitudes.**

As a preparation for this celebration, a working bee will be held to complete the landscaping around the church and presbytery. Please refer to the notice below for more information.

"Fish live in the sea, and they are silent. Animals on the earth cry. But the birds, whose living space is the heavens, sing. Silence is proper to the sea, crying to the earth and singing to the heavens. People, however, have a share in all three. We bear within ourselves the depths of the sea, the burden of the earth, and the heights of heaven, and for that reason all three properties belong to us: silence, crying and singing."

Mahatma Gandhi  
quoted by Pope Benedict XVI

## WORKING BEE

In preparation for our 150-year anniversary we are planning a working bee for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August. We will be putting timber garden borders, weed mat and bark around the gardens at the front of the Church. A few people with shovels, spades and a sharp knife should get the borders and weed mat done. A car and trailer would be great to get the loads of bark from Amberley hire. The lawns around the Presbytery also need levelling and sowing. The ground has been machined tilled so the soil is very friable and should be easy to rake and level. If we managed to get 6 people with rakes, one-wheel barrow and 2 shovels onto the lawns I would expect we would be finished by lunch time. I will bring all materials and an array of tools and equipment. Morning tea seems to be the easiest thing to organise with several ladies baking delightful treats. Our last working bee was a great success and we all enjoyed the sense of community and achievement and look forward to the same enjoyable experience on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Aug. Thank you. Geoff Harnett.

"Lord,  
on the day I called for help  
you answered me"  
Psalm 138



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Catholic Hurunui

**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/](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)."

**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. 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. Contact Fr John Adams 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.

**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. Anticipating 240 students of Catholic Colleges will attend this event that includes Pilgrimage, Service, Catechesis and Worship.

**THE BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD™** is a means of natural fertility regulation used by couples to prevent or achieve pregnancy and protect reproductive health. It is highly effective if used correctly. This seminar will be beneficial to Health professional. It will also be of interest to those involved in pre-marriage counselling or wishing to promote the method in the community. Contact Billings Educator Alicia Reeve 0800 693 378 or 027 2303099 [info@billingslife.org.nz](mailto:info@billingslife.org.nz) [www.billingslife.org.nz](http://www.billingslife.org.nz)

[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:*

- +All young people from around the world who will this week meet with Pope Francis in Poland for the World Youth Day. (2 million young Catholics are expected). We pray the pilgrimage group of 30 from our own diocese, and especially for Corrigan from our own parish.
- +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 through the planned-giving (Thanksgiving) programme.

*Jesus was praying in a certain place,  
and when he had finished,  
one of his disciples said to him,  
"Lord, teach us to pray  
just as John taught his disciples."*

*He said to them, "When you pray, say:  
Father, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come..."*

Luke 11

**THANK YOU** to all parishioners who remembered me in prayer these past two weeks of exams. In this time I have taken the comprehensive final exams for the MA in liturgy. Now there remains only a thesis paper to write before I complete the degree. I am especially grateful to those who took the time to send a note of support. Gratefully. John.

**THANK YOU TO ALL PARISHIONERS** who are responding so generously with pledges of regular financial contributions to the parish through the Thanksgiving Programme.

**GOOD SHEPHERD HURUNUI CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP** Expressions of Interest. Calling all young people 10+ years of age (and their parents) who would like to participate in a catholic youth group within our parish. We would like to know: The names, ages and locations of your keen young people so we can establish a programme that suits everyone. Please send an email or text message with your child's: Name, Age, Location E.g. Amberley, Waiau, Culverden, Hanmer, Cheviot, Hawarden and a day that suits you best. Send this info to: [simon@amuri.school.nz](mailto:simon@amuri.school.nz) OR 027 422 0183



### THE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.

Preparation classes have started. All children 8 years and over are welcome to attend with their parents. All enquiries contact Sarah at parish office [catholicurunui@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunui@gmail.com) or 03 319 8730

**PARISH ROLL** Periodically a parishioner asks to be removed from the parish roll and this request is acted on. All that is needed for you to be added back onto the roll is a phone call or message to the office. Please let the office know of any change to your address, phone, email address or names of family in your household.

**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:*

Dick Douglas, Elizabeth Kersten  
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.*

