



# 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



Third Sunday of Lent Year A 12 March 2023

### 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 **The Beatitudes,**  
**Leithfield**

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday  
7am Amberley

Tuesday - Saturday  
12pm **The Beatitudes,**  
**Leithfield**

### Reconciliation

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

### Rosary

Wednesday  
1:30pm Amberley  
Church Hall

### You will never be thirsty again....

Throughout the ages, men and women have expressed the human person's **thirst** for God. We see this in the famous Psalm 42: "As a deer yearns for running streams, I yearn for you my God. I **thirst** for God the Living God....." (Psalm 42:1). St Augustine expressed it in this way: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you." The Catechism of the Catholic Church in (Paragraph 33) speaks of the human person has "longings for the infinite" which only God can fulfil.



We tend to think of his thirsts only as a physical thirst. But God in coming to us, incarnated in the flesh, shows us He also '**thirst**' for us. It is God who first seeks us. Yes, God thirsts, Jesus thirsts..... and in this Sunday's Gospel passage (John 4:5-42 (or >> 4:5-15.19-26.39-42) we find Him asking for a drink from a Samaritan woman. The exchange is one full of significance, which hopefully we priests will highlight some of them in our homilies.

Section Four of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)'s gives a good explanation on Prayer and praying. It also speaks indirectly also of this Sunday's Gospel passage when it says:

"If you knew the gift of God!" The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus **thirsts**; his asking arises from the depths of God's desire for us. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. **God thirsts that we may thirst for him**" (CCC Para. 2560):

May we be quenched by the Living Water.

Blessings, Fr Michael

#### SUNDAY'S READINGS:

**FIRST READING: Exodus 17:3-7**  
*Strike the rock, and water will flow from it*

**Psalm Response:**  
For today you hear his voice,  
harden not your hearts.

**SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-2,5-8**  
*The love of God has been  
poured into our hearts*

**GOSPEL: John 4:5-16,19-26,39-42**  
*A spring of water welling up to eternal life*

#### HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES

**964** Be Not Afraid (Hymnal)  
Come to the Water (back page)



In LENT, let us depart Mass in **silence** as part of our "fasting" or self-denial.

Use the silence also as a means to recover the sense of sacredness of the space, and allowing those who want to hear God's voice better, an opportunity to do so.

**FORMED CATHOLIC RESOURCE ONLINE**

In line with this Sunday's Gospel, Fr Michael's Recommendation for this week: "*I Thirst - 40 days with Mother Teresa*" - 7 part series. (Search "Thirst" on "[www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)").



**CONFIRMATION 2023**

Please remember the candidates in your prayers. Session II is on the 18th March

**CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION** and prayer for Lent has the theme "**I am the Light of the World**". Parishioners residing in Culverden will meet with the Anglicans over the Lenten Programme, every Wednesday of Lent, 6.00pm. 1 Stock Rd. Culverden. Queries to: 0277138250

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FRIDAYS OF LENT**

Join parishioners in a communitarian approach at **Amberley @5.30pm** and **Culverden @5.00pm**. Each Friday, a different set of reflection and prayers will be used. You can also volunteer to lead.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** - New sets for the next financial year have arrived. Those who support using Direct Debit will still get a set of "Special Envelopes" for occasions that do not occur on Sunday. Please pick up yours.

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION** - over and above private requests, parishioners can use these opportunities in LENT for the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

- 31st March, Friday **Cheviot** (Hall) - 1.00-2.00pm
- 4th April, Tuesday **Amberley** (Church) - 7.00pm
- 5th April, Wednesday **Hanmer** (Flat) - 3.30 - 4.30pm
- 5th April, Wednesday **Culverden** (Ch) - 5.00-6.00pm

**HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE** will be out next week. Please pay attendance as it affects the normal weekend Masses.

**CHRISM MASS** in Holy Week will be celebrated at **7.30pm on Monday 3rd April** at the Pro-Cathedral. It is the Mass where the Oils are Blessed by the Bishop. (*Oil of Chrism, Oil of the Sick and Oil of Catechumens*) On that Monday, there will be NO morning Mass in Amberley, and Fr Michael would appreciate it if parishioners could attend the CHRISM Mass as a way of showing support to the priests who will renew their vows.

**TALK BY DEACON COLIN COLEMAN CB** on St Thérèse of the Child Jesus and her sisters. Community of the Beatitudes - Tuesday 14th March - 7:30pm, 67 Leithfeild Road, Leithfield. Night Prayer (Compline) follows

**MORNING RETREAT** with St Joseph, a talk by Sr Theresia Schuchnigg CB. Sunday 19th March – from 10am at the Beatitudes Community, 67 Leithfeild road, Leithfield. Welcome at 9:45am. A time of meditation follows.

**RIGHT TO LIFE** invites parishioners to pray during Lent for an end to abortion. Consider making this your Lenten sacrifice, making these 40 days into 40 days for life. Join us also at our weekly prayer vigil each Monday at 2pm to 3pm in Hagley Park opposite the nurses' chapel to pray peacefully for the unborn, their mothers, fathers and those who take part in abortion. Visit: [www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz)

**CATHOLIC BUSINESS NETWORK (CBN) - Conquering Everest – 30 March.** Father Michael Mahoney SM is the guest speaker at our first Catholic Business Network luncheon event for 2023. Currently Priest of South Westland parish, he is one of only three life members of the Mountain Guides of New Zealand and was part of the first expedition to attempt to climb Mt Everest with no oxygen and no sherpas. Visit [www.cbn.nz](http://www.cbn.nz) for tickets & info'.

**Post Communion Hymn**  
**Come to the Water - Frank Anderson MSC**

Refrain:  
Come to the water, you who are thirsty!  
Though you have nothing, I bid you come  
and be filled with the goodness, I have to offer!  
Come! Listen! Live!

Why spend your money on what cannot fill  
the emptiness, deep in your heart?  
Listen to my word, and you will enjoy  
goodness and peace in your heart! Refrain

Just as the heavens are high above earth,  
my ways and thoughts beyond you!  
Call me your Father, and know I am near!  
I will be Father to you! Refrain

Just as the rain falls to water the earth,  
just as a seed becomes bread,  
my word upon you can never return  
until my longing is filled! Refrain

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