



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

Third Sunday of Lent

Year C

20th March 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

Unless you repent you will all perish.....

The concept of "Kharma" is one that suggests that a bad action by someone will somehow lead to bad things happening to the person in return, as if 'fate' dishes out justice. While many today seem to subscribe to this idea of "Kharma", it is not part of our Christian faith. In this Sunday's Gospel passage, we see the idea of "Kharma" expressed by the people who approached Jesus. Pilate had killed some Galileans offering sacrifices, and he mingled their blood with that of the sacrifice they were offering, probably to mock them. The people who approached Jesus thought it must have been the sinful lives the Galileans lived that such a bad thing happened to them. Our Lord challenged their wrong thinking: "Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans?"



We Christians believe in the Personal Judgment of God when we die, and Final Judgment at the end of time. In these, those who deliberately and knowingly choose to do evil acts may find themselves missing out on the final goal in life, which is full union with God, and the Resurrection on the Last Day. And that is NOT Kharma; that is free will! We believe also that through His grace, God offers us salvation. God calls us to repentance – to change our hearts, and our ways. And that is precisely the message in this Sunday's Gospel.

Twice in the first paragraph Our Lord said to His listeners: "If you do not repent you will perish!", and made reference to the 'tree that does not bear fruit' to be akin to someone who is in the state of mortal sin, and have not repented. If we truly examine our hearts, there are many areas in life that we can do better.

Blessings, Fr Michael

THE TRAFFIC LIGHT is RED! And Omicron is now rife in the community

Please stay home if you are sick

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 & request from the bishops.

- **Amberley and Hanmer Springs:** (Vaccinated Only, limited to 100 and 1m distancing)
- **Culverden/Hawarden/Cheviot/Waiau:** (Open to All, limited to 25 and 1m distancing)

Please book within 24 hours of attending as space is rather limited. Text 021-1737992 or email: nzmichaelpui@gmail.com. Please use scan the QR code, or record your details on the sheet *(Please read Health and Safety Update overleaf).*

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8,13-15
I AM has sent me to you

Psalm Response: The Lord is kind and merciful

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12
The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9
'Leave the fig tree one more year'

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Singing may be omitted on the day)

180 Led by the Spirit
204 Lord Jesus Think of Me

(In Lent let us leave quietly at the end of Mass as part of our parish's Lenten exercise - i.e. no singing...)

Covid transmission is now rife in the community. Please can everyone who attends Mass take **more** precaution against the spread of Covid to protect those who may be more vulnerable (e.g those who are immune compromised). During our Masses, there are numerous safety measures that we all can take to reduce the likelihood of Covid-19 transmission (including mask-wearing, spacing and ventilation, and general common sense for hygiene). Remember, in Hanmer and Amberley, the pews are marked to help you to distance, and even though you may be the same 'bubble' and want to sit together, doing so may make it harder for others to follow the markings for distancing.

Please be assured that Fr Michael has RAT kits ready to test himself should he has any symptoms. If and when he tests positive, Mass will be cancelled (suggest if you are not on parish e-mail-out, that you register your email address to do so). Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are infected: We continue to pray that all will recover soon and fully. Fr Michael may be able to spare some RAT kits if you want to be sure.

If you have any doubts or concerns - you are encouraged to call Healthline (0800 358 5453) or contact your local general practice. **Unless symptomatic or immune-compromised, or vulnerable, we would love to see you at Mass.**

PARISH/DIOCESAN NOTICES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT

- + Amberley: 5.30pm every Friday
- + Culverden: 7.00pm Friday 18th March & 1st April
- + Other Mass centres: Volunteers to lead?

If you want to do the Stations from home to take precaution against Covid, you can also try;

+ The Parish YouTube series. Search for it, and you may find Stations which Fr Michael recorded during the Lockdown.

+ there is a Station of the Cross on demand on the 'Faith Development Ministries' website

<https://www.fdm.org.nz/stations-of-the-cross>

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION IN LENT

Below are some schedules opportunities you may wish to explore:

- **A m b e r l e y** 6.00pm, Wednesday 6th April for *1st Holy communion children and guardians*
- **Amberley, 6.30pm- 7.30pm,** Thursday 7th April
- **Cheviot, 11.00am - noon,** Friday 8th April
- **Hanmer Springs, 3.00pm-4.00pm** Saturday 9th April (Front Flat)
- **Culverden, 6.00pm to 7.00pm** Wednesday 13th April



WAR IN UKRAINE - an article from the Christchurch Catholic Commission of Justice & Peace on Ukraine can be found on their webpage on the Diocesan website. It may bring some understanding of the fear in Europe of the consequences of another war.

VIGIL FOR PEACE

12 Hours of Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

The church leaders across Christchurch have agreed to a call to prayer for Peace in Ukraine. This is to be held this coming Friday 25th March from 7am to 7pm. This day also happens to be the Feast of the Annunciation and on this day Pope Francis will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Given the Red-Light restrictions, we are unable to organise a gathering of Christians in one venue to pray. Accordingly, we are calling individuals, families and churches across the whole of our city and region to intentionally pray on this day.

People are invited to pray for:

- Peace and stability to be restored quickly
- Safe passage for civilians
- Safe aid routes
- The Church in Ukraine and surrounding countries
- Medical aid within Ukraine
- Refugee care and relief in border countries
- For God's protection over children and families as they are uprooted from their hometowns.
- For Aid organisations to be able to quickly reach the most vulnerable families with the resources they need most.

This prayer vigil has been initiated and supported by the Heads of Denominations and [Te Raranga](#) Network of Churches. In our parish we will have;

- Fr Michael's 7.00am Mass offered for the above intention
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4.30-5.30pm**
- Stations of the Cross 5.30pm onwards (for the above intention).

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

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