



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 Sanctuary of
Fourvière, Leithfield

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday
7am Amberley
(see next page also)

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

14th February 2021

If You want to You can cure me...

This Sunday's Gospel gives us the encounter between Jesus and a Leper. The leper's prayer, 'If you want to, you can make me clean', is an expression of faith in Jesus, however weak or imperfect. Our Lord never works a miracle in order to arouse faith, he always presupposes it before any miracle. We humans, in our broken-ness, often seek miracles rather than faith. We seek God's gifts, rather than God.

Spiritual maturity comes when we find our prayers expressed humbly in words similar to the words of the leper's: "If you want to Lord," , rather than, "I want you to.....".

God bless, Fr Michael



The Season of Lent is Upon us.....

The Liturgical season of Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others, perhaps best summarised by the words "praying, fasting and alms-giving". It starts off with **Ash Wednesday**, and the season leads us to the Celebration of the **Triduum** (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil). In the spirit of penance, musical instruments are only to be used to sustain singing and floral decorations a put to a pause or made very simple.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of **fast and abstinence (from meat)**. Fasting for us does not necessarily mean going completely without food (though some may choose to do so). Eating one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal is considered to be fasting. The important thing is the spirit of penance behind it. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year. The laws of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. Although some Catholics have forgotten it, all Fridays are actually days of penance. In NZ Catholics may fulfil the law of common practise of penance by performing any one of the following acts of piety or charity:

- a) Abstaining from meat or some other food.
- b) Abstaining from alcoholic drink, smoking, or some other form of amusement.
- c) Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual.
- d) Giving what is saved as a result of fasting and abstinence to the needy at home or abroad.
- e) Going out of the way to help somebody who is poor, sick, old or lonely.
- f) Making an extra effort in terms of family prayer, participating in the Mass, visiting the

TODAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46
The unclean man must live outside the camp

Psalm Response: I turn to You Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Take me for your model and I take Christ

GOSPEL: Mark 1:40-45
The leprosy left the man at once, and he was cured

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Sunday of LENT
Genesis 9:8-15 + 1 Peter 3:18-22 + Mark 1:12-15

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

807 Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven
427 Healer of our every ill
365 Immaculate May (Vs 1 & 8 only)

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

February
16 1st Holy Communion meeting 7.00pm
March
16 2nd Holy Communion Meeting. 7.00pm
19 Start of Year of Amoris Laetitia
31 Lenten Confession in Amberley 7.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES IN AMBERLEY - The weekday Mass times is 7.00am by default, but will vary in summer. Please pay close attention to the newsletter and the Notice Board.

- Mon - Tues, 15-16 Feb - 7.00am as per normal

Ash Wednesday 17 February



9.00am Hanmer Springs & 7.00pm Amberley. Ashes will be dispensed during Mass

- Thu 18 Feb - 7.00am as per normal

- Fri - Sat, 19-20 Feb - **9.00am**
- Mon-Tues, 22-23 Feb - **9.00am**
- Wed - Sat, 24-27 Feb - 7.00am as per normal

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 - Seven children have enrolled to prepare for their First Holy Communion on the Feast of Corpus Christi (Body and Blood of Christ) on **June 6th**. Please pray for them. Fr Michael will also approach some parishioners for a more personal "adoption" in prayer. You will see them at this Sunday Mass to receive their Mass booklet.

THE WORD 2021: THE INTERNATIONAL BIBLE SUMMIT. February 11-13. This summit is FREE to attend, and is aimed at showing you how to use the Bible to find answers, hope, and peace. Check it out: www.cardinalstudios.org/catholic-bible-summit-home

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES - The next set of envelopes are now available for parishioners who are on Planned Giving. If you are not on Planned Giving and would like to help the parish by getting on board, please contact Elaine the treasurer or Sarah the Secretary.

Those who contribute via Direct Debit, should still receive a set of "Special Envelopes", for the option of contributing towards special occasions (e.g. Peter's Pence, Holy Places, Seminary, etc)

INFORM - DIOCESAN QUARTERLY PUBLICATION. The next publication deadline is 26 February. We in the Hurunui tend not to feature because we do not make ourselves known. (However, a short news item about the painted Waiiau Church has been sent in - hopefully published). If there are any suggestions or someone wants to put together articles or "news" from around the parish please contact Fr Michael.

CARITAS LENTEN APPEAL: A NEW WAY FORWARD.



Each year the Lenten Appeal is run by Caritas on behalf of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Conference (NZCBC) to support Caritas' work of charity and justice for the poorest and most vulnerable around the world, including New Zealand. The Envelopes for the Appeal are in the foyer of the Churches in the parish.

Each year, Caritas also develops resources for parishes and communities to guide reflection and prayer throughout the six weeks of Lent. The theme for Lent 2021 is "A New Way Forward" is inspired by Pope Francis' words in Laudato Si', highlighting God's infinite presence throughout both the highs and lows of our life on earth. Throughout our lives, we face obstacles and challenges that change our world and lead us to adapt in unexpected ways. Most notably over the past year, we have all been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has swept the globe, touching the lives of every person and compelling us to shift our ways of living and interacting with each other. Through these seasons, God's love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. For the Lenten reflection programme, go to the Caritas website: www.caritas.org.nz

FR JOHN REA IN CHRISTCHURCH

- Friday 19 February 7.30pm at St Matthew's, Bryndwr – healing evening.
- Sunday 21 February 4.00pm at St Joseph's Church Centre, Papanui – praise & worship, teaching on baptism in the Holy Spirit, prayer ministry.
- Tuesday 23 February 7.30pm at St Patrick's, Kaiapoi – inner healing.

For more information contact Maureen Thow 027 5688 338 . or email: maureenthow@slingshot.co.nz

THE PARISH TO PARISH B&B BOOK is available with nearly 200 homes in NZ and Australia for catholic hospitality, \$35 a night for one person or \$30 each for 2 or more persons this includes continental breakfast. New hosts welcome to join. For information or to purchase a book (\$15 includes postage) contact Marie Anderson 2 Brent Place, Christchurch 8053, Ph. 359 5541, or email marie.ian@xtra.co.nz