

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys  
19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B  
12<sup>th</sup> August 2018**



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**THE DEEP END – Under the bush**

When a prophet sits under a bush, it's usually a sign that things are not going well! At a particularly low moment in his relationship with God, the prophet Jonah sits, in an angry sulk, under a bush. While there he encounters God and learns a valuable lesson about mercy. In today's first reading, it is the prophet Elijah who sits under a bush. He is on his last legs, having escaped into the desert to avoid capture and death. At this low point, a day's journey into the wilderness, he has had enough. He finds himself begging God to take his life.

It is a moment that will speak to many of us, particularly those of us facing struggles. Things can get on top of us. We sometimes feel alone, that our road is all uphill, that we are in the wilderness and there is nothing to do but give up. Yet when Elijah is at his lowest point, even getting ready to die, he finds he is not alone. The comforting presence of God is with him, offering sustenance to help him on his journey.

Elijah's response to God is at first reluctant; he lies straight back down again. But with a second round of encouragement (and some more food) he is on his feet and able to continue his journey, replenished and renewed. At the moment he felt the most abandoned and alone, God was closer than ever.

Triona Doherty  
Athlone, Co Roscommon  
Email trionad@gmail.com

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Weekly Collection: \$1,599.00

**Meetings in the Parish**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August – **No Mass** at 9.30 am at St Francis Xavier Church  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August – 9:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church  
7:30 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Church  
**No Healing Mass** at 11 am at the Pettit Centre  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August – 1.30 pm Healing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV  
**No Mass** at 9.30 am SFX  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August – Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 pm

**UNACCOUNTED COLLECTION FUNDS**



Last week we received 2 envelopes with the No. 274 on it could the person whose envelopes they are please ring the office as we do not know who they belong to.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

The 15<sup>th</sup> August marks the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. It is also the Patronal Feast Day of New Zealand, as the country was placed under Mary's. This day is marked as a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. To allow parishioners to celebrate this day there is an additional Mass being celebrated in the Parish. The timetable for the Day

9:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church

7:30 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Church

NOTE: This day is also the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month so the normal **HEALING MASS** in the Pettit Centre will be **cancelled** for this month. There will be a Healing Mass on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August at the Stokeswood Rest Home at 1:30 pm and all parishioners are welcome to attend there.



### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Two weeks ago the Parish held its Annual General Meeting in the Pettit Centre. Thanks to all those who attended. We trust that you found it informative and positive. At the meeting suggestions for future action for the Parish Council were proposed and these will be discussed at future meetings of the Parish Council.

At the Meeting a number of Parish Councillors were standing down as their two year term was completed. Those not seeking re-election were our current Chairperson John Benvenuti, Barbara Aukusitino, Sally Armitage, and Nick Lee-Frampton. Mena Aukuso had earlier resigned from the Council when she left the area to move overseas. We thank them for the contribution to the life of the Parish over their tenure on the Parish Councils of Our Lady of Grace Parish, St Francis Xavier Parish and latterly Our Lady of the Valleys Parish.

Two other Parish Councillors' terms were completed and were nominated for re-election. These were John O'Malley and Prue von Keisenburg. These were joined by three other nominations from the Parish, being Victoria Aukusitino, Tiana Sio and Conor Healy.

As there were more vacancies than nominations it was proposed that the five nominated people be appointed to the Parish Council. This was passed by the meeting. The new Parish Council will be formally commissioned as a body at the 8:30am Mass on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August.



### NEW PARISH LOGO

Over the past few months the Parish Council has been working on a new Parish logo to better reflect the coming together as One Parish -Two Churches the Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys. Recently at the last Parish Council meeting the results of this work was presented in the tabling of two basic designs for a new logo. The chosen logo will be used on stationery, letterheads, and publications These were displayed at the Annual General Meeting and comments were invited. The two basic logos are on display in the foyer of both churches and you are invited to send your comments into the Parish Office on your preference and/or suggestions.



### ***Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development***

The Christ, who nourishes us under the consecrated species of bread and wine, is the same One who comes to us in the everyday happenings; He is in the poor person who holds out his hand, in the suffering one who begs for help, in the brother or sister who asks for our availability and awaits our welcome. He is in every human being, even the smallest and the defenceless.  
Pope Francis

**Parish Quiz Evening** – – Thanks to an overwhelming response, **ALL tickets are now sold** for the Quiz night on 31<sup>st</sup> August at St. Brendan's School Hall, 56 Palmer Cres., Upper Hutt. For those lucky enough to have tickets, doors open at 7:15pm to start at 7:30pm. Please bring a plate, preferably cakes, sandwiches etc. Food not requiring heating would be appreciated.



**Parish Fundraising Raffle** – Raffle tickets for two of our bigger raffles will be on sale at all Masses over the next few Saturdays and Sundays for those parishioners unable to attend the Quiz night. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Prizes include:

Two nights' accommodation for 2 people at Tranquillity Bed and Breakfast in Birchville AND

Three driving lessons with an AA approved driving instructor. Full use of the instructor's car, pick up and drop off to be arranged at the raffle winner's convenience with the instructor.

Both to be drawn at the quiz evening on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Enquiries to Debby Morgan 027 450 8979, Mike Dench 021 123 3211, or Prue von Keisenberg 021 252 0223

**Circle of Friendship** A very informative talk on the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau Upper Hutt was delivered by our competent guest speaker Ann Peebles last Saturday. It was enlightening to hear of all the wide-ranging requests for advice : from letter writing on behalf of clients, tenancy problems, prisoner rehabilitation affairs, neighbours disputes (re trees, boundaries, fencing, noise, parking rights etc) and free legal advice sessions, to name a few. Ann said 'What we don't know the answer to we find out, or point the client in the right direction'



We commend and thank the work of the selfless volunteers who give their time and training to help people in our community. Our gold coin donations will be forwarded to the bureau.



**NZ Catholic** Aug. 12 – 25 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Booties memorial sends strong message. Two young priests ordained. Reflecting on WYD 2008 ten years on. Forums tackle 'elephant' issues. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on August 26.

Go you are sent to manage your assets wisely 4(c) Listening to the people and their full participation is the key element in the review of property.



**Vigil for the Unborn:** Saturday 18th August. St Anne's Catholic Church, Emmett Street, Newtown. Starts at 10 am with Mass. Ends at 12.00 p.m. Come-Pray-Sacrifice for the Unborn and a Culture of Life in NZ. For more information contact Family Life International NZ PH: 2378343



**Feast of the Assumption** Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm at St. Mary of the Angels Church – 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington. The Choir of St Mary of the Angels will celebrate Vespers for the Feast of the Assumption. The liturgy includes Latin psalms, the Gregorian antiphons and Palestrina's Magnificat. Following will be a short, thirty-minute concert of music with music by Tallis, Tavener, Victoria, and including Monteverdi's wonderful setting of 'Beatus Vir' with violins, and featuring our own choir soloists: Olivia Webb, Wendy Kale, John Sullivan, Paul Beres and Emmanuel Godinez.



**Afternoon of Sacred Songs and Broadway Tunes** - 19 August, from 2pm - 4pm, Joe Moorman will be singing at a concert at St. Patrick's Church, Wainuiomata, to help them raise money for a church hall they're building. The first half will be Sacred music, and the second half will be Broadway showtunes. Anyone wanting tickets or detailed information can call Alan at 564-6904.

**Enabling Communities: Social Justice Week workshops** - hosted by Caritas and the Wellington Archdiocese JPD Commission. An interactive workshop on disability and participation. Saturday 18 August, 10am – 3pm, St Francis Xavier school hall, 69 Main Road, Tawa, Wellington. Free entry, koha is welcomed and lunch provided. Register by emailing [joannav@caritas.org.nz](mailto:joannav@caritas.org.nz) or call 04 496 1782. NZSL interpreters are available



**LIFEFEST 2018:** A one day event providing young people, 13 years +, with important tools to build a new culture of life into the future! Amazing overseas speakers. Formation-Food-Prayer-Prizes. Well worth the trip to Auckland. \$20 Thursday 4 OCTOBER: 9 am to 9 pm. Epsom Girls' Grammar School, Auckland. ALSO: cheap accommodation available for those travelling a distance for the nights of the 3rd and 4th Oct. For more info or to book the accommodation email: [clare.fli@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clare.fli@xtra.co.nz) txt: 021 2317954 ph: 04 2378343



**Please remember in prayers**, all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently, Ronald Haycock and Athol Currin. We pray also for Sheila McDiarmid, Lucy Blom and those anniversary occurs 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)

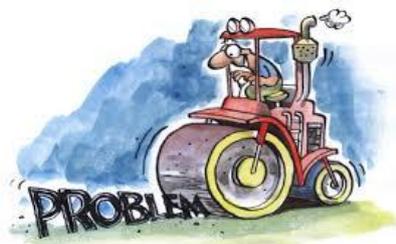
**Samoan Community Mass** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Church 11:30am

**Weekdays –** Tues, Thurs, 9:30am Mass – Wed, Sat 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

**Reconciliation** Please ring for an appointment

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

<b>Sunday Readings</b>		<b>Sunday Readings</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup> August Nineteenth Week Ordinary Time		19 <sup>th</sup> August Eighteenth Week Ordinary Time	
First Reading	1 Kings 19:4-8	First Reading	Proverbs 9:1-6
Second Reading	Ephesians 4:30-5:2	Second Reading	Ephesians 5:15-20
Gospel	John 6:41-51	Gospel	John 6:51-58



*Wouldn't that be fun!*