



# 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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

15th November 2020

#### Good Shepherd Parish's Got Talent

In recent times I have enjoyed shows like Britain/America's Got Talents. Some of the talents on display have been incredible, including even those that do not make the cut simply because the judges deemed them as not being of the right 'entertainment' value. In my last parish we once emulated the shows, running an "OLV's Got Talent" night. Initially there were a handful people who dared to share their talents, but as the evening ticked along several individuals/groups got inspired and we had a great night of fun and entertainment. But what we saw were only talents from the point of view of 'entertainment'. There are many other forms of talents. There are a lot of talented people out there – you included! Each and everyone of us have a different talents, and sometimes it is sad that people's talents remain hidden for whatever reason.



In a way I am glad in a way the word "talent" in English, which is a reference to "gift or skill", is the same word in the Bible that refers to the equivalent weight to one hundred (silver) denarii (i.e. money). It makes the parable of the Talent in the Sunday's Gospel more generic by making it less about money, and more about the inherent and different gifts that God gives us. It challenges us to ask the question of whether we are doing less than we could with the one life we have. Sometimes we can pretend that we are worthless and not share out talents or use it in the service of building up the Kingdom of God. Perhaps it is pride of not cutting a good figure? Perhaps it is laziness?. That's the danger. It is easy in life to sit back quietly and passively like the third man in the parable who was given only one talent. If we are given talents, it is meant to give God glory.

In any parish, and especially a parish like ours that is so widespread with fewer souls per area that any other parish in the world, every single talent counts. So, I invite you to share your talents. Come and discuss with me how you can help me make the parish more vibrant etc. Don't use the same excuse as the third man.

#### Blessings

Fr Michael

*p/s If you want to get gifts for the children making their 1st Holy Communion, see the info' re Catholic Shop on next page*

#### TODAY'S READINGS:

**FIRST READING: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31**  
*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

**Psalm Response:** Happy are those who fear the Lord.

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6**  
*God will bring with Him those who have died in Jesus.*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30**  
*You have been faithful in small things: come join in Your Master's happiness.*

#### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

**Christ the King**  
Ezekiel:11-12,15-17 + 1 Cor 15:20-26,28 + Matthew 25:31-46

#### (Suggested) HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

776 I Will Come to You in the Silence  
924 Brother Sister Let Me Serve You  
360 As I kneel Before you (vs 1 & 3)

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY:

**November**  
15 World Day of the Poor  
21 1st Holy Communion Practice 10.00am  
22 First Holy Communion  
28/29 Parish 24hr Adoration  
29 1st Sunday of Advent

**PARISH'S 24 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** - Weekend 28/29<sup>th</sup> November (1st Advent)



As Catholics, the Eucharist (Mass) forms the heart, the very centre of our lives. The Catechism (para 1324), quoting the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council, reminds us that the Eucharist is "*the source and summit of the Christian life.*" It goes on to say: "In the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ Himself, our Pasch".

This reality of this sacrament is so powerful, so transformative, that it is not limited to one set of rituals, even one so holy as the Mass. The word "Eucharist" itself means "thanksgiving." Out of the abundance of our gratitude for this gift, the practice of **praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament** outside of Mass has become an established part of Catholic tradition, and is regarded as a great Spiritual Exercise. So when we gather to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, especially when it is exposed in a monstrance, we engage in a liturgical act which flows from the Mass, and is meant to lead to it too.

As part of the Parish Pastoral Goals our parish will have a 24 hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in which, in the space of 24 hour between Hanmer Springs and Amberley, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a special time to pray before God in the Eucharist.

Join, us, sign up to take an hour slot (just to ensure someone is before the Blessed Sacrament all the time. Of course, you can come anytime even without taking a slot. The rosters are already out for signing up, and it is still looking rather empty.

- *Pay attention to various things during the 24h too, e.g. Extra Mass, Reconciliation, Rosary...*
- *There will be some material for reflection and Spiritual Readings made available.*

**ALERT LEVEL 1** There have been many occasions where things could escalate. This is the time to continue to use the codes so that if there is any community transmission we can stamp it out quickly and avoid Lockdowns. No point complaining later. Please continue to be vigilant. QR codes, sign up sheets, and hand sanitisers are still in the Church. .

**2021 COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are still available to purchase - \$12 each. Please contact the office.

**PARISH MOVIE NIGHT** More than a dozen people attended, and enjoyed the movie and free "pope-corn"!!! The feedback was it was a good movie, and a few tears were shed!. Fr Michael is happy to make the DVD available ("Letters to Fr Jacob") if say, for example, someone in Cheviot, Culverden, Hanmer Springs or Hawarden or Waiau could play host to fellow local parishioners. Contact him, and a date/venue can be advertise. This is part of the Parish Pastoral goal to build community spirit.

**WANNABE MICHAELANGELO?....** Well, it won't be painting the the Sistine Chapel but if you would like to join Fr Michael in painting the window frames at Our Lady of the Rosary Church (Waiau) this coming Tuesday, give him a ring. They have all been primed, ready for the finishing touches. Or, if you just want a day to explore the town..... he's happy for you to come along. Leaving mid mornings. ... He might even shout you lunch!

**PRIESTS AND SPIRITUAL RETREAT** Priests are meant to do a Spiritual Retreat at least once a year. There is one organised by the Diocese (22-28th Nov) but Fr Michael hopes to have a private retreat the week after (29Nov-4 Dec), launching off with the 24h Adoration. There will be no (public) Weekday Mass because of it.

**CHRIST-MASS ADVANCE NOTICE** - To allow you to plan ahead, the Christmas Mass Times for 2020;

- Christmas Vigil (Thursday) 6.00pm Amberley
- Christmas Vigil (Thursday) 9.00pm Hanmer Springs
- Christmas Day (Friday) 8.30am Culverden
- Christmas Day (Friday) 10.30am Cheviot

The times were arrived at through discussion between Fr Michael and members of the Parish Pastoral Council.

**DIOCESAN NOTICES**

**NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE** You're invited to love them both by attending the fourth annual NATIONAL March for Life in Wellington on Saturday 5 December. Join pro-life Kiwis from all over NZ in a family-friendly celebration of life which also peacefully protests the practice and legality of abortion. Gather at Civic Square from 1pm for family-friendly entertainment, sausage sizzle and pro-life stalls. March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. Concludes at 4pm. Learn more about this important event at a critical moment in NZ's history: [www.marchforlife.nz](http://www.marchforlife.nz)

**THE CATHOLIC SHOP** for the best range of gifts and church supplies in the South Island. Come and see us on Manchester St next to St Mary's Pro-Cathedral 9.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays. Rosaries, crucifixes, candles, missals, sacramental gifts, cards, bibles and more ! Our Advent and Christmas ranges are coming in daily.

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Michael Pui - [nzmichaelpui@gmail.com](mailto:nzmichaelpui@gmail.com) - 03 319 8730

**Parish Secretary:** Sarah Blair - [catholicurunui@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunui@gmail.com) Office Hours Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm

**Parish Treasurer:** Elaine Ramsay - [catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com) Office Hours Tues & Thurs 8am - 9.30am