

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – Year B
25th March 2018



Father Tony Kearns
Parish Office and Presbytery (04) 972 4282
Residence: 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga
Parish Secretary: Marilyn Keating
Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Email: office@olov.org.nz
Email: pp@olov.org.nz
Website: www.olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School - 939 1909

THE DEEP END:
Fair weather friends



**Now to the gate of my Jerusalem,
The seething holy city of my heart,
The saviour comes. But will I welcome him?
Oh crowds of easy feelings make a start;
They raise their hands, get caught up in the singing,
And think the battle won.**

So begins Malcom Guite's sonnet 'Palm Sunday' (Sounding the Seasons, Canterbury Press, 2012), capturing the elation of the crowds that line the streets of Jerusalem to welcome Jesus. But their loyalty is short-lived, as we discover in our reading of the Passion. Jesus is soon deserted, betrayed, denied, and left to face humiliation and death alone.

**Too soon they'll find
The challenge, the reversal he is bringing
Changes their tune.**

We can all see ourselves in the Passion. There are times, when things are going smoothly, when it is easy to praise God and shout 'Hosanna!' There are days when we struggle, when we are confused or upset and do not know what God expects of us. We can even turn our backs on him when the going gets tough, or when we cannot find the courage to stand up for our beliefs. This week we are the disciples walking with Jesus, on a journey that leads to the cross, and beyond.

Triona Doherty

Meetings in the Parish

Saint Vincent de Paul – OLOG – Tuesday 27th March at 7pm

Sacramental Programme – Confirmation

13th May – Pettit Centre at 7pm

27th May – Group Session at Our Lady of Grace at 10.30am

10th June – Pettit Centre at 7pm

24th June – Group Session at Our Lady of Grace at 10.30am

24th June – Rehearsal in Our Lady of Grace, Church at 11.30am

1st July – Confirmation ceremony at Our Lady of Grace Church at 10.30am

Weekly Collection: \$1,424.00

Garage Sale: \$2,672.60

A very big thank you to all who helped before and on the day of the Garage Sale to set-up, help sell the items and all who helped at the different tasks throughout the day plus the clean up at the end of the day. Thank you to Roger Wasson who picked up a number of larger items during the weeks prior to the Garage Sale. Mike Dench and his team – the parishioners would also like to thank Mike and his team for all the hard work that was done prior to the Garage Sale and on the day.



You are invited to join with Cardinal John Dew and the Priests of the northern part of the Archdiocese as they renew their commitment to their priestly service at the Chrism Mass at 7:30pm on Tuesday 27th March at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Wellington. At this Mass the Holy Oils are blessed in a moving ceremony. The Oil of Catechumens will be used in Baptism; the Oil of Chrism in Confirmation and the Oil of the Sick for the anointing of the elderly, and those who are seriously ill. Attending the Chrism Mass is a wonderful way to begin Holy Week.



Parish Administrator Position - As mentioned in the bulletin last week Marilyn Keating, our Parish Secretary is retiring in the near future. The Parish is therefore looking a person to replace Marilyn as a Parish Administrator responsible for the administrative role for Our Lady of the Valleys Parish. The position is a part time one working Monday to Friday from 9am to 1pm in the Parish Office/Presbytery in Heretaunga.

A **Job Description** is available on request and applications for the role are invited from interested parties. Applications close at 4:00pm on 6 April 2018. These are the submitted along with a CV (marked PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL) to Father Tony Kearns, Our Lady of the Valleys Parish, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga.



On each Wednesday in Lent there will be an additional Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 6:30am for those who might like to choose this as a Lenten Observance.

Lenten Giving Packs are available in the Church Foyer. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection, or send them to Caritas directly. A freepost envelope is available for this option. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post.

Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31st March will be sent a receipt for the 2017/2018 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent a receipt for the 2018/2019 tax year. Your generous support enables Caritas to help poor and marginalised communities around the world.

Lenten Booklet – “The Little White Book” has now arrived and you can pay and pick up these books either at Mass or during the week from the parish office. The cost is \$6.00 a copy

Stations of the Cross will be on each Friday of Lent at St Francis Xavier Church at 7.00pm. This will be lead by the Samoan Community. Books with English translation will be available.



Lenten Reflection - Fr John O'Connor of the Christchurch Diocese has produced this excellent series of daily reflections for Lent. They come by email each day – www.foodforfaith.org.nz

Easter - Preparation is underway for all the liturgies relating to Easter. Please have a think about how you might be able to contribute. Thanks.



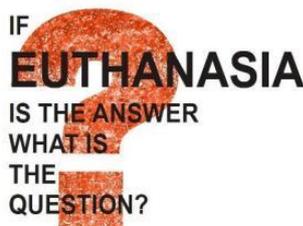
Flowers for Easter - If you have flowers - colours white, yellow or pastel colours - and they will be out at Easter, and you would like to donate them to decorate the Church for the Altar of Repose and Easter Sunday, could you please bring them to the Church or Church Office on Thursday morning, 29th March (Holy Thursday). They would be very gratefully received.

The Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development

This Jesus, who accepts the hosannas of the crowd, knows full well that they will soon be followed by the cry: “Crucify him!” He does not ask us to contemplate him only in pictures and photographs, or in the videos that circulate on the internet. No. He is present in our many brothers and sisters who today endure sufferings like his own: they suffer from slave labour, from family tragedies, from diseases... They suffer from wars and terrorism, from interests that are armed and ready to strike. Women and men who are cheated, violated in their dignity, discarded... Jesus is in them, in each of them, and, with marred features and broken voice, he asks to be looked in the eye, to be acknowledged, to be loved. - Pope Francis, [Homily on Palm Sunday 2017](#)



Euthanasia Submissions - Submissions to the Justice Select Committee regarding David Seymour’s End of Life Bill closed on 6th March and are now being collated and examined by staff at Parliament. Soon will begin the process of hearing those who chose to make personal verbal submissions to the Commission. It has been reported that over 20,000 individual submissions were made to the Select Committee on this issue. Thanks go to those who took the time to



make their wishes around this bill be known to those who are to sit on the Select Committee in the near future. As they say ‘each submission/ each view counts. Thanks also go to Prue von Keisenburg as the Parish’s Champion on this cause who has kept the issue before us over the past months and did such valuable work speaking to the issue at Masses and providing helpful information around the actual making of submissions. The task is not over however and we should continue to pray for our law makers as the issue progresses through the next stage of the Parliamentary process.

Holy Places Appeal - Easter Sunday – Friday 30th March - Sunday 1st April –

There are envelopes in the foyer of both churches if you are on automatic payment and you wish to contribute to these Appeals, please put your planned giving number on the front of the envelope.

April Rosters - have been emailed out. Copies are also available in the foyer of both Churches and on our website.

Catholic Women’s League Lotto Results – Denzil Karam – Number 31, \$20.00, Mali’i Nasalio - Number 30 \$10.00 and Brenda Lister - Number 32, \$10.00.

Catholic Women’s League Easter Raffle to be drawn (today) on 25th March. There are two raffles one for each Church. Large Fruit Cake and Easter Eggs. Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.



Together we Stand - Wellington Closing Event - **40 Days for Life**. Sunday 25th at 12.00 p.m. (Noon) outside Wellington Hospital, Riddiford Street. Followed by a lunch and sharing time in St Anne's Hall. It's time to celebrate all God has accomplished over these 40 days. A plate of food would be appreciated if possible but not a requirement. All 40 Days for Life participants and supporters are invited!



Pentecost Liturgical Workshop, Thursday April 19th 6.45pm-9.00pm at the Catholic Centre. This will be an interactive workshop, with Fr Patrick Bridgman, Archdiocesan Liturgy Advisor. Fr Patrick will help us unpack Pentecost seeking ways to be truly culturally inclusive within our liturgies and gatherings. Workshops are open to all, being particularly relevant to members of Liturgy teams, Children’s Liturgists, Parish Pastoral Leaders and Directors of Religious Education. **Please register** with Ann Williams before Friday 13th April at a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz **Check out the poster on the Church noticeboard!**

The latest editions of the **Voice of Compassion and Suzanne Aubert** news are available in the Church foyers. The latter is also available on line www.suzanneaubert.co.nz Suzanne has been conferred with the name Venerable and needs the Church to recognise two official miracles before she can be canonised. Prayers of intercession to her in time of need are encouraged.

Please remember in prayer, all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently, Pat Henehan and Alex Mackle, that they may rest in peace and those whose anniversary occur around this time.



Our Lady of Grace Church 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Mass Times Sunday –10:30am

Weekdays Wed, Sat 9:00am Mass, Fri 9:30 am Mass

Reconciliation – Please ring for an appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday (during school terms) 10.00 am – 6pm

St Francis Xavier Church 152 Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley

Mass Times Weekends 5.30pm Vigil (Saturday) and 8.30am (Sunday)

Samoan Community - Mass 4th Sunday – Church 11.30am

Weekdays – Tues, Thurs, 9.30am Mass – Wed, Sat 9.30am Liturgy of the Word

Reconciliation - Please ring for an appointment

Pastoral Council Chairperson	John Benvenuti	563 8775
St Vincent de Paul – Heretaunga	Terry	528 6313
	Petone Shop	568 6408
St Vincent de Paul – Stokes Valley	Gordon	938 2750
	Stokes Valley Shop	563 9278

Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
25 th March – Palm Sunday		1 st April – Easter Sunday	
First Reading	Isaiah 50: 4-7	First Reading	Act 10: 34, 37-43
Second Reading	Philippians 2: 6-11	Second Reading	Colossians 3: 1-4
Gospel	Mark 14: 1-15: 47	Gospel	John 20: 1-9