

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Fifth week of Ordinary Time Year C
10th February 2019



Father Tony Kearns
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THE DEEP END – ‘Walking with the Lord’

Last July and August, hundreds of people took part in ‘Walk While You Can’ a walk from Letterkenny, County Donegal to Ballydehob, County Cork, to raise awareness and funds to support those with Motor Neurone Disease. The event was the brainchild of Fr Tony Coote, a priest of the parishes of Kilmacud and Mount Merrion in Dublin, who made the decision to walk the length of Ireland after himself being diagnosed with MND. His boundless energy and zest for life, even in the face of terminal illness, struck a chord with many. People were inspired by his faith. Speaking during an interview on The Late Late Show, Fr Tony said: ‘I haven’t much time left, I know that. But I believe in a loving God; I don’t fear death.’ Fr Tony is an example of someone who is following Jesus as a disciple, while also bringing others to Jesus. In his years as a priest he has preached and lived the Gospel, and since this massive change in his health and circumstances he has found a way to spread the Good News in a new way.

His story came to mind as I reflected on today’s Gospel, which tells the story of the call of Peter. We are often struck by how the first disciples ‘left everything and followed him’. Are we expected to do the same? Only a rare few will literally leave behind home, friends and family. But following Jesus does require us to offer our whole selves, whatever our circumstances. Whatever our position is life, we have something unique and great to offer.

Triona Doherty
Email: trionad@gmail.com

Weekly Collection: \$1,585.80



IN THE PARISH

Tuesday 12th February Saint Vincent de Paul – Stokes Valley 7 pm

Thursday 14th February Parish Finance Committee – 7.30 pm

Friday 15th February Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starts – from 10am

Saturday 16th February Grace Family Group – Dinner Charlton’s Silverstream 4pm

Sacramental Preparation Programme 2019 - Enrolments for the 2019 Sacramental Preparation Program are 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. **Please have enrolments in to the Office by 8th February 2019** to allow preparation work to be undertaken. The Programme starts on March and the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Louise Peirce the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.



SYNOD 2017 – PARISH SELF REVIEW

Today the Parish Self Review process begins for our Parish. As noted in the bulletin and at Mass last week the process being undertaken will seek to get your input on the area(s) of concern that you would like the Parish to focus on in the upcoming year(s).

A survey has been prepared. It is available on line at the Parish website (www.olv.org.nz) on the homepage. Printed copies of the survey are also available in the foyer of each church. This part of the Self-Review will run until 10th March so please take the time to reflect and prayerfully consider your responses and comments.

Written submissions can be placed in the collection baskets over the next few weeks, dropped into the Presbytery Office, scanned and emailed to the Office (office@olv.org.nz) or placed in box provided in each church foyer.



PARISH PICNIC AND FR TONY'S 60th BIRTHDAY NEXT SUNDAY

On the 17th February at midday at the Presbytery the Parish will be holding its **ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC**. In the past this has been held at the park but as Father Tony is also celebrating his **60th BIRTHDAY** he is hosting it at the

PRESBYTERY grounds at Our Lady of Grace Church.

Last year was a great success but let's make this year even better. This is a good way to meet up with new and old parishioners in a relaxed atmosphere.

Barbeque will be available if you wish to bring food along to be cooked. Tea, coffee and cordial will also be available. Games and activities are being arranged for the younger (and younger at heart) parishioners.

GRACE FAMILY GROUP Your hosts - Tom & Kathy Smith and Nigel and Christine Pask have booked the Charlton's Silverstream (booked under Smith) on Saturday 16th February at 4pm for 5pm dinner. Please reply to Kathy by **NO LATER** than 14th February (yes Valentine's Day!!) at tomkathysmith@gmail.com Phone: 977 5763 Please RSVP so that we can confirm numbers with Charltons.



ALTAR STONES AT OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

When tidying up the Presbytery last year Father Tony uncovered two altar stones which we believe were removed from the old High Altar at Our lady of Grace Church. The marbling of one of the stones matches the marbling on the altars beneath the tabernacle and Our Lady's statue. The altar stones with the relics still inside have been re-installed in the main altar of our Lady of Grace. The other stone has been installed in the altar in the St Joseph's Prayer room at the back of Our Lady of Grace Church. A small plaque will be placed on the two altars to mark the installation. Thanks to Paul and Tom who did the actual installation work over the summer break.

World Day of the Sick Monday, 11 February 2019 Each year a city somewhere in the world is nominated to mark this day of remembrance. For 2019 it is to be Kolkata (Calcutta). The Holy Father is sending a special envoy Cardinal Drozario to represent him. Kolkata is associated with Mother Theresa. World Day of the Sick was first announced by St. John Paul II in 1992, designated to the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Meditation Group

This will resume meeting every Monday afternoon 1.30 – 2.30 On Monday February 4th at Marian Court, 1 Perry Street, Heretaunga. We Listen to a talk by a well - known Teacher of Christian Meditation followed by 30 minutes of Silent Meditation. If you are interested to learn or join the group contact: Sr. Annette 04 527 1216 any afternoon.



Dear St. Valentine,
help us learn to
love unselfishly
and to find great
joy in giving.
enable all true lovers
to bring out the best
♥ in each other. ♥

ST VALENTINE'S DAY MASS

Thursday 14th February 2019 at 6pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria. All welcome to a celebration of love. Also, we are looking for couples who are celebrating a significant anniversary. If you, or if you know someone celebrating 25, 30, 40 or 50+ years married, we would love to hear from you. Contact Felicity Giltrap at the

Catholic Centre (04) 496 1719

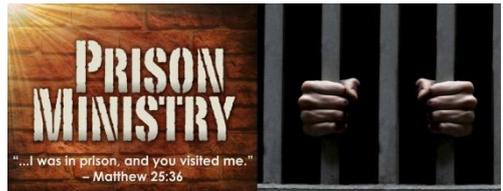
St Joseph's Parish Upper Hutt – Parish Secretary Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary to work part time 20 hours per week Monday to Friday. Previous experience in an admin/accounts role is required with a good level of computer skills – experience with Apple Mac and XERO would be an advantage. Excellent people skills, a compassionate and empathetic nature and a high level of personal integrity are essential. Applications should be emailed to stjosephsuh@actrix.co.nz with a brief CV and a covering letter by 4pm on Wednesday 20th February.



Michael Mangan Workshop:

This We Believe: Music for Sacraments of Initiation with Children. Songs for the preparation & celebration of Baptism, Confirmation & First Communion and Reconciliation for children. Tuesday 26th February 7.00pm-9.00pm Ss Peter & Pauls Church L. Hutt. Please register before Mon 26th February with Ann Williams a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz.



Invitation to Ministry When you think of Prison Ministry what is your reaction? Do we listen to God as much as the media?

We need people to Companion the Seasons for Growth Programme in Rimutaka and Arohata

Prisons. Seasons for Growth is an education and support programme which deals with Grief and Loss and achieves wonderful results. It gives them a

voice, and encourages the making of good, positive, life giving choices for the future.

We ask that you reflect deeply on this invitation to a very special ministry. Maybe if not yourself, you might know someone whose attention you could draw to this opportunity. Training and support are provided.

For further information and to express your interest and/or apply for this very rewarding ministry please contact David Wootton: Chaplain on 04 529 0860 david.wootton@corrections.govt.nz or Sr Veronica Casey PBVM, Senior Catholic Chaplain on 027 5233983. vcasey@nzcbc.org.nz

The Feb. 10 – 23 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Kiwis centre stage at World Youth Day in Panama. Pastoral leader dies on Christmas Day. Seal of confession issues often misunderstood. Women deacons about ministry not power. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on February 24.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell especially Ron Gillies and Margaret O'Neill and those who are lonely and worried. We pray for those who have died recently, Stephanie Castelle, Patricia Smith, Siobhan Robson and Johanna Vercoelen and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time. May they RIP.

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 – 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	
10th February Fifth Week of Ordinary Time		17th February Sixth Week of Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Isaiah 6:1-8	First Reading	Jeremiah 17:5-8
Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:1-11	Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:12. 16-20
Gospel	Mark 6:53-56	Gospel	Luke 6:17.20-26