

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys**  
**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**  
**7<sup>th</sup> October 2018**



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**THE DEEP END – Asking the wrong question**

Today's gospel is challenging. It contains two instances of Jesus correcting a popular opinion of the time and offering an alternative way.

The first is one of the few times Jesus is presented as speaking about marriage. The question asked by the Pharisees is whether it is 'against the

Law' for a man to divorce his wife. Note that they do not ask whether divorce is right, or just – only whether it is legal. They are testing Jesus of course. They know the answer and so does he: divorce was indeed allowed under the law. Divorce was relatively common in the society of the time, though there were different interpretations of the law.

But Jesus, as always, is less concerned about the law than the rightness of a situation. He directs his questioners instead to God's plan for marriage and the unity between a married couple. When he delivers his strongest words about divorce, it is in the context of adultery; the sin is not the breaking of the legal agreement, but the betrayal of one's spouse. The Pharisees are asking the wrong question.

The second part of the gospel sees Jesus once again teaching people to look at things in a new way. Children at the time of Jesus, not unlike wives, were often viewed as property, without any rights of their own. The disciples fail to show any concern for them when they turn them away. But Jesus welcomes them, blesses them, and treats them with love and concern. He goes so far as to present them as teachers, on account of their faith and openness. Another surprising attitude!

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Weekly Collection: **\$1,167.60**



**IN THE PARISH**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. – St Vincent de Paul Meeting Stokes Valley  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parish Finance Committee – 7.30pm

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2019** – In **Limited** numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office for \$12 each please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.



**St Vincent de Paul Heretaunga** now have Christmas cards for sale which will be available at the 10.30 mass on Sundays and priced at \$3 per packet of five. They will also be available at the Parish Office.



### NOVEMBER – REMEMBERING THE BELOVED DEAD

During the month of November, it is our custom to remember those God has called through the gates of death to eternal life. Pages are available in the foyer to record those family and friends whom you would like to pray for at each Mass celebrated in the Parish during November. A box is also available to collect specific requests for Masses to be said for their intentions. On All Souls Day, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, a Special Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated in St Francis Xavier Church, at 7:30pm for the deceased, and especially for those who have died in the last twelve months. All are welcome to attend.

### PARISH LOGO

Over the past few months a period of consultation with the Parish was undertaken on a new logo for the Parish that would reflect the movement of the Parish as *One Parish - Two Churches* since our establishment as a new parish in 2015. The Parish Council would like to thank all those who provided comments and thoughts on the new logo. At the August meeting of the Council the Parish Council recommended the attached new logo, asking for comments etc., with the intention to make a decision at the September meeting. At the Parish Council last week, taking all the responses in to consideration the Parish Council formally adopted the new logo for use in the Parish. Over the weeks/months ahead the new logo will be implemented. Once again thanks to all those who contributed to the new design.



### PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT



Thanks to everyone who joined us in celebrating our 25th anniversary service and lunch. It was a great occasion and an opportunity (as Fr Tony said) to acknowledge the benefits of PFGs in our Parish. Do contact the Parish office, or any of the group leaders, or Heather and Terry ( 5286976) if you are considering joining a group.

**Holmes Group** Friday 12th Oct House Mass 6.30pm at Laings followed by a shared meal.

**O'Leary Group** Saturday 13th Oct Train Trip Lunch at Cafe Relish in Waikanae.

**ROSARY AOTEAROA** Parishes and Groups are being encouraged to gather together around the country on this Sunday at 3:00pm, to pray the rosary for ourselves, our Church and our Nation. So, if you can, let's gather together at Our Lady Of Grace Church on Sunday 7th October at 3 pm and have this time of Prayer.



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** This program, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith will begin on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30 in the Meeting Room of Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga. This program is designed for those wishing to become Catholic. If you or a friend would like to join this program please join us on the 24<sup>st</sup> October or phone: Fr Tony 972 4282 or Liz McCaul 527 3211

**Anointing of the Sick** is not exclusively for those at the point of death; it is available to all who are ill, undergoing surgery or other medical treatment and it can be received more than once. Please inform Fr Tony or the Parish office if you know of anyone sick and would like to receive the Sacrament or just a **visit**.





**Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development** From the home must come the man or woman able to promote the changes needed in politics, in society, in the ways of justice: it will be so easy once boys and girls are trained in the heart of each family to aspire not to have more but to be more, not to grab everything but to give abundantly to others. They must be educated for love. Loving is what the family is all about, and loving means giving oneself, surrendering oneself to the well-being of all and working for the common happiness.  
Archbishop Oscar Romero, 1979

**CATHOLIC MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE 'LOVE IS A DECISION'** Bookings are open now for the final two marriage preparation courses for 2018. The ADW Marriage Preparation Course 'Love is a Decision' will be run in Wellington on November 18 & 25. Courses for 2019 start again in March. Please contact Felicity Giltrap at the Family and Young Church Office (04) 496 1719 or [marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz) for more information or to book for a course.



**ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL** Gala is fast approaching and on the lookout for a couple of extra helpers to set up (afternoon, November 3rd) and on the day, November 4th. If you can spare a few hours, please contact the school office to register your interest. We're also looking for families or businesses who might be in a position to sponsor a hamper or meat pack for our rapid raffles. Your sponsorship would help purchase the hampers which would then be raffled on the day. If this sounds like something you could assist with, please don't hesitate to get in touch on [ptf@stbrendans.school.nz](mailto:ptf@stbrendans.school.nz). We are grateful for all the help around the gala.

**VIGIL MASS FOR CANONIZATION OF ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO (1917-1980):** Archbishop Romero will be canonized on 14 October in Rome. To mark the canonization, a thanksgiving Mass with Mons. Gerard Burns at the Home of Compassion chapel Island Bay, 5pm, Saturday 13 October. A recent documentary about his life will be shown before Mass at 3.00pm. All welcome.

**Stewardship Retreat** Gift yourself a time of reflection and join Cardinal John and the Stewardship team at the annual Stewardship Retreat, to be held at Sacred Heart Church Petone, Britannia St from 9.30am-3.45pm on Saturday 27 October, 2018. Register by emailing [a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz) or phone 496 5182.



**SUZANNE AUBERT CELEBRATION SUNDAY**



The annual Suzanne Aubert Celebration Sunday is a day for all Catholics to celebrate and remember the **spirituality and good works** of this remarkable woman and to be inspired by what she achieved and to follow in her footsteps.

At the age of just 25, Suzanne Aubert arrived in New Zealand from France, to answer God's call to serve the sick, orphaned, elderly and those whom society rejected. She established New Zealand's first soup kitchen which still serves thousands of meals a year. She was a pioneer of New Zealand's health and welfare system and a friend to Māori throughout her life. In the 66 years she lived here, Suzanne travelled widely, visiting more than 24 towns across the country. A special pilgrimage map can be viewed on the website ([www.suzanneaubert.co.nz](http://www.suzanneaubert.co.nz)) which has been designed to help those interested to retrace Suzanne's footsteps in Aotearoa. Suzanne's *wairua* lives on in the work of the Sisters of Compassion.

Please continue to pray that the church will soon recognize Venerable Suzanne Aubert's intercession in a miracle which enables her to be beatified

**Pa Maria Marist Spirituality Centre, Thorndon:** Non-Residential Retreat, 12-16 November, 9.30am - 4.00pm daily; *Reflection Day*, Saturday 24 November, 9.30am - 4.00pm. Contact Fr Brian Cummings SM [bgcummings@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bgcummings@xtra.co.nz) or 021 703 580.



**Engaged Encounter** About to get Married? Could you successfully run a marathon without preparing for it? Of course not! So too marriage. The next opportunity to prepare for your lifetime of marriage on an Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation course is 3rd & 4th November. For more information phone Kate and Simon on 801 6192 or visit our website [www.cee-wellington.co.nz](http://www.cee-wellington.co.nz)

**Marriage Encounter** Weekend offers couples an experience of loving communication they can use for the rest of their lives. It's a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Marriage. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is 9-11 November at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay. Phone 0800362686 or go to the website <http://www.marriageencounter.org.nz>



**Congratulations** Trish and John Leahy who are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 5th of October Congratulations!

**Please remember in prayer** all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray for those who have died recently, Lyn Burt, Jim Judge, Matthew So'Otaga, Vernon O'Sullivan, Joan Patton and Anni Morris. We pray also for those whose 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

**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	
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct Twenty Seventh week Ordinary Time		14 <sup>th</sup> Oct Twenty Eighth week Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Genesis 2:18-24	First Reading	Wisdom 7:7-11
Second Reading	Hebrews 2:9-11	Second Reading	Hebrews 4:12-13
Gospel	Mark 10:2-16	Gospel	Mark 10:17-30