

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter – Year B**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
**8<sup>th</sup> April 2018**



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## **THE DEEP END**

### **The Peace of Jesus**

We do not come through suffering and difficult times unscarred. We are changed by them. Often they bring some sort of growth into our lives and that is usually not a pleasant experience. Today's gospel shows us that even in those difficult times, faith can be transformative. Jesus came and stood amongst the disciples even though the doors were firmly closed. The peace that he gives them (shalom) is a peace of body, of mind and of spirit; it moves the disciples from despair and being 'locked away' to 'rejoicing'. Jesus then asks the disciples to be an unending witness to God's love. They, and we, must be for others what Jesus has been for them. The risen Jesus is active in all our lives and in the world around us, but we must be careful not to close ourselves off or let fear take over. This is not easy as we often meet cynicism and doubt. Yet, John tells us that he writes these things so that we may come to believe and have life; reminding us of the importance of the Word of God for our lives. Through the Word we come to know Jesus more deeply and can experience this peace that he offers us.

'For even if the whole world believed in resurrection, little would change until we began to practice it. We can believe in CPR, but people will remain dead until someone breathes new life into them.' - Shane Claiborne

Jane Mellett

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## **Meetings in the Parish**

12<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday – Finance 7.30pm

## **Sacramental Programme – Confirmation**

13<sup>th</sup> May – Pettit Centre at 7pm

27<sup>th</sup> May – Group Session at Our Lady of Grace at 10.30am

10<sup>th</sup> June – Pettit Centre at 7pm

24<sup>th</sup> June – Group Session at Our Lady of Grace at 10.30am

24<sup>th</sup> June – Rehearsal in Our Lady of Grace, Church at 11.30am

1<sup>st</sup> July – Confirmation ceremony at Our Lady of Grace Church at 10.30am

## **Family group events for April**

Saturday 14th April **Nixon Group Pot Luck Dinner** at Mary McNeil's

Sunday 15th April **Aubert Group Visit to Zealandia** 1pm. Contact Michelle Blom 021515465

Sunday 29th April **Holmes Group Bus Trip** Contact John Spavin 5639033

Sunday 29th April **O'Leary Group** Movie and coffee afternoon Contact Christine 021518971

Weekly Collection: \$1,915.00

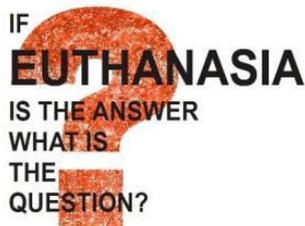
Easter Sunday: \$663.80

Holy Places: \$690.60

Would the parishioner who uses Envelope Number 788 please contact Marilyn in the office – thank you.

We have 3 copies of the **Lenten Booklet** – “The Little White Book” left and if you wish to have a copy you can pick them up from the office for just \$6.00

**Euthanasia Submissions** - Submissions to the Justice Select Committee regarding David Seymour's End of Life Bill closed on 6<sup>th</sup> 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.



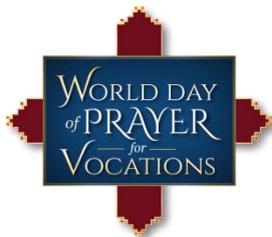
**Pentecost Liturgical Workshop, Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm-9.00pm at the Catholic Centre.** This will be an interactive workshop, with Fr Patrick Bridgman, Archdiocesan Liturgy Advisor. Fr Patrick will help us unpack Pentecost seeking ways to be truly culturally inclusive within our liturgies 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 13<sup>th</sup> April at [a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz) **Check out the poster on the Church noticeboard!**



**Catholic Women's League Lotto Results** – Jill Birkett No. 40 \$20 – Ana Asovale No 39 \$10 and Sheila Philips No. 1 \$10. The money for Ana is being held in the office so please call into the office to collect your winnings!!



**Walking group** - Walking group will now finish for the season due to failing light, and will resume in Spring when Daylight Saving begins once again. Thank you to all who have come along and enjoyed the evening walks, fun and fellowship over the summer season.



**Day of Prayer for Vocations: Sunday 22 April** - The 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:frdavidd@gmail.com)

**Living in Colour:** An 8 week programme which offers gentle support and help to women hurting after an abortion experience. Even if the abortion happened years ago there are benefits from taking this journey with others who understand the burden. The next programme starts in early May and will run from 11 am to 1 pm. Txt or call Lurene to register your interest or for more information on 022 193 0546. (sponsored by Family Life International NZ)



**ORANGA  
TAMARIKI**  
Ministry for Vulnerable Children

**Open your heart, open your home. Change the world one life at a time.**

We at Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children, are looking for people in the greater Wellington area who love children and young people and don't ever give up. That's it. We can help with the rest! If you have a room (or two!) and can provide a safe, loving home then you can make a difference. We need people from all walks of life to care for children and teenagers. This is your opportunity to create positive outcomes for our tamariki in a practical way. There are many types of care from temporary and respite right through to permanent and we'll support you in which ever role you choose.

**Let the children come.**

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=12009598](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12009598)

Ring me to know more! Doug Fauchell - Caregiver Social Work Supervisor  
Wellington 04-917-1140

**Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women** - Meeting on Saturday 21st April 1:15pm at Connolly Hall, Guilford Tce, Thorndon. Speaker: Sr Marie Gore on Holy Spirit with baptism in the Holy Spirit. All women welcome. Contact Shura 021 072 4042, email: [shuraprice@hotmail.com](mailto:shuraprice@hotmail.com). [www.org.nz](http://www.org.nz)

**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, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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	
8 <sup>th</sup> April – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter		15 <sup>th</sup> April – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Act 4: 32-35	First Reading	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
Second Reading	1 John 5: 1-6	Second Reading	John 2:1-5
Gospel	John 20: 19-31	Gospel	Luke 24:35-48