

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Sixth week of Ordinary Time Year C
17th February 2019



Father Tony Kearns
Parish Office and Presbytery (04) 972 4282
Residence: 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga
Parish Administrator: Jovena Fernandez
Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Email: office@olov.org.nz Email: pp@olov.org.nz
Website: www.olov.org.nz
St Brendan's School - 939 1909



THE DEEP END – How happy

What's so great about being poor, or hungry, or sad? On the surface, these Beatitudes of Jesus seem very strange: 'How happy are you who are poor'. Surely it is better to be wealthy, to be well fed, and to enjoy good times – or to at least be comfortable and content?

But Jesus is not interested in comfort, or in maintaining the status quo. The Jesus of Luke's Gospel is something of a revolutionary. He has come to turn the social order on its head: last becomes first and least becomes greatest. His concern is always for the poor and marginalised.

Jesus' vision is of a world where the unjust structures that cause poverty, hunger and oppression are swept away. Sadly, as we hear on the news every day, inequalities in our world with regard to wealth, education, health and opportunities remain as stark as ever. Speaking about how we can tackle injustice today, Pope Francis has offered six 'new Beatitudes' for the modern Christian. Like the teachings of Jesus, they remind us that the task of the Christian is to tackle injustice and to act in solidarity with those on the margins of society.

Pope Francis 'new Beatitudes' include:

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others. Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalised and show them their closeness. Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

Triona Doherty
Email: trionad@gmail.com

Weekly Collection: \$1,708.30



IN THE PARISH

Wednesday 20th Feb Mass with Anointing – 11am Pettit Centre
Thursday 21st Feb Mass with Anointing – 1.30pm Stokeswood, SV
Thursday 21st February Parish Council Meeting – 7.30pm

Cleaning of the Church at OLOG

We URGENTLY need just one volunteer to fill a vacant spot – it is not too hard and only entails cleaning 3 or 4 times a year. Please contact the Parish office.





Ashes for Ash Wednesday – parishioners are invited to bring their Palms from last year's Palm Sunday service to leave in the basket in the foyer of the Church ready for this coming Ash Wednesday. These will be burnt to provide the Ashes used to mark the beginning of Lent on 6th March.

Healing Mass – Wednesday 20th February at 11 am in the Pettit Centre. Please come and join in the Mass and Sacrament of Anointing followed by a shared lunch. All welcome.



Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development

The Beatitudes are born of the compassionate heart of Jesus, which encounters the hearts, compassionate and in need of compassion, of men and women seeking and yearning for a life of happiness. Men and women who know what it is to suffer, who appreciate the confusion and pain of having the earth shake beneath their feet or seeing dreams washed away when the work of a lifetime comes to nought. But men and women who also know what it is to persevere and struggle to keep going, what it is to rebuild their lives and to start again. Pope Francis, [Homily in Chile January 2018](#)

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 as soon as possible** to allow preparation work to be undertaken. The Programme starts in 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.

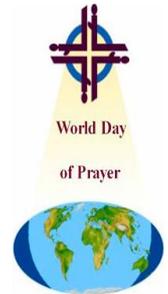
Written submissions can placed in the collection baskets over the next few weeks, dropped into the Presbytery Office, scanned and emailed to the Office (office@olv.org.nz) or placed in box provided in each church foyer.



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 marble 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 Prayer "Come – Everything is Ready" – Friday March 1st at St. Margaret's Church, Dunns Street, Silverstream at 2pm (or at St. Hilda's Church, Cruickshanks Road at 1.30pm). 7 members of OLOV will present one section at St. Margaret's. Please come and support them. There will be a collection to support projects in Slovenia, South Sudan and New Zealand.



St Joseph's Parish Upper Hutt – Parish Secretary Vacancy

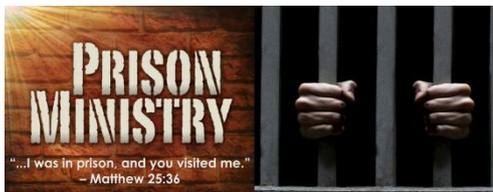
A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary to work part time 20 hours per week Monday to Friday. Previous experience in an admin/accounts role is required with a good level of computer skills – experience with Apple Mac and XERO would be an advantage. Excellent people skills, a compassionate and empathetic 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 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.

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

Archdiocesan Commission for Ecology, Justice and Peace is seeking expressions of interest for membership of our four Committees. The time commitment is to attend six evening meetings a year (including use of teleconferencing), a formation day, and to carry out the agreed work of the Committee. The four Committees are:



- Integral Ecology
 - Poverty
 - Bicultural relationships
 - Parish communication and engagement
- For more information, please email the Ecology, Justice and Peace advisor Lisa Beech l.beech@wn.catholic.org.nz 0212884388 by Friday 1 March.



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, Fr. Michael Fitzgerald SM, Joan Larkin, and Stephanie Castelle, and 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 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	
17th February Sixth Week of Ordinary Time		24th February Seventh Week of Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Jeremiah 17:5-8	First Reading	Samuel 26:2.7-9, 12-13.22-23
Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:12. 16-20	Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:45-49
Gospel	Luke 6:17.20-26	Gospel	Luke 6:27-38