

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Palm Sunday Year C
14th April 2019**



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THE DEEP END – Towards the cross

We know where Jesus is going to end up, and Jesus knows it too. At the beginning of today's Mass, we hear of Jesus' spectacular entry into Jerusalem. The crowds who greet him cry out and praise God – the King has come! It is similar to how victorious army generals were welcomed home. These people have set their hopes on Jesus. They are waiting for a Messiah and King, and have heard so much about this preacher – is he the one they've been waiting for?

But Jesus is not the hero they've been expecting. He has not come to raise up an army or become a great political leader. Quite the opposite: Jesus has come to Jerusalem to die. The story takes a dark and dramatic turn, and we are plunged into a tale of arrest, trial, torture and death. Before long, the crowds are shouting 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' and taunting him on the cross to 'save himself if he is the Christ of God'. Jesus' triumphant entrance into the city is also his entry into his betrayal, suffering, and death.

We play our part in the unfolding drama today, as we first hold up our palm branches and later join the crowds condemning Jesus. In his Palm Sunday homily to young people last year, Pope Francis said the changing reactions of the crowds 'expresses the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love, but also for great hatred; the capacity for courageous self-sacrifice, but also the ability to 'wash our hands'.'

Today we place ourselves in the Passion of Jesus, and we look to the Cross as our consolation and our challenge.

Tirone Doherty
Email trionad@gmail.com

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE OF SERVICES FOR OUR LADY OF VALLEYS PARISH ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE AND PRINTED COPY IS AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER OF THE CHURCH

Weekly Collection: \$1,373.50



IN THE PARISH

Wednesday 17th April Mass with Anointing at 11 am in the Pettit Centre
Please **note** there will be **NO** mass at Our Lady of Grace church on that day.

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT – MASS

On each Wednesday in Lent there will be an additional Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 6:30 am

The Little White Book is meant to help you enjoy six minutes of prayer each day during the 50 days of the Easter season. Reflections will be based on the Acts of the Apostles and the early Church. This Little Book has been carefully crafted to help you explore the depths of Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ. There are 15 copies available in the Church foyer at \$6 per book



Passionist Holmes family group will be meeting at 12 Zeala Grove on the 24th of April at 7pm

Regional Connections day Sat 4 May 3.30pm at Uniting Church Johnsonville \$5pp. All family group members are invited from the Wellington region for a pizza, salads and dessert tea after a short programme with Fr Brian Traynor.



ARCHDIOCESAN CHRISM MASS You are invited to join Cardinal John Dew and the Priests of the northern part of the Archdiocese as they renew their commitment to their priestly service at the Chrism Mass at 7:30pm on Tuesday 16th April at St Teresa's Church Karori. Attending the Chrism Mass is a wonderful way to begin Holy Week.

Circle of friendship

God of Creation, we thank you for the gift of music! We give thanks for the skill and sensitivity of the 3 wonderful musicians from St Mary's Anglican Parish who entertained our gathering of 32 women last Saturday. Their items included some requested favourites: (Pie Jesus, Mary did you know? and What a beautiful name) :-). A happy afternoon of music, a quiz and afternoon tea was enjoyed by all.



Stations of the Cross held at St. Francis Xavier, Stokes Valley at 7:00pm every Friday. It's usually said in the Samoan language but there is an English translation book for those who would like to join.

The Stations of the Cross are said in English from time to time.

Please note there will be a **Way of the Cross Walk** on Good Friday 19th April from 9:00 am at Stokes Valley Churches.

Children's Liturgy at St Francis Xavier at 8:30 am. Mass. We are seeking parents to assist in running a children's liturgy programme during term time. Resources will be supplied to assist you. Please contact the parish office office@olov.org.nz or Prue von Keisenberg pruevk@yahoo.com



"Humanity Of The Unborn" Overseas experience indicates that will be the forerunner to debate on even worse atrocities for the unborn child, including "partial-birth" abortions, "after- birth" abortions, and infanticide. If you wish to add your name to an Inter-Denominational "Open Letter to all members of Parliament" email donbrebs@kinect.co.nz you will receive a copy of the Letter by return.

St Brendan's fundraiser for Senior Camp 2020 we are collecting excellent quality second hand clothing for our clothing extravaganza. All clothing including shoes are welcome. Drop off at the school office or call Lisa 0211503297 or Kathryn 0278599601.



St. Brendan's are now on the journey of being an enviro school. A school enviro group will meet every Friday from 1:00- 2:00 to work on mini projects around the school. We are requiring adult support to complete these projects. On Monday 29th April at 3:30pm in Room 7 a meeting will be held to share what this would involve. We welcome as many mum's dads, and grandparents to support this group. If you would like to support the group please email Chris Pullan c.pullan@stbrendans.school.nz or Heather Campbell h.campbell@stbrendans.school

Ecology, Justice and Peace This Jesus, who accepts the hosannas of the crowd, knows full well that they will soon be followed by the cry: "Crucify him!" He does not ask us to contemplate him only in pictures and photographs, or in the videos that circulate on the internet. No. He is present in our many brothers and sisters who today endure sufferings like his own: they suffer from slave labour, from family tragedies, from diseases. They suffer from wars and terrorism, from interests that are armed and ready to strike. Women and men who are cheated, violated in their dignity, discarded. Jesus is in them, in each of them, and, with marred features and broken voice, he asks to be looked in the eye, to be acknowledged, to be loved.

Pope Francis: Homily for Palm Sunday/World Youth Day 2017

The Euthanasia bill sponsored by MP David Seymour is about to get its 2nd reading and vote in parliament. Check out the dangers of this Bill by visiting www.carealliance.org.nz or www.defendnz.co.nz We encourage every one of you who will be of voting age to sign the Care Alliance Petition to let your MP know your opposition to this Bill. There will be opportunities to do this at Masses in the parish on 13-14 April.

Planned Giving – IRD Charitable Donation Receipts The New Tax year begins on Monday the 1st of April. Over the next couple of weeks the Parish Office will be preparing and checking the tax Inland Revenue charitable donation receipts for 2018-19. These will be available by end of April early May.



Go you are sent ...to your peripheries (7) Promote the work of the Marriage Tribunal

Palm Sunday Candlelight Vigil for the Unborn Sunday 14 April @ 7pm. Come join caring people from all over Wellington in a peaceful prayer vigil outside Wellington Hospital where more than 1300 babies lose their lives to abortion every year. We mourn their lives and pray for healing for all those impacted by the tragedy of abortion and for the conversion of clinic workers. Riddiford Street, Outside Wellington Hospital, Newtown

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 Phyllis Riley, Afoa Tualata, Vince Russell, Annette Byrne, and Sr. Sarto, and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time especially Sheila Dillon (13/4) and Val Gibbons-Dillon (21/4) - 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 – 11:30 am

Weekdays– Tues, Thurs, 9:30am Mass – Wed, Sat 9:30 am 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	
14th April - Palm Sunday		21 st April Easter Sunday – ALLELUIA	
First Reading	Isaiah 50:4-7	First Reading	Acts 10:34,37-43
Second Reading	Philippians 2:6-11	Second Reading	Col 3:1-4
Gospel	Luke 22:14-23:56	Gospel	Luke 24:1-12

