

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Easter Sunday – Year B
1st April 2018



Father Tony Kearns
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St Brendan's School - 939 1909



Father Tony and those working in the Parish extend their prayerful good wishes that the light of the Risen Christ may overcome any darkness in our hearts and minds, bring the joy of Easter to the families of all attending these ceremonies, and find a place in every home in the Parish.

Fr Tony

Thank you to St Brendan's School for running the "Design the Easter Candle" and we wish to thank the children for their support. Congratulations to Lily for the design that has been chosen to be on the Easter Candle and you can see the design in the right hand corner of the Newsletter.



THE DEEP END

For as Yet they did not Understand

Today we celebrate the highpoint of the Christian calendar, Easter. The gospel tells us that Mary Magdalen is the first witness to the Resurrection. 'It was still dark ...'

when Mary went to the tomb but it was also the 'first day of the week', a new beginning. We might recall those situations in our lives which seemed so dark, where we felt that there was no light at the end of the tunnel.

Whatever our 'death' experiences may be, we revisit them, going to the tomb as usual. And then we realise that something has changed, the stone has rolled away. Let the stone and linen wrappings in this text today represent all that keeps us from being free; all that keeps us captive, emotionally, physically, spiritually, in our broken relationships and struggling communities. However big that stone appears to be, our faith in the resurrection of Jesus tells us that this stone can be moved. Think of all the situations in our world which need transformation, the homelessness crisis, the violence on our streets, our own sorrow. The Easter gospel shows us that these situations can be transformed, even though it is often a painful journey. Once we experience the resurrection we are called to radical change and to share this transformative joy with others.

‘Jesus you are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought that we would find you.’

Joyce Rupp

Jane Mellett

Meetings in the Parish

Tuesday 3rd April – Men’s Group from 5.30pm

Wednesday 4th April – CWL from 1.30pm

Saturday 7th April – Circle of Friendship from 2-4pm

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: \$1,792.00



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.

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

The Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development - Christ’s resurrection is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force. Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty. But it is also true that in the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit... However dark things are, goodness always re-emerges and spreads. Pope Francis: [*Evangelii Gaudium*](#) #278





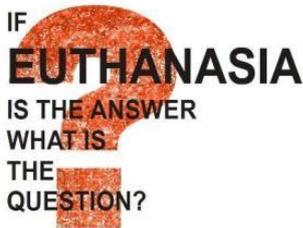
Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering - All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 7 April for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. Annette Reid will be speaking on preparing your garden for winter. A sales table will also be available if you have any cuttings or plants to share. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, please ring Melinda on 234 1271. A gold coin donation towards our Parish expenses would be appreciated.



MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group - The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday 3rd April at the Silverstream Bowling Club at 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend this social event as it is an opportunity to get to know other men in the parish. Any enquires please call Roger Wasson on 528 7847

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.



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!**

Catholic Women's League Lotto Results – Brenda Lister No. 32 \$20 – Denzil Karam No 31 \$10 and Emma Cheape No. 33 \$10



Catholic Women's League Easter Raffle – The raffle's were won by ticket No 27 – Wayne Tough from Our Lady of Grace and ticket No 284 - Margaret Lanigan from St Francis Xavier

Catholic Women's League will be meeting Wednesday 4th April at the Pettit Centre at 1.30pm. Come along and enjoy the company and a cup of tea with the members. All very welcome

XLT (eXaLT) Youth Worship Night – Please see Notice Board

Day of Prayer for Vocations: Sunday 22 April - The 4th Sunday of Easter is a special Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please pray for our seminarians Jovanie and Alfred and those discerning the call to priesthood. Could someone you know become tomorrow's priest? Pray for this person. Invite him to consider priesthood. Affirm his gifts and qualities. Encourage him to be open to the possibility of priesthood.

Pope Francis: *"Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us."*

Fr David Dowling, Vocations Director - email: frdavidd@gmail.com

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, Alex Mackle, Father Brian Quin and Ted Johnston, and those whose anniversary occur around this time –may they rest in peace



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	
1 st April – Easter Sunday		8 th April – 2 nd Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Act 10: 34, 37-43	First Reading	Act 4: 32-35
Second Reading	Colossians 3: 1-4	Second Reading	1 John 5: 1-6
Gospel	John 20: 1-9	Gospel	John 20: 19-31