

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Feast of Jesus Christ, Universal King - Year B
25th November 2018**



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THE DEEP END – So you are a King?’

Today is the Feast of Christ the King and this Gospel certainly gives us an opportunity to lay aside a lot of cultural baggage we may have about kings, leaders and kingdoms. The Jewish leaders want Jesus executed and so they bring him to Pilate who engages in a debate with Jesus on ‘kingship’. Jesus is accused of claiming to be a ‘king’ and this passage plays on both the political and religious meaning of that word. Pilate is concerned with whether or not Jesus poses a threat to Roman rule, while the Jewish religious leaders are worried about the type of ‘Messiah king’ Jesus claims to be. Through his ministry Jesus has shown them that His kingdom is unlike the one that Pilate, or many other earthly leaders know. It is a kingdom built on love, service, justice, reconciliation and peace. Few ‘kings can measure up to this. Jesus is a servant King, a beacon light for today’s world. Who do you know in our world today who is the more living example of this type of kingship? When you look at the world’s political leaders, do they shine like a beacon light striving for peace, justice and care for the earth? On this Feast of Christ the King we celebrate a type of kingship that is a display of radical love. What a different world we would have if all those who hold power and authority led in such a way. Let us pray today that all leaders will be open to listening to the Spirit and strive for a more just world.

*Jane Mellett
Email mellettj@gmail.com*

Weekly Collection: **1,902.40**



IN THE PARISH

7th Dec Men’s Night Christmas Function in Presbytery
 CWL Advent Reflection Evening in the Pettit Centre
9th Dec 4:00pm Rite II Reconciliation at OLOG

COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2019 – In **Limited** numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office or foyer of both churches for \$12 each.





FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MASS AND SOCIAL TIME

Last Sunday at the 10:30am Mass the Parish had a special Mass and social occasion where children were invited, especially the candidates who received First Holy Communion this year. The celebrations included the Mass, a special morning tea and games/activities for the younger members on the lawn next to the Church. Special thanks go to those who assisted at the service, morning tea and games times. Also a **BIG THANK YOU** to Prue von Keisenburg (Parish Council Chairperson) and her team who did a wonderful job organizing the day and leading on the day.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Stokes Valley The Christmas cards for St Francis Xavier Parish have finally arrived. Designs similar to previous years and still the same price, a pack of 8 cards for \$4. These will be available from church at weekend Masses or contact Margaret Lanigan, 971-7564. All proceeds go to St Vincent de Paul



BURGLARY UPDATE

As previously advised the Parish experienced a couple of break-ins at the Presbytery, Our Lady of Grace Church and the Pettit Centre over the last 18 months. In the Dominion Post this week it was reported that a conviction has been successfully made against the perpetrator of the burglaries. He was sentenced to 2 years 3 months imprisonment. The Parish was involved in a Restorative Justice process with the offender at the time of the conviction.

Sacramental Preparation Programme 2019 - Enrolments for the 2019 Sacramental Preparation Program are now open for those candidates who would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of both churches and the School. Though enrolments close on 8th February 2019 please endeavour to enrol before the 18th December as this allows time over the January period to undertake preparation work. The Programme starts on 18th February and the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Louise Peirce the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.



ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL 2018 Giving Gratitude Liturgy

We invite you to our Giving Gratitude Liturgy, to thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

DATE: Monday, 26th November at 10:00 am at St Brendan's School Hall. Following our Liturgy, groups of students will perform, and then you are welcome to join us for morning tea.



Go you are sent as members of the One Body 6(e) Parish leadership and mission statements reflect the ethnic diversity of the community. "In the o_e Spirit, we were all ba_ti_ed."(1Cor.12:13)

CAR BOOT SALE - THANKS

Thanks to the Fun(d) Raising Committee and all those helping out at the Car Boot Sale at St Francis Xavier Carpark in Stokes Valley this weekend.



Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering - All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 1 December for our Christmas high tea in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. Please bring your own fancy cup, saucer and small plate (if you have one), plus a small plate of finger food to share (about 6 - 8 items). We will have fun, friendship, music and lovely food. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, please ring Melinda on 234 1271. A gold coin donation towards our charities would be appreciated.

FINANCES As you are aware, we are currently running a deficit budget and are relying on our reserves to pay our expenses. We need to increase our income urgently. For every \$1 that is received 50c goes to the Diocese/Clergy Trust Fund. A cup of coffee - \$5.00 increase in your plan giving would be greatly received. If you are not currently supporting the parish financially, would you please consider doing so. Thank you.



MEN'S GROUP

MEN'S GROUP CHRISTMAS FUNCTION – Friday 7th December at the Presbytery A meal \$15.00 per head will be available, bring your own drinks. For catering purposes please place your name and phone number on the clip board in the foyer. **NOTE THERE IS NO GATHERING ON 4th December**



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE Christmas Lunch on Tuesday November 27 at 12 pm at Te Marua Golf Course. \$ 30 per head to be paid on that day. All parishioners are welcome. Transport available – please contact Trish Leahy on 528 5161



GREENSTONE DOORS Annual Christmas Party is being held on 5th Dec 6:30pm-8:30pm at 106 Park Road, Belmont. Join us for an evening of music, entertainment, wine, nibbles and rolling raffles. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from eventbrite.co.nz or contact us on 566 5037.



The National March for Life NZ Mark your calendars and prepare to join others on **Saturday 8th December** to celebrate the gift of life and send a message of love and hope to our community. Be a beacon of light for Kiwi families, mothers and the unborn! Gather at 2 pm in Civic Centre, 101 Wakefield St., ready to begin to walk to Parliament grounds. marchforlifenz.org.nz or phone Michael 021 825 955



Rite II Reconciliation

At our Lady of Grace Church on Sunday 9th December at 4 pm
And on Sunday 16 December at 4pm in St. Joseph's Church.



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, Pat Gallaher, Mary Taggart, Mary Fouhy, David Wanden, Kelvin Barlowe, and whose anniversary occurs around this time. We remember those enrolled in our Book of Life during this month of November. 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

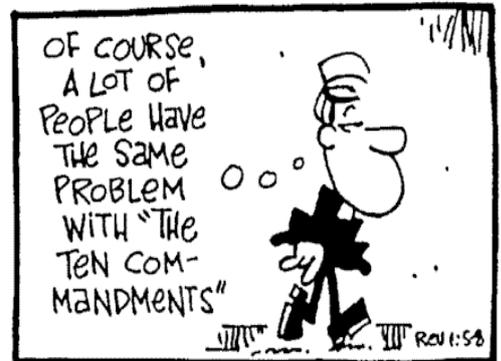
St Vincent de Paul – Heretaunga

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	
25 th Nov Christ the King		2 nd December First Sunday of Advent	
First Reading	Daniel 7:13-14	First Reading	Jeremiah 33:14-16
Second Reading	Rev 1:5-8	Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Gospel	John 18:33-37	Gospel	Luke 21:25-28, 34-36