

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
19th August 2018**



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THE DEEP END – On the breadline

In recent months the Society of St Vincent de Paul released some shocking figures regarding hunger in Ireland. One in three people who contact the charity are calling because they can't afford to buy food. It is estimated that one in eleven people in Ireland experience food poverty, which refers to the inability to afford food to make up a healthy diet.

'Food is an area of expenditure that families have discretion over on a day-to-day basis,' said SVP head of social justice, Dr Tricia Keilthy. 'It is much easier to control the cost of food than the cost of rent, utilities or education. So food is typically what families cut back on when times are tough.'

Hunger is a sad fact of life for many in our country. More than ever we appreciate the value of having enough to eat. Over the past few Sundays we have heard Jesus speak a lot about bread and food. His followers experience physical hunger too; the feeding of the five thousand (the story precedes today's extract from John's Gospel) shows that Jesus takes care of the physical needs of his followers too. Their experience of hunger and being fed prepares them for his teaching on the bread of life.

When Jesus talks about himself as the 'bread come down from heaven', it is clear that it is himself he is offering – his very flesh. If we are followers of Jesus, we are also called to give ourselves in service of others. We have Jesus as our model and teacher, present with us and in us. What can we do to help those who hunger in our country and our world?

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

Weekly Collection: \$1,214.10

Meetings in the Parish

Tuesday 21st August 7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul - Heretaunga
Thursday 23rd August 7:30 pm Parish Liturgy Meeting



More volunteers needed for: Greeters Ministry at Stokes Valley for the 8.30 am mass on Sunday –

This involves greeting parishioners or visitors to Sunday Mass. You are required to hand out the newsletter and other material as required.



Go, you are sent to deepen your bicultural relationship 5(h) Parishes engage with Māori to further develop biculturalism in liturgy.

HEATING COSTS IN BOTH CHURCHES

As you know the last couple of years the Parish has overspent on amount of income that it receives. This has lead the Finance Committee to look closely at the costs that the Parish incurs to see if there is a more effective and/or less expensive way to provide the same outcomes in lots of areas. Last year the Committee started looking at energy consumption and our suppliers to see if we were getting the best rates possible. Power usage has come into the spotlight again for the committee when recently both church's power charges for the last couple of months seemed to be higher than expected. For example St Francis Xavier Church recorded a power bill recently of over \$700 for one month while Our Lady of Grace Church over \$400 in one month.



While we don't want parishioners/visitors to the church to freeze the Finance Committee is looking at ways of more cost-effectively heating the buildings we have. **We ask for your assistance in this.** Please ensure that if you are the last person in the building that all lights and especially heaters are switched off. Because the buildings are not used every day a light/heater left on could be going for a couple of days before it is discovered. Every little bit of heating and lighting costs we save can help us move to a position where the Parish is no longer overspending.

In the months ahead other areas of expenditure will be looked at to see that the Finance Committee is being a good steward of the resources that you entrust to them. We are all called to play our part.

NEW PARISH LOGO



Thanks to all those who provided feedback to the Parish Council regarding the new logo for Our Lady of the Valleys Parish. Taking the comments etc and indications of support into consideration the Parish Council moved to accept Option D which is displayed here. In some circumstance there may be a need for a border so that Option C would be used for those purposes.

Comments from parishioners are invited to be submitted to the Parish Office by Sunday 16th September.

Parish Quiz Evening – – Thanks to an overwhelming response, **ALL tickets are now sold** for the Quiz night on 31st 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.



Rosary Aotearoa encourages parishes and groups to gather at different locations around the country at 3pm on Sunday 7 October to pray the Rosary. For more information and to register a group and location see www.rosarynewzealand.nz.



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 31st August. Enquiries to Debby Morgan 027 450 8979, Mike Dench 021 123 3211, or Prue von Keisenberg 021 252 0223

PASSIONIST
FAMILY GROUP
MOVEMENT



Holmes Family Group Mike and Jo Laings' on Stokes Valley Road Rugby and dessert on the 25th of August at 7.15 pm

Aubert Family Group Isn't it lovely to get a little sunshine on the back .. spring is around the corner! We thought we could go to Staglands Wildlife Reserve for an afternoon and take something to share for afternoon tea.

Date: Sat 25 August (following day cancellation date) at 1pm

Web-Site: <https://www.staglands.co.nz/wellington-attractions/welcome>

Cost: \$22 per adult and \$11 for children 4-16 yrs) however. Grab one currently have a deal on for Adult tickets at half price.

<https://new.grabone.co.nz/activities-events-outdoors/other-adventure-outdoors/p/staglands-wildlife-reserve-57> So if this suits you then go online and purchase this week. It will be great to catch up with those that can make it.



CWL Coffee morning on 29 August at the Silver Stream Bakery at 10 am. All are welcome to join.

Mass to celebrate St. Margaret Clitherow at St. Joseph's Church, Upper Hutt on 31st August at 11.15 am. A shared lunch for CWL

Members will follow.

2nd September Fundraiser on Father's Day Cake stall at our Lady of Grace – home *baking will be welcome.* Contact Kathleen on 04 527 4543.

Teaching Night @ St Francis de Sales Hall, Island Bay. Hosted by Catholic Charismatic Renewal on Wednesday 29th August at 7:30pm.

Speaker: Michael Powell Theme: Interpretation of Tongues Evening includes Praise & Worship, group discussion and fellowship. All welcome.



The Māori Pastoral Care Appeal (Online, planned giving and envelopes) Weekend of 25 August/26th August 2018. Your prayerful and financial support contributes to work in Māori communities, parishes, schools and groups in the Archdiocese. Kia ora tātou katoa, ngā manaakitanga. Thank you all and blessings.



CATHOLIC YOUTH EVENT
4 OCTOBER 2018

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 txt: 021 2317954



Message from Cardinal John Many of you will already be aware that a national Catholic men's event called **MAX18NZ** will be held over the weekend of September 28 – 30 at Kings College Auckland. This event has been jointly organised by our NZ Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship and menALIVE from Brisbane. The event is intended to reach out to the broad cross-section of ordinary men in our parishes. Its purpose is to encourage them to encounter Jesus in their lives, to grow in their faith and become better husbands, fathers, friends and workmates. The calibre of speakers from both New Zealand and Australia is impressive and the event promises to be very enriching for those men who can attend.

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference is fully supportive of this event and has made a sum of money available to the organisers so that any men who find themselves unable to attend the event because of cost can be subsidised to attend. I too personally support this wonderful opportunity for the Catholic men of this country and urge you all to do what you can to promote the event in your parishes and pastoral areas. All details are available on the event website www.max18nz.info or by phoning Jim Gribble on 027 249 5378.

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 anniversaries 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 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

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	
19 th August Twentieth Week Ordinary Time		26 th August Twenty First Week Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Proverbs 9:1-6	First Reading	Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18
Second Reading	Ephesians 5:15-20	Second Reading	Ephesians 5:21-32
Gospel	John 6:51-58	Gospel	John 6:60-69

