



Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hurunui

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Amberley | Cheviot | Hawarden | Culverden | Waiiau | 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 Waiiau
(5th Sunday Only)

12pm Sanctuary of
Fourvière, Leithfield
(Closed 1 Jan - 2 Feb)

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday
7am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday
12pm Sanctuary of
Fourvière, Leithfield
(Closed 1 Jan - 2 Feb)

Reconciliation

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

Rosary

Wednesday
1:30pm Amberley
Church Hall

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 22 January 2023
Word of God Sunday

Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand

This Sunday's Gospel instalment takes us to Chapter 4 of Matthew's Gospel (Matt 4:12-23). One of the themes embedded in the Gospel of Matthew is the need for us to change. With the Incarnation of God as a human being, everything has changed; for He should be our guiding light and He shows us a more perfect way of living.

Thus, the first thing St Matthew recorded for us is that those who were called, changed. Simon and Andrew abandoned their nets, and boat, and families. To follow Christ the guiding light, is to change. This is very clear in this Sunday's instalment: "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand". It is practically the message we will hear in Lent, because repentance is about changing, and having a change of heart.

Repentance however, is not just about trying not to sin again, but it is also about a continued renewal of the outlook of life.

If St Peter is anything to go by to mirror our own journey; Our Lord's call changed his life, but from that point onwards, there were still many things that he had to change. We can read of many incidences in the Gospel where St Peter fell short, including denying our Lord three times during the time of persecution. History also tells us, that after he and the other disciples witnessed the Risen Lord, they changed dramatically; the change that came from that gave them the courage to go to the ends of the earth to preach the Gospel to be martyred for their effort.

Sometimes repentance calls for a dramatic change, more often it is a more of a daily process of growth through tweaking of our lives a little bit here and there. Perhaps we should review what needs changing in our lives in this precise moment of time that we may follow Christ more closely.



Blessings

Fr Michael

P/s: In 2019, Pope Francis declared the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as "Word of God Sunday". (See next page, FORMED)



SUNDAY'S READINGS:

FIRST READING: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

In Galilee of the nations the people has seen a great light

Psalm Response:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

Make up the differences between you instead of disagreeing among yourselves

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

He went and settled in Capernaum: in this way the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled

HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

(Use Hymnal)

865 I the Lord of Sea and Sky

871 Lord You have come to the seashore

365 Immaculate Mary (Vs 1 & 8 only)

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: A reminder that on the 4th and 5th Sunday (or the month), there is no Mass at Culverden.

This Sunday there is a Mass at Hawarden (4th Sunday), and then next Sunday (5th Sunday), there's Mass in Waiau.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2023

The Hurunui Parish of the Good Shepherd will be offering to prepare candidates to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on the Vigil of Pentecost (Saturday 27 May). Bishop

Michael Gielen will be administering the Sacrament. The preparatory sessions and Mass will be at Culverden because there was a larger number of candidates showing interest from the town.

Registration forms are in the Church foyer and the parish website. www.catholichurunui.nz

(The registration form makes more sense if its printed as 'Landscape, double sided, & folded into A5)



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

The parish is again offering a programme to prepare children for their first Holy Communion. Enrolment closes 23rd January: the forms have been emailed out to those who are on the parish e-mail out, and printed copies are in Amberley and Culverden Churches. Parents and parishioners may be asked to assist Fr Michael with the programme.



QUIZ 3! JOHN THE BAPTIST!!! Thanks to all who had a go. This time, not all had correct answers, and the trickiest one was number 11! Answers below:

- 1) 6 Months. In Luke 1:26 & 1:36, Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant, and the Virgin Mary was told by the angel Gabriel that she will be pregnant (Annunciation).
- 2) Zachariah and Elizabeth
- 3) Jordan
- 4) Basically for rebuking King Herod for divorcing his wife and marrying his brother Philip's wife, Herodias. Herodias found her opportunity to act on her annoyance of John when the king promised her daughter anything she asked for (Mark 6:19)... Prompted by Herodias her mother, she asked for John's head on a dish.
- 5) Two: 24th June Birth of Baptist. 29 August, His Beheading..
- 6) Locusts and Wild Honey - Matt:3:4
- 7) John 1:15 and John 1:30. (i.e 2x)
- 8) Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) and at the Elevation (Behold the Lamb of God....)
- 9) "I am NOT the Christ"
- 10) Andrew and his brother Simon
- 11) (ooops.... free advertising!) ———>



FORMED CATHOLIC RESOURCE ONLINE

Fr Michael's Recommendation for this week: "**The Word of God Sunday**". 29m. Dr. James Prothro discusses the **Word of God Sunday**, instituted by Pope Francis to be the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sunday between January 21-27). The Word of God Sunday is to be a particular day given over to reflection on the importance of Sacred Scripture and the place it holds in the Church and every individual life of the faithful. Through Sacred Scripture, God continues to speak to his people through the power of the Holy Spirit and guide his Church into all truth. (Search the word "**Word of God Sunday**" on www.formed.org).

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY: The National Liturgy Office has published handy resources, with a special focus on "Scripture as the Word of God as a nourishing and prayerful way to begin our year ahead." Go here for the resources: <https://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/word-of-god-sunday-4>

POPE FRANCIS' SYNOD: Last year NZ diocesan and national groups took part in a discernment process *Enlarge the Space of Your Tent*. The responses were synthesised and published by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference. A copy of this New Zealand document is attached to the email sent out to parishioners who are on the email-out. If you want a copy, just provide us with an email address.

BROTHER PETER FRAY FSC, Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University, has been invited by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference for make a speaking tour around the country, between 24 January and 9 February. The talk is about how Kiwis can help bring peace to the Holy Land. He is scheduled to be in the Christchurch Diocese on Thursday 2 February, 7.30pm Villa Maria College, Te Manawa Atawhai Catherine McAuley Centre, 21 Peer Street, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch.

KNOW YOUR PARISH QUIZ!

For those who like Quizzes, here's another one!

1. Name the 6 Catholic churches in the Parish
2. Where is the parish's cemetery located?
3. How often is Mass celebrated in Waiau in a year?

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