



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.catholichurunui.nz

Forth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

30th January 2022

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

5pm Hanmer Springs
(Every Saturday)

6:30pm Culverden
(1st, 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

Tuesday - Saturday
12pm Sanctuary of
Fourvière, Leithfield

Reconciliation

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

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley
Church Hall

This is Joseph's Son surely...

This Sunday's Gospel reading continues from Last Sunday's, whereby Our Lord begins his public ministry with an inaugural discourse in the synagogue at Nazareth. At the beginning, He receives the admiration of the people of His hometown. But things changed quickly when He began to challenge their ideas and conviction. Then rejection sets in.....and eventually the plot to get rid of him.

Things have not changed much in our time. When we hear words pleasing to us, we accept them, but when the inconvenient truth challenges us, we often deny it – and we become hostile to the bearer of the truth. I would say the Catholic Church has survived the test of time not **just** because She is a Divine Institution, but because she has preached the Gospel 'in season and out of season' in many areas. Right now, mostly in the Western World, her message is out of season. Try and make a stand on basic principles/truths like 'marriage is between a man and a woman', or 'abortion is the killing of an innocent child', and be prepared to be ridiculed, rejected or labelled as a bigot. Yet, as I have preached on several occasions, deep down in each and every child, less tarnished by the ways of the world, there is an instinctive hope that s/he is the product of a mother and a father who love each other and love him/her, even if s/he is not fortunate enough to be in the position. As for abortion, all of us would be abhorred by the killing of any child (irrespective of the circumstances of conception, and health of child), but somehow we can reclassify an unborn child to something else – i.e. not humans. I acknowledge all the difficult and real-life circumstances people have to face, and would not want to be seen as condemning those who are faced with difficult choices because of the circumstances of life. However, once we can justify the taking of an innocent life, there is nothing else we cannot justify.

In a world tarnished by sin, sometimes the truth is obscured by the ways of the world. We Christians are called not to be a condemning voice, but a prophetic voice. The message of the Church – our message - must be what Jesus brought: one of Love and of new life. His love, poured out by the Spirit, reaches out to all – including people who make wrong choices; it endures all things and leads us to the Truth. We are called to participate in that love. And in that participation, we are also likely to face rejection and contradiction like our Lord and Master. If we have never once been rejected or face ridicule or being made to feel uncomfortable for being a Christian, chances are we have not really lived our faith in the unbelieving world. Chances are, we have not once dared to speak the truth, and be a prophetic voice.

May we always have the courage of our convictions, and clarity of mind to grasp the truth, and when we have to speak it, to do it always **without** condemnation or a sense of superiority.

God bless

Fr Michael



SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19

'I have appointed you prophet to the nations'

Psalms Response: I will sing of Your salvation

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Three things last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30

No prophet is ever accepted in his own country

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES:

(see note on Back Page)

938 Soul of My Saviour

776 I will come to you in the silence

365 Immaculate Mary (vs 1 & 8 only)

MASS AT WAIUAU this 5th Sunday of the month - 11.30am

THE TRAFFIC LIGHT is **Red!** For Masses that are 'Open to All' where a Vaccine Pass is not required, please book within 24 hours of attending to get a spot, as space is rather limited. Text 021-1737992 or email: nzmichaelpui@gmail.com.

The parish of the Good Shepherd caters for both the Vaccinated and those who are not, i.e. we have Masses that are "Open to All", and Masses for all those who are Vaccinated only. Please cooperate, and help our parish adhere to the law.

Amberley and Hanmer Springs: Vaccinated Only, limited to 100 and 1m distancing)

Culverden/Hawarden/Cheviot/Waiiau: Open to All (limited to **25** and 1m distancing requirement)

SINGING AT MASS? - Someone asked if we should be singing since in some Dioceses or Parishes it is not done. The answer is, under the present Government's Guidelines for Place of Worship, it is allowed. The actual wording is: "*Singing and other types of performance can go ahead....*". Of course the rules may be updated, but for the current Guidelines, please download and read:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/COVID-19-Protection-Framework/COVID-19-Protection-Framework-Guidelines-for-places-of-worship.pdf>

PARISH HYMNAL - Please pick up the hymnals and follow the instructions that will be announced after Mass as to where to return them. Hymnals in Amberley, Hanmer and Culverden will be used in two sets, in rotation - i.e. each set is used only every fortnight. The hymnals in Cheviot are at the end of the pews, and the few who use them are to use the same hymnal each Sunday.



SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be administered during Mass on the World Day of Prayer for the Sick:

Friday, 11th February, 2.00pm in Amberley.

This will replace the usual 7.00am Mass. After Mass, there will be a light refreshment in the Hall. Less than 10 parishioners have indicated they are attending, so this will be an "Open to all" Mass. Since the current restriction is 25, if any more are intending to come, please 'book' (see details above about booking).



INPUT/FEEDBACK!

Reminder - Your feedback/input is required by the end of February!! Some of you have been handed the

material to discuss with others or to feedback personally. There are essentially two questions, the answers to which Pope Francis wants to hear from parishioners. Ask Fr Michael for the material if you have not received it.

Also, there are two opportunities to gather with others to encounter, listen and discern together, including small group conversation.

Tuesday **15 February** 6.30pm to 9.00pm or Sunday 6 March 6.30pm to 9.00pm, at Christ the King Pastoral Centre, Burnside. Please register by emailing jclarke@cdoc.nz or phone 03 366 9869. More info about the synod can be found at www.chchcatholic.nz/synod or contact Mike Stopforth 0275398542 email mstopforth@cdoc.nz

VOLUNTEERS for CATHOLIC SHOP. A few hours per week. If you enjoy customer service, have some general computer skills, and would be interested please contact Vicki on 03 366 9869 or vschupbach@cdoc.nz

VOLUNTEERS FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH TEAM - An information/intake night for possible CYT volunteers aged 16 and over, will be held on Sunday **13th February** in the Assisi Lounge at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral from 5pm-7pm. Pizza will be provided. Vaccine Pass and RSVP essential. For further information contact Grace on 022 329 3491.

VALENTINES DAY MASS A date for your diaries. Valentine's Day Mass, Monday 14th February, 6.30pm @ St Mary's, celebrated by Archbishop Paul.

VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD: Fr Tien Cao is the Vocations Director for the Christchurch Diocese. If you have any queries or would like to talk about vocations contact Fr Tien at vocations.chch@gmail.com. You may wish to visit the website of Holy Cross Seminary www.holycross.org.nz

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

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

Parish Treasurer: Elaine Ramsay - catholicurunuitreasurer@gmail.com Office Hours Tuesday 8am - 9.30am