



Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Amberley | Cheviot | Hawarden | Culverden | Waiau | Hanmer Springs
Parish Office: 138a Carters Road, Amberley | PO Box 143, Amberley 7441
www.catholicurunui.nz

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs
(Every Saturday)

6:30pm Culverden
(1st Sunday 2nd & 3rd
Saturdays)

Sunday Mass

9am Amberley
(Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot
(1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Only)

10.30am Hawarden
(4th Sunday Only)

11.30am Waiau
(5th Sunday Only)

12pm Fourvière House of
Prayer and Retreat

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday
7am Amberley*

Tuesday - Saturday
12pm Fourvière House of
Prayer and Retreat

Reconciliation

By Appointment
or before Mass
(but not the last 5 Minutes!)

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley
Church Hall

*May be cancelled when
Parish Priest is away

20th Sunday Of Ordinary Time

Year A

16th August 2020

Woman, you have great faith

In the Old Testament, it was prophesied that when the Messiah comes, right worship, and right ordering of the meeting between God and humanity will once again be re-established. In ways unexpected, that prophecy was fulfilled in the very person of Christ. Jesus is the Temple, and the true meeting place of God and humanity. When He commanded us ('Do this in memory of me...') to celebrate the Eucharist He established that the Eucharistic celebration as the occasion for right worship, and right ordering of the meeting between God and humanity takes place. To appreciate this, one needs to delve into the constant teaching of the Church on the Eucharist, and writings and teachings of the Early Church Fathers.



In this Sunday's readings, the coming of foreigners to the Temple in the first reading is taken up in the Gospel account (Matthew 15:21-28) of the coming of a Canaanite woman to Jesus. The Canaanite woman, was regarded as a 'foreigner' because she was of the pagan race. Although a pagan, she recognised Christ's true identity – and she believed. Her faith in Jesus was expressed in the title 'Lord' with which she addressed Him. Our Lord tested her faith with a rather harsh parable: citing that the bread of salvation was only for God's children, God's chosen people, rather than for "pagan dogs"! The woman's quick response was a further expression of her great humility and faith, which Jesus publicly acknowledged: "Woman you have great faith".

Ironically the pagan woman gives us a model of faith; she knew she had no right to God's gifts and mercy (v.27), and yet she asked Our Lord for them, not presumptuously, but with humility. We have much to learn from her, just as sometimes we can learn from others who may appear to have no faith.

God bless, Fr Michael

TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1 6-7

My sons who come to me I will lead to my holy mountain.

Psalm Response: O God, let all the nations praise you.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:13-15 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28

Woman, your faith is great.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23 + Romans 11:33-36 + Matthew 16:13-20

SUNDAY MASS' HYMNS:

475 Gather us in
909 Be still and know
365 Immaculate Mary (vs 1 & 8 only)

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

August
25 7pm First Holy Communion Meeting
29 Reconciliation Amberley 10-11am
30 Mass at Waiau 11.30am

HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS to comply with the Government rules around Alert Level 2, the Health & Safety legislation, and to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 churches must do all that is reasonably practical to ensure the rules are being followed.

Physical distancing: Follow the 1m rule and please keep it one bubble per pew and/or stick to the allocated seats marked with tape (in Amberley & Hanmer Springs).

Hygiene and cleaning: Stay home if you are unwell! It is expected that parishioners will sanitise their hands when entering the church (sanitiser is provided). Hymnals are not to be used, please see the song sheet provided with the newsletter. Holy water has been removed from the vessels at the church door. Communion is to be received only in the hand and there will be no chalice. All are to refrain from shaking hands during the sign of peace. Cleaning materials are available in the churches, **if someone could please assist Fr Michael to clean the churches after Mass he would be very grateful!**

Contact tracing: QR codes are on display in the churches for your NZ Government Covid Tracing App, so download the app and bring your phone. Alternatively you can sign a paper form in the entrance of the church.

LITURGY MATTERS Silence is part of the liturgy! After each reading and the psalm there is no need for the reader/cantor to rush into the next item. A moment of silence (even just 5sec) is part of the ritual of the Mass and can be an important time for reflection. At all the Masses in the Hurunui there appears to be almost a panic when the reader concludes the reading/psalm as if the next item should begin immediately. The most noticeable part is the time immediately after the second reading leading up to the Alleluia; there is no need for the Alleluia to begin immediately.

Fr Michael has been singing the Alleluia and the verse when he is the celebrant. He has been singing the Alleluia/verse hoping to inspire those who can sing to cantor it. When the Alleluia is not sung, the verse may be omitted. If the Alleluia is sung the verse may be read or preferably sung as well.

PARISH RECONCILIATION will be held on the 29th August 10-11am at Amberley. You can also join us and show good example to our children who will make their first reconciliation on the 15th September 7:15pm.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH Our parish relies heavily on the offertory collection each Sunday Mass to pay for running costs. Costs such as insurance and building maintenance will continue even when we are not there. Please consider giving your offertory contribution by automatic bank transfer each week or month. Please set this up using the parish bank account details below:

Name: The Catholic Parish of Hurunui
Account Number: 03 1592 0522332 20
Reference: Your planned giving number

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Pui - nzmichaelpui@gmail.com - 03 319 8730

Parish Secretary: Sarah Blair - catholic Hurunui@gmail.com Office Hours Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Parish Treasurer: Elaine Ramsay - catholic Hurunui treasurer@gmail.com Office Hours Tues & Thurs 8am - 9.30am

TELEVISED MASS There are opportunities for those not able to attend Mass to watch the Shine TV televised Mass on Sunday at 2pm. There will also be on the diocesan website any links to other on-line Masses that may be available from around the country.

PRAYER VIGIL - in hope NZ rejects the End of Life Choice Act Saturday 22nd August 3pm - 10pm at St Teresa's Church, 8 Puriri St, Riccarton. Join us as we earnestly pray that the attempt to legalise Euthanasia and assisted suicide in New Zealand will fail in the upcoming referendum. The prayer vigil will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Gospel readings, Divine Mercy Chaplet, intercessory prayers, and silent prayer.

PREGNANCY SUPPORT If you, or someone you know, needs support with an unplanned or challenging pregnancy, loss of a baby, (in)fertility, regretted abortion, or practical help to provide for a baby/toddler, please call the Pregnancy Support Workers at the John Paul II Centre for Life. We will be delighted to assist. Ph 351 3225 or 022 4581840 or www.facebook.com/0508HERE4U. We also welcome financial donations, and good quality practical items to pass on to families.

CATHOLIC MEN'S BREAKFAST This year's Catholic Men's Breakfast will be held on 3 September at the Canterbury Club, 129 Cambridge Terrace. The Bishop will speak about Bringing Faith to Life - a faith centred approach to family, business and leisure. This event is an excellent opportunity for Catholic and non-Catholic men to get to know the Bishop, network and encourage one another in common values. The breakfast begins at 7am and finishes by 8.30am. Tickets for this event are \$40 and can be purchased online through Eventbrite. For further information please contact Olivia on 366 9869 or email ostopforth@chch.catholic.org.nz

FOCUS 2020 – A Retreat for Tertiary Students Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy will run FOCUS Retreat on the 21st-23rd August at YMCA, Wainui. Focus is a retreat for students run by students. The retreat opens students to an encounter with Christ, through the Sacraments, prayer, and fellowship with their peers. All tertiary students are encouraged to register, limited places available for other young adults. Cost: \$75 (inclusive of meals & accommodation). Contact Sinead 0212646959.

DEACON TANG PHAN ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD Deacon Tang will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday 22nd August, 11am at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral. All are welcome to attend this special event in the life of the diocese. For those who would like to give a monetary gift: Account name: Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. Account number: 03-0802-0948733-00. Include the reference: Tang. **His first Mass is 9am at OLV and Fr Michael is preaching. Amberley and Cheviot will be covered by Fr Paul that day.**