



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, 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
(Closed in January)

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday
7am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday
12pm Sanctuary of
Fourvière, Leithfield
(Closed in January)

Reconciliation

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

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley
Church Hall

Mary, the Mother of God Year A 1 January 2023



Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the angel (Luke 1:26-38). Her cousin, Elizabeth, in the scene of the Visitation, proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43). Mary's role as Mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

St Paul asserts that "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law" (Galatians 4:4). Paul's further statement that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'" helps us realize that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

The precise title "Mother of God" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. In the Greek form *Theotokos* (God-bearer), it became the touchstone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus in 431 insisted that the early Church Fathers were right in calling the Holy Virgin Mary, *Theotokos*. At the end of this particular session, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the Theotokos!"

Indeed, praised be the bearer of God, the Mother of God. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, who may have recourse to thee.

Happy New Year and may the New Year bring you new blessings. Fr Michael

P/s - Congratulations to Anna Clayton. The first and only entry to Christmas Quiz 😞
A dip into my Choc Almond Box?

Pps See also my 2 recommendation below:

FORMED CATHOLIC RESOURCE ONLINE

Fr Michael's Recommendation for this week: 2m 48s: "Is Mary the Mother of God?"
(Search the word "THEOTOKOS" on www.formed.org).

SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Numbers 6:22-27

They are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them

Psalm Response:

May God bless us in his mercy

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

God sent his Son, born of a woman

GOSPEL: Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found the baby lying in the manger

HAPPY NEW YEAR



HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Use Carol Booklet)

6 The First Noel

* Hail Mary, Gentle Woman (Offertory)

16 What Child is This?

* Mo Maria

(* = see next page)

KALAVALE is on again this Sunday @ Amberley since it is the First Sunday of the month (and the Year!). It will be good to catch up for a cuppa with others in the parish too - don't forget, all are brothers and sisters in Christ!

COVID is in the local community again. Please stay home if you are unwell to protect the vulnerable. For those who are infected, our prayers are for mild symptoms only and a speedy recovery, that you have a great Christmas.

GET INFORMed, the complimentary Diocesan Newsletter. There are still many copies in our Churches. An article about Amberley Church is nestled in it somewhere..... and a similar article is also in the latest NZ Catholic!



COMMUNITY OF BEATITUDES' CHRISTMAS RAFFLE RESULTS

- 1st Prize: Gerno van Niekerk
- 2nd Prize: Vicki & jerk Milne
- 3rd Prize: Josiane

HYMNS NOT IN HYMNAL

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

(Starts with the words of the Hail Mary...)

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star
so strong and bright.

Gentle mother, peaceful dove
teach us wisdom, teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father,
You were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women
and for woman, shining one....

Mo Maria

Mo Maria aianeī
O tatou waiata;
kia kaha ra tatou,
kia nui te aroha.

(Translation)
For Mary now Our songs
Let us be strong
Let there be great love

Aroha ki te Atua
Aroha ki a Maria
I te Rangi, i te whenua
āke tonu, āke tonu.

Love God, Love Mary In
heaven and on earth
Forever and ever

ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER QUIZ;

- 1) **Gabriel.** Did you know that the name means "God is my Strength"?
- 2) **Incarnate.** Meaning "embodied", "enflesh" or take on flesh Greek: Carnus: flesh)
- 3) **Begotten, consubstantial** - Remember, before the words were updated, we used to say "begotten, not made" -i.e. not created
- 4) and 5) **Bethlehem - where else!**
- 6) **Shepherds** - Bleak if you got this wrong!
- 7) **Myrrh** - Did you know that it is a gum-resin extracted from a number of small, thorny tree species of the genus Commiphora. Myrrh resin has been used throughout history as a perfume, incense and medicine. In the context of the Gospel, it is more for incense
- 8) **Epiphany** - or Feast of the Three Kings. Epiphany means "manifestation" from Greek *epiphaneia* i.e. God manifested Himself to the rest of the world, represented by the Three Kings
- 9) **Herod**, also known as Herod the Great (Herodes Magnus) Roman-appointed King of Judaea (37-4 BCE), who built many fortresses, aqueducts, theatres, and other public buildings and generally raised the prosperity of his land but who was the centre of political and family intrigues in his later years.
- 15) (oops, wrong place in newsletter) **Not Specified.** Theories are abound about the December date. I would suspect it is linked very much to the Feast of the Annunciation, which from the earliest recorded history, has been celebrated on March 25 (i.e. Christ was conceived then and nine months later He was born). The date for the Annunciation, in turn, stemmed from both the belief that the spring equinox was not only the day of God's Act of Creation but also the beginning of Christ's redemption of that same Creation. All Christian antiquity held 25 March as the actual day of Jesus' death. The opinion that the Incarnation also took place on that date is found in the pseudo-Cyprianic work *De Pascha Computus*, c. 240. It says that the coming of Jesus and his death must have coincided with the creation and fall of Adam and Eve. And since the world was created in spring, Christ was also conceived and died shortly after the equinox of spring. Similar calculations are found in the early and later Middle Age, and to them, the dates of the feast of the Annunciation and of Christmas owe their origin.
- 10) **Loaves and Fishes, The Last Supper, Pelican Feeding its Young with its Blood** - all of them represents the Blessed Sacrament (get it? Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament!)
- 11) **Christ - the Anointed One.** If you did not get this, then you did not read the front page!
- 12) **Nazareth.** Matt: 2:23: "And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene."
- 13) **A.D - Anno Domini - Year of the Lord.** I've been on a crusade to get this right as the secular world is trying to change this to C.E., Common Era, which means nothing!
- 14) **Temple.** 5th Joyful Mystery if you pray the Rosary
- 16) **NOEL (Noella for a woman equivalent)**
- 17) **St John the Baptist**
- 18) **See the front page Heading!**
- 19) **Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation.** We hope to advertise soon a programme to prepare for Confirmation
- 20) **Peter - at least in English!** Πέτρος (*Petros*) is simply Greek (naturally, because the New Testament was written in Greek) for the name Jesus *actually* gave him in Aramaic: כִּפְתָא (*Kefa*—Rock). In Greek, Kepha is transliterated (not translated) as Κηφᾶς, but is sometimes translated into the Greek, Πέτρος (*Petros*—the equivalent of כִּפְתָא in Greek; Rock, Stone) - where we get the English "Peter"..... and upon this Rock I will build my Church" (Matt 16:18)
- 21) **2023.** M=1000, X=10, I=1
- 22) **Arianism (Google and read!)**
- 23) **St Stephen, the day after Christmas**
- 24) **Holy Innocents - 3 days after Christmas**

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