

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – Year B**  
**29<sup>th</sup> April 2018**



Father Tony Kearns  
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## THE DEEP END

Stay connected ...

As with all good vine growers, God cares for his crop, nurturing it, pruning it, giving it all it needs so that it can grow and reach its full potential. We are no doubt the branches. What does it mean to be a branch? Branches must be connected to the vine or they bear no fruit. Even those branches that do bear fruit need pruning so that they can grow and bear even more fruit. As we are all too well aware, productivity seems to be the measure of success in the world today, in our education system, in the workplace, in economics; we are measured by what we produce. Is Jesus really adding to the pressure by telling us that he wants to see results or else!?

Perhaps we can read this passage in terms of connectivity. Think of your most intimate friendships and relationships. You don't measure their weight in terms of productivity, do you? But you do want to stay connected right? It is this closeness, this intimacy that Jesus calls us to: 'abide in me'. Are you connected or disconnected? If the connection is strong, then fruit-bearing comes naturally and people will see the gospel in our lives and in the way we respond to the world. If we are connected, all manner of things are possible for us.

Jane Mellett  
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'People see the gospel in our lives; let them read our lives.' Pope Francis

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Weekly Collection: \$1,751.20

Vocations Appeal: \$ 243.50

### Meetings in the Parish

1<sup>st</sup> May – Men's Night – 5.30pm

2<sup>nd</sup> May – CWL – 1.30pm in the Pettit Centre

5<sup>th</sup> May – Circle of Friendship – 1.30pm in the Pettit Centre

## 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



**Tax receipts for 2018** – I have been rung asking about the tax receipts and when they will be available. In the past we have given out the tax receipts along with the new planned giving envelopes. We are still awaiting the arrival of the envelopes and as soon as these arrive the tax receipts will be collated with the envelopes and then they will be available as usual at the back of each Church. This year the parishioners on Automatic Payments will also receive, with their tax receipts, a pack of envelopes for Special Collections eg Christmas, Easter etc.



**Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering** - All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. A good time to remember our mothers this day as we celebrate the month of Mary - memories of their advice, sayings, anecdotes or whatever you wish 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 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 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

**Roster's for May** – are now available either by email, which you should have received if you have indicated that you wish to receive the Roster this way, or visit [www.olv.org.nz](http://www.olv.org.nz) to download a copy or a small quantity are in the foyer of both churches.



**New Parishioner Administrator** – We welcome Jovena Fernandez who will be starting on 14<sup>th</sup> May to this position. Please make Jovena feel welcome just as you all have made me very welcome.



**Can you help?** – We are looking to have a morning tea after the 8.30am Mass every Sunday at St Francis Xavier. At the moment the Samoan Youth Group have taken this position on but the old saying “many hands make light work” is very true.

This is a good way to get to know your fellow parishioners. Please contact the office, 972 4282, if you are able to help.



**Catholic Women's League** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 1.30pm in the Pettit Centre - come along and hear Veronica Sawers, Principal of St Brendan's, give a talk – all women of the parish very welcome.



**Synod Update:** *Go, you are sent... to develop a spirituality of service. 2(g) Different forms of personal prayer are promoted as pathways to encounter with Jesus.*



**Greenstone Doors** is holding a Peace Retreat for single mothers 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> May, this is fully sponsored and is being held at the Magnificat Retreat Centre. We are taking registrations now. - If anyone would like to be on a prayer list for Greenstone Doors

please email us and we will add you to the list. - This is to pray for any special intentions that may arise.

To register for any of these or for more information please email [greenstonedoors15@gmail.com](mailto:greenstonedoors15@gmail.com) or phone 0272549222

**A Caring Space** - We offer this breathing space for all who care for a loved one, a chance to step away for a few hours. It is an opportunity to gently explore, together with God, the way this role is changing your life, hopes, dreams and perspectives and above all the relationship with the one you care for. Led by Gill Schaap and Veronica Parton at the Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine St., Island Bay, Wellington on Saturday 5th May, Time: 11am - 2pm. Cost \$10. Please register with Veronica Parton 021 238 6675 or email [vjpdap@gmail.com](mailto:vjpdap@gmail.com)

**Vigil for the Unborn:** Saturday 19th May 2018. St Anne's Catholic Church, Emmett Street, Newtown. 10 am Mass. Followed by Exposition & Rosary Procession to front of Hospital. Ends at Noon with a shared lunch. Join in this persevering prayer effort for our most vulnerable - unborn children - and those suffering from the tragedy of abortion. Five abortion workers around the world had a change of heart and left their work during the last 40 Days for Life campaign. Peaceful prayer and witness works. For more information contact Family Life International NZ PH: 237 8343

**Don't Miss these Dynamic Workshops!** - Family Friendly Liturgies on Saturday 19th May, 2.15pm-4.30pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Church Lower Hutt Time and The Purpose and place of music in the liturgy on Sunday 20th May, 1.45pm-4.00pm at St Theresa's Church, Plimmerton. Michael is from overseas so a Koha would be appreciated but not compulsory. Michael Mangan, an Australian composer, teacher and music liturgist will be presenting these interactive workshops. Everyone is welcome. They will be of special interest to members of Liturgy teams, Children's Liturgists, Musicians and Directors of Religious Education. Please register with Ann Williams by Monday 14th May, specifying which workshops you are attending at a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz

**The Christian Brothers Past Pupils' Association**, Wellington, is holding its Annual Past Pupils' Mass on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> May at the 10.30am Mass in the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Hill Street, Wellington. Mass will be followed by lunch at 11.45am in Connolly Hall. Our guest is Dave Olivier who will speak about his time as Principal of Christian Brothers College at Mount Edmund in Pretoria, South Africa. Dave's wife, Jenni, will also be attending. Those interested in attending please contact Kevin McCormack on 478-6792.

**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, Joanne Rich, Nic Shanahan, Judith Curry, Jim Hanson and Shirley McGrail 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

<b>Sunday Readings</b>		<b>Sunday Readings</b>	
29 <sup>th</sup> April – 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter		6 <sup>th</sup> May – 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Acts 9: 26-31	First Reading	Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Second Reading	1 John 3: 18-24	Second Reading	1 John 4: 7-10
Gospel	John 14: 21-26	Gospel	John 15: 26-16:4