



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

First Sunday of Lent

Year C

6th 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

(see Health & Safety Notice)

Reconciliation

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

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley
Church Hall

You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone...

This First Sunday of Lent we are presented with the Gospel account that is known as the "Temptations of Christ" (Luke 4:1-13), where Our Lord was subjected to temptations while spending 40 days in the desert. His forty days in the desert reflects our Lenten season of 40 days. In Lent we also enter our 'desert'.

The temptations of Our Lord were temptations to take Him away from His mission. It is in a way a representation of our the temptations we face in life:

- the temptation to do our will, rather than God's;
- the temptation to seek one's own glory even in religious matters;
- the temptation to seek the easy way out especially when the going gets tough;

Lent is the time to look again at our spiritual effort, at how we align our lives with God's will. We use the 40 days of Lent as a time of mortification (e.g fasting), of prayer and almsgiving in preparation for Easter. We learn to 'deny ourselves' as a way to gain strength to learn to fight temptations and do a bit of penance. We pray more to get closer to God, and we reach out to those less fortunate than us, because Our Lord tells us when we do it to the least of our brothers and sisters, we do it to him. The whole idea of Lenten observances and practices is meant to enable us to worship the One true God better, and serve Him alone.

When ashes were implode on the foreheads on Ash Wednesday, the words uttered when the ashes were: 'Repent and believe in the Gospel'. Let us all pray for the strength to do so.

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.

- **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, of record your details on the sheet *(Please read Health and Safety Update overleaf).*

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Bow down in the sight of the Lord Your God

Psalm Response: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8-13
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13
The Temptation of Christ

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Singing may be omitted on the day)

198 We rise again from ashes
205 Lord who throughout
these 40 days

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

HEALTH & SAFETY

Please can everyone who attends Mass take **more** precaution against the spread of Covid. It is not about creating fear, but about protecting those who may be vulnerable (e.g those who are immune compromised). The transmission is now rife in the community. Furthermore, we have had at least one person testing positive who was at Mass in Hawarden, and the Beatitudes have also stopped public Masses (until next Tuesday?) as they have been in contact with a positive case, and several are now unwell. Our thoughts and prayers are with these families - We pray that they are not severely affected, and will recover soon.

At "phase three", the official advice is that there is no requirement for anyone who attended our Hawarden Mass to self-isolate. However, it is extra important to be attentive to Covid-19 symptoms and to isolate and get tested if such symptoms appear. For more information on Covid-19 symptoms, see: <https://covid19.govt.nz/prepare-and-stay-safe/about-covid-19/covid-19-symptoms/>.

During our Masses, there are numerous safety measures that 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.

If you have any doubts or concerns - you are encouraged to call Healthline (0800 358 5453) or contact your local general practice.

PARISH/DIOCESAN NOTICES

KALEVALE is on this Sunday (6th March), being the first Sunday of the month. We will have our cuppa with caution - *(Please keep physical distance, and masks are highly recommended. Once you are seated, like in a restaurant, you can remove your mask to have your cuppa)*. For those who are unfamiliar: The Amberley community has been having a cup of tea after the 9.00am Mass in Amberley, at which a mini raffle is run. Proceeds go to support the mission of the the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary in Kalevale. It is a good opportunity for parishioners to catch up, for 'newish' parishioners to meet others, and for us to extend hospitality to visitors. Sadly the Parish Priest has to rush off!

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE - as composed (abridged) by the Ukraine Community in Wellington;

Holy and Gracious God, We pray for the people of the Ukraine, for their country and their leader;

- for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.
- for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.
- for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.
- for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace in Ukraine. And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son. Amen

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 5.30pm every Friday in Lent in Amberley, and in the other Mass centres.... awaiting 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>

WEEKLY ONLINE ROSARY for Peace in the World: In answer to the call of Pope Francis to pray for peace in the world, an online rosary will be held each Friday in Lent at 8pm starting on March 11th. Details and the link for joining the rosary can be found on the Diocesan website at <https://chchcatholic.nz/> or on the Diocesan Facebook Page. Please contact Matt on 027 536 9407 for more details.

THE NATIONAL LITURGY OFFICE offers on its website, a page featuring the preparation for liturgies for each Sunday in Lent. You may wish to have a look. <https://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/>

CYT AMAZING RACE - the Catholic Youth Team is invited all who are in Years 7-13 to make a team to enter the CYT Amazing Race. Sunday **20th March** 10am -1.30pm, Around Central Christchurch www.cyt.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