

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
4th Sunday of Easter Year C ALLELUIA
12th May 2019**



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THE DEEP END

I know them

John's Gospel is sometimes referred to as the 'spiritual Gospel,' as it has beautiful, reflective passages. During the Easter season, we read and hear mostly from John. It is a lovely opportunity to meditate more deeply on the Word. Today, we are given the image of Jesus as the Shepherd and of his people as the flock. We hear the words 'I know them.' Jesus knows each person intimately. He knows our deepest desires, our worries and fears, our insecurities and pain. Jesus is as close to us as our own breathing. Nobody can interfere with this intimate friendship, even though at times we may feel differently. We may experience discrimination because of our faith, or be attacked in some way. When things are not going so well, we may feel as if Jesus has abandoned us; sometimes we simply want to give up on the whole thing. We become distant. Let this passage be a reminder to us that Jesus is always very close to us and knows our struggles. We simply need to share those struggles and fears with Him, for 'no one will snatch them [you] out of my hand.' We may forget this from time to time. This week, can you spend five minutes each day meditating on this passage? Focus on the breath. A phrase to repeat might be: 'Jesus, I know that you are as close to me as my own breathing.'

Jane Mellett
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Weekly Collection: \$1,583.50



To all the Beautiful Mothers



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IN THE PARISH

Wednesday 15th May 11am Mass with Anointing at the Pettit Centre.
Please note there will be **NO 9 am** mass at OLOG on this day.

Thursday 16th May 1.30 pm Mass with Anointing at Stokeswood Rest Home.
Please note there will be **NO 9.30 am** Mass at SFX on this day

Thursday 16th May 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting

St Brendan's On Thursday 16 May, the school will be celebrating St Brendan's Day. This is a special day for us as we are the only school in New Zealand named after St Brendan. Our day will start with Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 9.30. We will then return to school to complete some fun House activities together and to have a shared lunch. We would love to see parents, grandparents, other family members or anyone who would like to share Mass with us and visit the school. You are all most welcome.



OVERFLOW Calling all teens and young adults to a fellowship evening hosted by OVERFLOW (Our Lady of the Valleys Youth Group) 18th May 7pm@ Pettit Centre. If you would like to be a part of OVERFLOW then come along and meet others also going through the same faith journey.

Let us have fun while journeying closer to Christ together. There's a saying that the youth are the church of tomorrow but the youth are the church of today and the church and its brothers and sisters need you today more than ever - Let's go!!!!

(Please bring a plate to share - optional)

I AM HERE - OLOV Worship Night

OVERFLOW (OLOV Youth Group) would love to invite you, your family and friends to another Worship Night on Friday 24th May 7:30pm@ St Francis Xavier Church. This worship night will be focused on the power and love of our God and the importance of his presence in our lives. Let us remember the love he has for us and worship together as one and grow in faith. The night will be concluded with light refreshments and fellowship - ALL WELCOME!

CWL Bus Trip Would you like to join us on an outing to the Home of Compassion, Island Bay on Wednesday 5th June leaving from the Pettit Centre at 11.30am returning at 3.30pm. We have a limited number of seats to fill at a cost of \$10 for the bus trip plus \$12 for lunch. Ring Chris Wasson on 5287847 to book your seat.



Synod Review Update:

Thank you to all those who filled out the Synod Review document either in the paper format or on line. There were sixty-one responses over all. The ratings have been collated and the comments have been read. The cumulative numerical data as well as the written comments are currently being analysed and collated into a report. As you may appreciate just as the Synod Review timeline was closing, we received the Letter from the Cardinal about presbyteries and churches. Work has commenced in gathering information to base our recommendations to the Cardinal on regarding OLOV presbyteries and churches. This process has delayed the analysis of the review information. We can, however, report that one major trend in the Synod Review responses immediately apparent is around building community. To commence this the Parish Council have decided to implement name tags at masses. So, when we come into mass, please take a moment to write your name on a sticky name tag. Being able to greet each other by name is a great way to get to know each other and build a stronger community. We have new families to our parish whom we all welcome and look forward to getting to know. Please be aware that there is a café after 10.30 mass and 8.30 mass which gives an opportunity for us to mix and mingle and get to know each other. Further updates on the Synod Review and the Cardinals letter will be available to parishioners when there is progress to report. Both will be available for comment.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT January to March 2019 from the FINANCE COMMITTEE

Operating Income	50,388
Less Expenses	
Pastoral Costs	(16,782)
Property Costs	(12,578)
Administration Costs	<u>(6,968)</u>
Operating Surplus	14,060
Balance Sheet Inflows	3,093
Balance Sheet Outflows	<u>(14,883)</u>
Excess for the Quarter	2,270



Say No to the Euthanasia Bill – Care Alliance Petition

The Care Alliance has started a nation-wide petition to all MP's urging them to vote 'NO' to the End of Life Choice Euthanasia Bill. There is now an on line version at this link for those who have NOT signed the petition and wish to do so. Here is the link to the online petition: <https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/protect-vulnerable-people-say-no-to-the-euthanasia-bill.html>

Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today is a special day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood. Please pray for our seminarians Alfred, Matthew and Kinh and all those discerning the call to priesthood.

Could someone you know become tomorrow's priest?

Pray for this person.

Invite him to consider priesthood.

Affirm his gifts and qualities.

Encourage him to be open to the possibility of priesthood.

Pope Francis says, "Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. Do not yield to fear, which paralyzes us before the great heights to which the Lord points us. Always remember that to those who leave their nets and boat behind, and follow him, the Lord promises the joy of a new life that can fill our hearts and enliven our journey."

Ecology, Justice and Peace

It is not always easy to discern the Good Shepherd's voice...There is always the risk of being distracted by the din of so many other voices. Today we are invited not to let ourselves be distracted by false wisdom, but to follow Jesus, the Risen One, as the one sure guide who gives meaning to our life.

Pope Francis: [Angelus](#), 7 May 2017

Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt

Welcomes enrolments for Year 9 2020 Students in Catholic Contributing Schools will have an enrolment information pack delivered to them at their school.

Parents/caregivers of students in State Schools are invited to call at the College Office, 65 Laings Rd, Lower Hutt to collect an enrolment information pack from 13 May, or for online enrolments please go to the Sacred Heart College website:

www.sacredheartcollege.school.nz





Go you are sent to accompany one another (10) Remember that young people are part of the Mass and the community, they are not separate from it.

St Bernard's College Open Day

St Bernard's College will be holding an Open Day on Saturday 25 May 2019 from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Prospective students and their parents are invited to visit during these hours to find out more about St Bernard's College and what it can provide. St Bernard's College is a Year 7-13 Catholic boys' college. For further information please see our website: www.sbc.school.nz



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 including 7 members of the Pautaua family, Fr. John Pearce (Parish Priest Marlborough), Lindsay Lewer, Arthur Newell, Phyllis Riley, and Afoa Tualata, and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time especially Maureen Ford - May they rest in peace.



Our Lady of Grace Church 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Mass Times Sunday-10:30am

Weekdays Wed, Sat 9:00 am 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

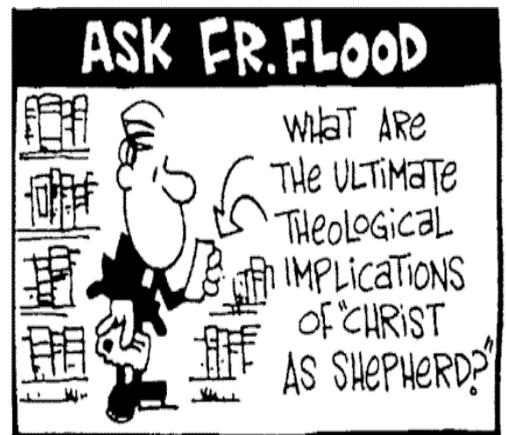
Terry 528 6313

Petone Shop 568 6408

St Vincent de Paul - Stokes Valley

Gordon 938 2750

Stokes Valley Shop 563 9278



Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
12th May 4th Sunday of Easter		19th May 5th Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Acts 13:14, 43-52	First Reading	Acts 14: 21-27
Second Reading	Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17	Second Reading	Apocalypse 21, 1-5
Gospel	John 10:27-30	Gospel	John 13:31-35