

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys  
Seventh week of Ordinary Time Year C  
24th February 2019**



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**THE DEEP END – Freely giving**

Lord, teach me to be generous, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save that of knowing that I do your holy will.

The 'Prayer for Generosity', which many of us learned as children, is associated with St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order, yet it is unclear whether he actually composed it. One of the earliest references to it comes from 1910, when it began to be used as a prayer for the French scouting movement. To this day it is often known as 'The Scout Prayer' and is used by many Scout groups as a blueprint for the work they do.

The prayer perfectly sums up the generous spirit of the many volunteer organisations and charities whose members give their time and energy so freely and generously to help others. There are thousands of volunteers all over our country who put love into action by visiting those who are lonely, listening to those who are struggling, providing food and other supplies for those in need, and fundraising for all sorts of worthy causes. Week in and week out, they give without ever counting the cost.

These volunteers are living the message of today's Gospel, which can be summed up in one short sentence: Go the extra mile. Thank you, Lord, for volunteers. Make us ever more generous with our time, energy and resources. Help us to be compassionate, as you are compassionate.

Triona Doherty  
Email: trionad@gmail.com

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**Weekly Collection: \$1,236.40**



**IN THE PARISH**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb Saint Vincent de Paul, Heretaunga – 7pm

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb – CWL Coffee Morning, Silverstream Bakery – 10am

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb Parish Liturgy Meeting – 7.30pm

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Circle of Friendship – Pettit Centre 2pm



**Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development**

Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church's very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love.

Pope Francis: [Misericordiae Vultus](#), 2015

## 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 and is available on line at the Parish website ([www.olv.org.nz](http://www.olv.org.nz)) on the homepage or <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5Pwlud1w7eGPGSGTEZgNzFN54RiGp3GucZtif-Gjd0dv30w/viewform>. Printed copies of the survey are also available in the foyer of each church.** This part of the Self-Review will run until 10<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@olv.org.nz)) or placed in box provided in each church foyer.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> March. Thanks

**CWL Reminder to all Parishioners** – Don't forget our last Wednesday of the month coffee morning at the Silverstream Bakery at 10 am. See you on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February!!!!

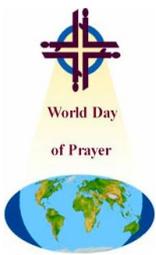
**Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering** - All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 2 March for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. Our very own Brenda will be speaking to us on the topic "Bits and pieces in the life of a canine." As usual we will be continuing our book swap table if you have books to spare that someone else can get some enjoyment from. If you need transport, please ring Melinda on 234 1271. A gold coin donation towards our charities would be appreciated.



**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.

Feb. 24–Mar. 9 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Minister's Filipino-Catholic jibe 'hurtful'. Tomorrow's Schools demolition opposed. Does God will a diversity of religions? Family deal proposed for southern church.





**World Day of Prayer "Come – Everything is Ready"** – Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> 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. There will be a collection to support projects in Slovenia, South Sudan and New Zealand.

### **PARISH CELEBRATION 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

Last Sunday was a lovely sunny day and a large number of parishioners gathered for the Annual Parish Picnic and to mark my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Presbytery in Heretaunga. Many thanks go to Pru von Keisenburg, Mike Dench and the rest of the Parish Council, our Parish Youth Group and the team working behind the scenes that made the great coming together of lots of people from all parts of Our Lady of the Valleys Parish. My family and friends who joined us for the day were blown away by the hospitality, generosity, sense of fun and family atmosphere that they experienced. Our annual Parish Picnic seems to go from strength to strength. I am already looking forward to next year's event.

On a personal note I want to say a great big **THANK YOU** to you all for the expresses of best wishes and friendship shown me as I moved into a new decade. I will try to keep up with the younger members of the parish as I move more into my 60's in the years ahead.

*Fr Tony*

**The Wellington Eucharistic Convention** will be held on Sunday 3rd March, at St Patrick's College, Silverstream, starting at 8-30 am and concluding at 4-30 pm with a Healing Ceremony, and followed by Mass at 5-30 pm. Local and overseas speakers will talk at this celebration of our Catholic faith together with prayer, confession and sales tables. For further information and tickets, contact Ted Jordan at [ted.j@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ted.j@xtra.co.nz) or phone 045288679.

**Devotion to the Sacred Heart 2 March, 7.30 pm** and the defence of the Family. Catholic apologist, Raymond de Souza speaks about the state of the Church today. Northland Memorial Community Hall, 5 Woburn Rd., Northland. Koha admission and supper. Enquiries: Neil: 021896924.



**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 26<sup>th</sup> February with Ann Williams [a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:a.williams@wn.catholic.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, 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](mailto:l.beech@wn.catholic.org.nz) 0212884388 by Friday 1 March.



**Lenten Prayer for Life:** This Lent join us in prayer, fasting and reparation, especially for the 36 pre-born babies who lose their lives through abortion every day of the year in New Zealand. To find out more take a flyer or view the poster at the rear of the church. For all enquiries call 021 231 7954 or email [clare.fli@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clare.fli@xtra.co.nz)

**Holy Hour** You are invited to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 26 February beginning at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral chapel to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. This Holy Hour will include prayers, Scripture, singing, times of silence and conclude with Benediction followed by supper.

**Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and God in a friendly, open and informal environment.** This workshop 'Alpha in the Catholic Context' presented by Lorraine McCarthy (from Australia) is a must for anyone; wanting to know more, wanting to encourage family or friends back into the church, wanting to help make it happen in your parish, wanting to welcome people back into the church community, involved in R.C.I.A. When: February 27<sup>th</sup> Times: 1.30pm – 6pm and 7pm- 9.30pm Venue: St Joseph's Mt. Victoria. Please register with Ann Williams [a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz) before Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.



**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, Janice Browne, Margaret O'Neill, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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	
24th February Seventh Week of Ordinary Time		3rd March Eighth Week of Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Samuel 26:2.7-9, 12-13.22-23	First Reading	Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7
Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:45-49	Second Reading	1Corinthians 15:54-58
Gospel	Luke 6:27-38	Gospel	Luke 6:39-45