

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
The Nativity of St. John the Baptist - Year B
1st July 2018**



Father Tony Kearns
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THE DEEP END - Healing Miracles

Today's gospel offers us two stories of the healing miracles of Jesus showing us something of how God's grace can enter our lives and transform our situations. We can all recall times when we were struggling, whether it be with a relationship or illness. We needed something to move us, to help us forgive, to help us walk away or to relieve us of physical pain. In the end it can be the simple gestures that save us: a kind word, someone praying for us, a gentle touch or we reach out to someone and like the woman with the haemorrhage we suddenly feel within ourselves that we are healed.

The woman is physically healed through her faith-filled action but Jesus reaches out to her in another way by calling her 'Daughter'. He restores her status among the people. She would have been completely outcasted in society because of her illness and Jesus does not let social convention dictate who he should or should not acknowledge. All are children of God. We are called to do the same, to reach out to those whom society declares 'unclean' and those with whom we would rather not be associated. Jesus reminds the people of this woman's true identity as a child of God.

As Mark returns to the account of Jairus' daughter we hear how Jesus restores the young girl to life with the simple words: 'Talitha, Kum!' (little girl, get up). God's grace is gentle yet can bring life to situations of death. What do you need healing from today? Ask the Lord for what you need.

Jane Mellett
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Weekly Collection: \$1,436.20

Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development

By making himself poor, Jesus did not seek poverty for its own sake but, as Saint Paul says "that by his poverty you might become rich". This is no mere play on words or a catch phrase. Rather, it sums up God's logic, the logic of love, the logic of the incarnation and the cross. God did not let our salvation drop down from heaven, like someone who gives alms from their abundance out of a sense of altruism and piety. Christ's love is different!

Pope Francis

Meetings in the Parish

Tuesday 3rd July–Men's Group – 5.30pm at Silverstream Bowling club
Wednesday 4th July – CWL – 1.30 pm
Wednesday 4th July – Fundraising Committee -7.30 to 8.30pm
Thursday 5th July – Grief Support Meeting
Saturday 7th July – Women's Circle of Friendship at Pettit Centre – 2-4pm

CONGRATULATIONS – CONFIRMATION 2018



The Parish Community extends its prayerful best wishes to the 35 young members of our family who receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. We rejoice as they receive the power of the Holy Spirit to be their companion and guide on their faith journey. May these young people inspire us all to live lives animated by the Spirit of Jesus we have received.

William Bassett, Ryland Blackwell, Jacob Chard, Ruby Coffey-Duffin, James Coulon, Cooper de Greve, Amelie Denston, Joshua Flannery, Benjamin Foster, Payden Fox, Declan Gotlieb, Benjamin Grout, Isabella Hartzuiker, Matthew Heeran, Grace Hills, Noah Hohua, Joshua Lamb, Riley MacKenzie, Ruby MacKenzie, Austen Maraku, Millie Noyes, Mason Parr, Addison Potter, Keltia Robinson-Reidy, Hunter Sammons, Lachlan Saul, Thomas Stowers, Maximus Tararo, John-Pallid Tufue, Hayden Walker, Scarlett Walker, Amy Watterson, Jack Watterson, Olivia Whiteman, Leith Wonnacott

We thank Cardinal John Dew for coming to our Parish this weekend to celebrate the Sacrament with us.

Passionist Family Group - Parish Lunch 15 July

The annual parish lunch, hosted by the Family Groups, will be held at mid day on Sunday 15 July at the Stokes Valley RSA, Hawthorne Cres.

Cost is \$18 pp. Please pay to Group Coordinators or church office in named envelope.

We will be celebrating thirty years of Passionist Family Groups in New Zealand.



Passionist Youth Retreat at Camp Rangī Woods near Palmerston North in first week of July school holidays. Passionist young adults retreat at Featherston on weekend 14-16 July.

For more info please go to website www.passionistfamily.org or contact Terry and Heather O'Brien on 5286976



Catholic Women's League

Meeting on Wednesday 4th July at 1.30 pm. Bring a toiletry for women prisoners being released. Remember sales table.

Grief Support Meeting

On Thursday 31st May a meeting was called in the Presbytery in Heretaunga to look at the idea of setting up a Grief Support gathering in Our Lady of The Valleys Parish. There was a positive response to the idea and a number of suggestions around the purpose and format of the group were discussed. The group identified that there were a variety of diverse situations that entail grief, from the loss of a loved one through death, the breakup of marriages and families, the distress that occurs when employment of ceased from redundancy or injury/sickness and the rites of passage that we all experience in growing to maturity. Each needs to be sensitively approached and each requires a different level of type of support. The motto SEE/JUDGE/ACT was seen as a good use as a model.

Two major themes of the discussions were that suggested. Firstly, the need for broad but supportive and co-ordinated approach to the topic of grieving and the resources that could called upon both inside the parish and beyond to provide support. The second was the idea of the need to perhaps provide direct support either one-on-one or in a group environment to assist those who attend address the issues of grief in a caring, compassionate way from both suitably trained and supported parishioners and if necessary those with professional expertise.

To allow for further exploration of these topics another meeting has been called on Thursday 5th July at St Francis Xavier Meeting Room at the rear of 152B Stokes Valley Road, next to St Francis Xavier Church. If you would like to find out more about the group please contact Fr Tony on 972 4282





Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 7 July for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. We would like to hear about your favourite winter recipe. Anything from soups, mains or puddings. Bring along your favourite recipe to read out, or describe, to those present. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, please ring Melinda on 234 1271. A gold coin donation towards our charities would be appreciated.

Women's Refuge Annual Appeal 6-8 July. We are desperate for collectors at local outlets over this time. If you can spare an hour, please contact Anne on 04 5861488 or kooges@gmail.com

Learn about **Modern Slavery, Trafficking & Exploitation in Aotearoa NZ**
Speakers: Dr Rebecca Miller & Peter Devoy, Immigration NZ on Monday 16 July 7 30-9 pm at Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Knights Rd, Lower Hutt. Gold coin donation. Sponsored by ANZRATH (Religious & Friends Against Human Trafficking)



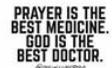
Dove Women's Retreat Weekend - 27 to 29 July
Come and join us for a weekend to be "Refreshed - Renewed - Restored".
The theme for 2018 is "Harvest" with guest speakers Wilma Conroy and Anne Claessens.

Venue: Willow Park Christian Camp, Eastern Beach, Auckland

There are optional weekend registrations for residential or non-residential.
To register or for further information visit our website www.dove.org.nz or phone Shona Williams 07 543 0101 email shonawilliams58@gmail.com

Healing Service

Fr John Rea will conduct a Healing Service in the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Monday 9 July beginning at 7.30 pm. Fr John has just returned from Western Australia where he has witnessed many healings. Come and hear fresh testimonies of how God heals today. Please bring all those who need Jesus` healing. All are welcome. Come with expectant faith.



CWL National Conference is being held in Wellington from the 25th to 28th July, the Catholic Women's League of Aotearoa New Zealand will gather in Wellington for their biennial National Conference.

Highlights of these days of Conference will be Opening Mass by Cardinal John Dew /- Keynote Speaker Anne Dickinson reflects on "Women welcoming change". / An Art Exhibition of NCEA Art students from the Catholic Colleges of the Archdiocese. / A "Pilgrimage" by bus to the Home of Compassion to visit the Venerable Suzanne Aubert All enquiries to Christine Paterson, CWL, phone 479 6274. For more information please see the notice board.

Synod Outcome –.Go you are sent to support marriage and families 11(c) Parishes make their worship spaces and liturgies more family friendly, through a process of listening to their people.



For Engaged Couples

A wedding is a day. Marriage is a lifetime. Prepare for your lifetime together by attending an Engaged Encounter marriage preparation weekend. Your next opportunity to attend a weekend is 14th and 15th July. For more information phone Simon and Kate on 8016192.

Life in the Spirit Seminar

This seminar will be conducted at the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Lower Hutt on seven consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning on 5 June till the 17 July except for the 4th week which will be on Monday 25 June. Do you want to encounter Jesus on a deeper level? Come and be blessed. Further information on the notice board.





Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt welcomes enrolments for Year 9, 2019 from Monday 14 May and forms are to be completed online or returned to the College Office by Monday 2 July 2018. See noticeboard for more information

The July 1–14 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. The next issue will be  published on July 15. Some headlines are:

Catholic agencies front select committee on End of Life Choice Bill / Graduates urged to be modern missionaries / South food icon helps kids go to Catholic schools / Kiwi ‘streetie’ helps tell stories of homeless.

Request from Immigration New Zealand: Homes needed for new New Zealanders

Immigration NZ are often looking for rental homes in Wellington for refugee families. The tenants have recently arrived in NZ, are now Permanent Residents and are undergoing a 6 week induction to NZ life. Our onsite MSD office will arrange rent, bond and fee payments direct to you. The tenants will be supported in their new homes for a year by the Red Cross support team. If you can assist, please contact our Housing Officers to see how you can join our happy network of housing providers:

Rona Varney rona.varney@mbie.govt.nz Phone 029 771 1694

Doug Richards doug.richards@mbie.govt.nz Phone 021 870 564

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, John Mooney, Leo Maher, Annette Carvalho (Jennifer Rodricks mother), and Theodora Zois 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) 10.00am – 6:00pm

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 July Thirteenth Week Ordinary Time		8 th July Fourteenth Week Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24	First Reading	Ezekiel 2:2-5
Second Reading	2Corinthians 8:7-9,13-15	Second Reading	2.2Corinthians 12:7-10
Gospel	Mark 5:21-43	Gospel	Mark 6:1-6 Creed