

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys  
The Ascension of the Lord Year C  
2nd June 2019**



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## THE DEEP END

### O Captain! My Captain!

The final scene of the movie, *Dead Poets Society*, is one of the most moving in modern cinema. Beloved teacher, Mr Keating (played by the late Robin Williams), is saying a final farewell to his students, who have been inspired by his unorthodox teaching methods and his encouragement to make your lives extraordinary.' As he leaves the classroom, the students, in defiance of their strict headmaster, stand on their desks and salute him with the words, 'O Captain! My Captain!' – referring to a poem he taught them.

Goodbyes are often emotional, particularly if we know we might not see the other person again for a long time, if ever. In films and TV programmes, a farewell scene can be a pivotal moment, or even the climax of the drama. Sometimes, when characters say goodbye to each other, we see a shot of one of them left behind, bereft, gazing into the distance after their loved one. In this context, one line in today's first reading always grabs my attention: 'They were still staring into the sky.' The apostles had just witnessed Jesus being 'lifted up' and taken from their sight. They had lost him once with his death, and now they are losing him a second time, after precious time spent with him following his resurrection.

But the scene in today's first reading for the Ascension is no ordinary goodbye. It is not a dramatic scene written for a film script. In fact, Jesus does not seem to say goodbye at all. His last words are a promise to the disciples: the Holy Spirit will be with them as they set out on their mission. They have not been left alone.

Triona Doherty  
Athlone, Co Roscommon  
Email trionad@gmail.com

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**Weekly Collection: \$1,240.10**



**COMING  
UP**

### IN THE PARISH

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 5.30 pm Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June Catholic Women's League 11.30am at the Pettit Centre  
Bus trip to Island Bay

### URGENT

Does anyone know the whereabouts of **Patricia Watters** who used to live at 65 Field Street. Please contact the office if you have any contact information for Patricia on 04 972 4282



## 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.

## CWL Bus Trip

To those coming on the bus trip to the HOC Island Bay on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June could you please be at the Pettit Centre by 11.15 am so we will be ready to leave by 11.30am. See you there.



## 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

## Family Mass

On Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> June at the 10:30 am Mass. Our Lady of the Valleys is celebrating a Family Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church and afterwards morning tea in the Petit Centre.

We are planning to celebrate children's/family Masses each term. If your family would like to be involved in Greeting, Reading, Reading Prayers of the Faithful, or presenting the Offertory Gifts please contact Liz McCaul 5273211 or Father Tony.

## Passionist Family Group

Grace and O'Leary Family Group are joining together for a combined pot luck dinner on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June from 5.30pm to 10pm at the Pettit Centre. The Theme is Mid-Winter Christmas pot luck meal



Go you are sent to communicate effectively (13) Let people know what's happening and what's available, making things visible via newsletters, social media & websites.

## Household Goods Required for Refugee family URGENT

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. Larger items such as furniture and beds are provided by the Red Cross. Items can be new or of good quality. As the family is arriving two weeks earlier than expected, the Catholic Social Services have asked if the household packs could be made available by this coming Tuesday (4<sup>th</sup> June). If you have any items, please advise Terry Kavanagh (ph 5286313) or Gordon Holmes (ph 9382750) urgently.”



The Committee of the **St. Vincent De Paul Society** of Stokes Valley would like to thank TONY PACKER for his dedication over the last few years as our treasurer. Tony updated our accounting system making it simpler for those to follow. We welcome Lei Solia as our new treasurer. We wish Tony well and God bless.

President, Gordon Holmes.

## Ecology, Justice and Peace

If a family uses the internet to be more connected, to then meet at table and look into each other's eyes, then it is a resource. If a Church community coordinates its activity through the network, and then celebrates the Eucharist together, then it is a resource. If the internet becomes an opportunity to share stories and experiences of beauty or suffering that are physically distant from us, in order to pray together, and together seek out the good to rediscover what unites us, then it is a resource.... This is the network we want, a network created not to entrap, but to liberate, to protect a communion of people who are free. The Church herself is a network woven together by Eucharistic communion, where unity is based not on “likes”, but on the truth, on the “Amen”, by which each one clings to the Body of Christ, and welcomes others.

Pope Francis: [Message for World Communications Day](#), 2 June 2019

## Stewardship Breakfast with the Cardinal



Come and enjoy fellowship, hospitality and hear inspiring speakers at Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wgtn on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. at 7.00am-9.00am. Speakers: Cardinal John & ? Cost: \$20.00 Please deposit your money to the following bank account 02-0536-0003306-000 with Reference: Stwdship Code:B-Fast. Any questions please ring Chris (04) 496-1706

**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](mailto:bgcummings@xtra.co.nz))

**NZ Catholic** The June 2–15 issue of is out now. Some headlines are: New NZ Catholic Medical Association meets. Marlborough parish priest dies on plane. Leaky Ponsonby seminary to be fixed. Dunedin bishop looks back on first year. The next issue of *NZ Catholic* - June 16.

**Vigil for the Unborn:** Saturday 15th June. St Anne's Catholic Church, Emmett Street, Newtown. Starts at 10 am with Mass. Ends at 12.00 p.m. For more information contact Family Life International NZ PH: 021 231 7954



**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, and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time especially Maria Helen Fernandez - 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – 11:30 am**  
**Weekdays–** Tues, Thurs, 9:30am Mass – Wed, Sat 9:30 am  
 Liturgy of the Word

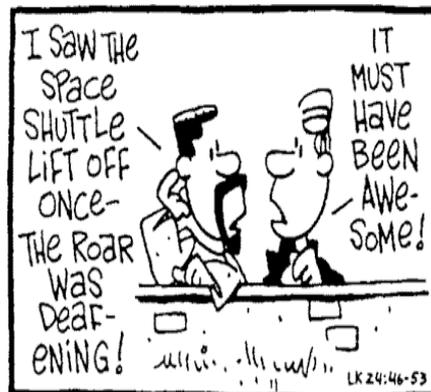
**Reconciliation** Please ring for an appointment

**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	
2nd June Ascension of the Lord		9th June Ascension of the Lord	
First Reading	Acts 1: 1-11	First Reading	Acts 2: 1-11
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:17-23	Second Reading	1Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13
Gospel	Luke 24:46-53	Gospel	John 14:15-16, 23--26

*Congratulations Ed & Shiela Sevilleja*

