

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
6th Sunday of Easter Year C ALLELUIA
26th May 2019**



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THE DEEP END

We will come to them

In a verse preceding today's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus why he will not show the whole world who he is. It's an excellent question. Surely this whole faith-journey experience and relationship with God would be far easier if there were fireworks and clear instructions. Jesus' response to the disciples is: 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.' This is the opening line of today's Gospel. It reminds us that what is required first is an inner relationship with God, so that God can come and make a home with us: 'we will come to them and make our home with them.' It is there where we discover who Jesus is.

The peace (shalom) that Jesus gives to the disciples has a much richer meaning than we might first think. This 'shalom' is not simply a good wish for a nice evening; it is, rather, a peace that this world cannot offer. It is a peace that comes from a loving relationship with God; a peace of body, of mind and of spirit. Jesus is asking the disciples to be an unending witness to God's love. They (and we) must be for others what Jesus has been for them. In this way we, and the world, will come to see who Jesus is.

'When we understand the essential unity of all that is, we discover the possibility of 'peace' – the kind of peace that in Hebrew is called shalom, and which is infinitely more than an absence of strife; it is the wholeness of the web of life itself and of every creature in it, held in the wholeness of the one God.'

Margaret Silf

Weekly Collection: \$1,285.50



IN THE PARISH

Tuesday 28th May 9.30 am **Mass at OLOG** to celebrate Catholic School's Day. **Please note** there will be Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion at St. Francis Xavier at **9.00 am** on the same day.

Tuesday 28th May 7.00 pm Saint Vincent de Paul meeting Heretaunga

Wednesday 29th May Coffee morning at Silverstream Bakery – All welcome

Saturday 1st June 2.00 pm Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre

Catholic School's Day Tuesday 28 May.

The theme for Catholic School's Day this year is Extending Christ's Call: to love, to be, to do. St Brendan's are joining with St Patrick's Silverstream and St Joseph's Upper Hutt to have a fun filled day. We will celebrate a combined Mass at Our Lady of Grace at 9.30 a.m. All Parishioners are very welcome to join us.

Nomination of New Parish Councillors



With an eye of the upcoming Annual General Meeting, a number of current Parish Councillors' term of appointment have come to an end. Currently Parish Councillors stand for a two-year term with the right of renewal for two more terms.

We are therefore opening nominations for new Parish Councillors from today. From this weekend nomination forms are available in the foyer of both churches. These should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office by Friday 28th June. This time frame allows time for the nominated candidates' names to be advised to the Parish before the Annual General Meeting.

Please take the time to prayerfully discern who you think might be a suitable person to serve our Parish on the Parish Council. If you would like more details on the role of Parish Councillors and the function of the Parish Council please feel free to speak to one of the existing Parish Councillors or Father Tony.

Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering - All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 1 June for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. Bring along your favourite winter recipe to read out, especially if it has a story to go with it. 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.



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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY 9th JUNE

On Pentecost Sunday we would like to invite all parishioners from different countries, especially new immigrants, to lead a prayer of the faithful at one of the masses in their own language. We usually include adults and children and about 5-6 people are needed at each Mass. If you can share a prayer with us in your language please let Trish Leahy of the Liturgy Committee or Father Tony know.

Also parishioners are invited to get into the spirit of the day by attending Mass on this day either in red – the colour of the Holy Spirit, or if appropriate by coming in national dress to celebrate the diversity of the Holy Spirit in our Parish family



Household Goods Required for Refugee family



The parish has been asked to provide items for a family of four adults. These come under five categories; kitchen, bedding, bathroom, laundry and general. Items can be new or of good quality. The household pack needs to be delivered to the distribution point on Sunday 16th June so we need donations leading up to that date.

Please advise either Terry Kavanagh (ph 526 313) or Gordon Holmes (938 2750) if you have items to donate.

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.



Go you are sent to build community (12) People, people, people-being the face of Christ in our parishes, not just at the end of emails!

Ecology, Justice and Peace

Peace... is a challenge that demands to be taken up ever anew. It entails a conversion of heart and soul; it is both interior and communal; and it has three inseparable aspects:

- peace with oneself, rejecting inflexibility, anger and impatience; in the words of Saint Francis de Sales, showing "a bit of sweetness towards oneself" in order to offer "a bit of sweetness to others";
- peace with others: family members, friends, strangers, the poor and the suffering, being unafraid to encounter them and listen to what they have to say;
- peace with all creation, rediscovering the grandeur of God's gift and our individual and shared responsibility as inhabitants of this world, citizens and builders of the future.

Pope Francis: [Message for the World Day of Peace 2019](#)

Mission NZ are requesting for donations for the victims of the recent tragedies in Sri Lanka. The donations will be forwarded to the Apostolic Nunciature of Sri Lanka. The link to the website is <https://missio.nz/rebuilding-churches-in-sri-lanka-after-easter-bombings/>



Pa Maria Winter Film Series: The Life Which Beats in Things: - A Spirituality for Living in Today's World. Mondays 10, 17, 24 June & 1, 8 July OR Thursdays 15, 22, 29 August & 5, 12 September. 7.00pm - 9.30pm each evening. For further information and/or to register contact Brian Cummings SM ([021 703 580](tel:021703580); email bgcummings@xtra.co.nz)

Visiting the sick

Do you know of someone who is unwell or is going to undergo a procedure or just someone who needs a ear to listen to? If you do then please contact the office.



“Humanity Of The Unborn”

A Coalition of NZSA, a Strategic Alliance of Pro-Life and Inter-Church representatives Including Catholic, will be Presenting to all Members of Parliament a LETTER calling for inclusion of the Unborn Child in pending consideration of a Bill to decriminalise abortion. The Presentation To Pro-Life Members of Parliament will take place on the grounds of Parliament at 12.30 p.m. Tuesday 28th May. Presence of supporters welcome.”



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 Pauline Beveridge, Marian Goodwin, Kevin Burke, Fr. John Pearce (Parish Priest Marlborough), Lindsay Lewer, Arthur Newell, and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time especially Bernie Karam and Assunta Caldart - 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

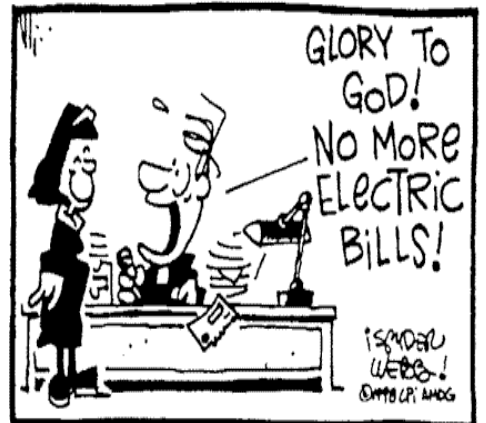
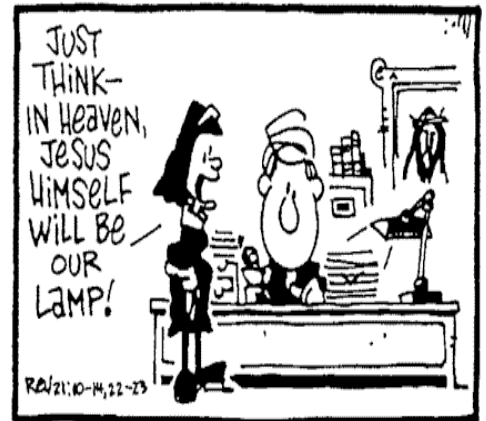
Terry 528 6313

Petone Shop 568 6408

St Vincent de Paul – Stokes Valley

Gordon 938 2750

Stokes Valley Shop 563 9278



Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
26th May 6th Sunday of Easter		2nd June Ascension of the Lord	
First Reading	Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29	First Reading	Acts 1: 1-11
Second Reading	Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23	Second Reading	Ephesians 1:17-23
Gospel	John 14:23-29	Gospel	Luke 24:46-53