

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
30th June 2019



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St Brendan's School - 939 1909



THE DEEP END

I'll do it tomorrow!

Those of us who are procrastinators will identify with today's Gospel. We have the best of intentions, but somehow our 'to do' list for today keeps getting pushed out until tomorrow, and the next day, and the next week. There is always an excuse, or something more urgent that needs to be done. The things that we do not prioritise get relegated to the bottom of the list, and sometimes drop off altogether, so that they never get done.

In Luke's Gospel, when Jesus invites people to follow him, he gets some similar responses – 'I'll be right with you, I'll add it to my 'to do' list. 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me...' The excuses these people give are far from feeble: one wants to go and bury his or her father first, another simply wants to say goodbye to their family. But Jesus has what sound like very harsh words for these predicaments. There is no time, there can be no excuses, this is more important.

Discipleship is a path that requires sacrifice. It is a path that means living in a new and different way. Rather than focusing on the past, we need to move forward and get on with the task. Jesus tells us: 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.' There is work to be done, and it cannot wait. People who are hungry, homeless, marginalised or suffering cannot wait. The earth cannot wait. Our 'to do' lists need to be shaken up. If we are to live as disciples, the time is not tomorrow, it is now.

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

Weekly Collection: \$2,155.20

Thanks!

IN THE PARISH



Tuesday 2nd July 5.30 pm Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club
Wednesday 3rd July 1.30 pm Catholic Women's League at the Pettit Centre
Saturday 6th July 2.00 pm Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre

Catholic Women's League

On Wednesday 3rd July at 1.30pm in the Pettit Centre. This month we have a guest speaker from the Tourettes organisation as Tourettes is CWL's Mission at Home for this year. All welcome to join us and stay for afternoon tea.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAMME



As most parishioners are aware the parish experienced a number of burglary events in 2017 and 2018. One of the offenders of these incidents has been convicted and is currently in prison. After a period of discernment and organising members of the Parish Council met with the offender under the Restorative Justice Programme. The meeting that was facilitated for us was positive on all sides and we were able to perhaps see the matter from the other party's point of view. The offender has expressed extreme regret for his actions and the damage that has been caused to our community both in terms of financial cost but also the unrest caused to individuals and the whole Parish. The Parish and the offender now are looking forward to learning from the whole experience and moving to new and more positive ways of being.

Parish Survey - Trends: Growing Our Community was ranked as the top priority in the Synod Self Review survey that the Parish Council held March/ April 2019. Some of the Trends identified from parishioners comments included:

- Getting together for more events and social activities
- Regularly promoting the social groups that already exist. Give personal invitations to attend.
- Supporting people who have had bereavements.
- Advertise the Living Waters Café as a community event. Lonely people would love to come and have a coffee. Church attendance will happen when they are ready.
- Take the parish to the community. Advertise/ display the various groups at school galas or other relevant events outside the church.

We have a vision of our parish being a strong and vibrant community, bringing us together. The parish Council will be consulting leaders and members of various parish groups to determine next steps towards implementing your ideas. They will also be available at the Living Waters Cafe and after 8.30 mass at Stokes Valley. All comments are available on the parish website www.olv.org.nz

Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering

All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 6 July for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. Tracey Blake will be our speaker, talking about her work with the IHC and Victim Support. 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.



Lectio Divina

All are welcome to join us as we reflect on scripture and deepen our understanding on the Lord's word. We have Lectio Divina every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month, 9.50am - 10am start. Any questions, please email us at overflow31032019@gmail.com.

Passionist Family Group

Parish Lunch 14 July at 12 noon at Stokes Valley RSA The \$18 cash is to be paid to the Group Co-ordinators or the Parish office by Sunday 7th July - in a named envelope





PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY

Yes you have read that right and **NO** the Liturgy Committee is **NOT** collecting these now. In preparation for Palm Sunday in April of this year the Liturgy Committee realised that supplier of the large **PHOENIX palms** that are used to decorate both churches was no longer able to assist us.

Sooooo, they are enquiring now before it becomes **URGENT** if there is/are parishioner(s) who have a mature phoenix palm on their property which the Parish could call on in 2020 for the supply of palms for decorating the Church. If you can help out please contact the Parish Office 972 4282



Altar Servers - URGENT

You must be year 5 or above and are rostered on monthly or every six weeks. If you know anyone from the current Sacramental Programme who would be interested in serving please contact the office. Training is given for this ministry. So all you young ones join up and be an integral part of the Church.

Non-Residential Retreat, 15-19 July, 9.30am - 4.00pm daily. Pa Maria Marist Spirituality Centre, Thorndon. For further information and/or to register please contact Brian Cummings SM at 021 703 580 or [bgcumings@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bgcummings@xtra.co.nz)

Altar Society

The Parish are urgently looking for volunteers for both Our Lady of Grace and Saint Francis Xavier's church. This stewardship involves working with a partner to arrange the flowers in the church, dust around the sanctuary and clean the inside church doors. If you love decorating with flowers or would love to learn to do so please contact the Parish office.



St Brendan's School - Wine Fundraiser

We are fundraising for much needed improvements to our netball and tennis courts and as such, we'd like to open our latest fundraiser to you. Ohau Wines produce some fantastic local wines and they have made available to us, free delivery and a further discount at the checkout for all online purchases using the promo code **BRENDANS**. For every 6 bottles purchased online, St Brendan's receives \$10. Just visit www.ohauwines.co.nz to follow the easy steps and support our school. We are grateful for your support.



Ecology, Justice and Peace

God is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond. He takes us to where humanity is most wounded, where men and women, beneath the appearance of a shallow conformity, continue to seek an answer to the question of life's meaning. God is not afraid! He is fearless! He is always greater than our plans and schemes.

NZ Catholic The June 30 – July 13 issue is out now. Some headlines are: Taranaki man ordained in Rome. Catholic headmaster speaks out against cannabis legalisation. Do young people get cold shoulder in parishes? Rome link to Mother Aubert cause is a boost. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on July 14.



Need a, break' Good news



"Parish to Parish for B & B" has been providing Catholic hospitality for 16 years, with catholic hosts opening their homes to fellow Catholics for a small charge of \$35 for one person, or \$30 each for 2 or more, per night and includes continental breakfast. To obtain a directory of the hosts throughout New Zealand and Australia contact Marie Anderson, email marie.ian@xtra.co.nz or phone 03 3595 541 Christchurch. The book including postage is \$15

Quiet Days with Suzanne Aubert

An invitation to spend time resting and reflecting on an aspect of the life and vision of **Suzanne Aubert. Led by Sr Sue Cosgrove. Join us on 11th July**, 10am - 2pm, Chapel, Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Simple lunch included. Registration is required. Email: spirituality@compassion.org or Ph. 04 383 7769.



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 Stuart Park, Brenda Ryan, Sandra Merrill Johnston, and Guy Duindan and especially for Brian O'Connor (50th Anniversary) and 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 9:00 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

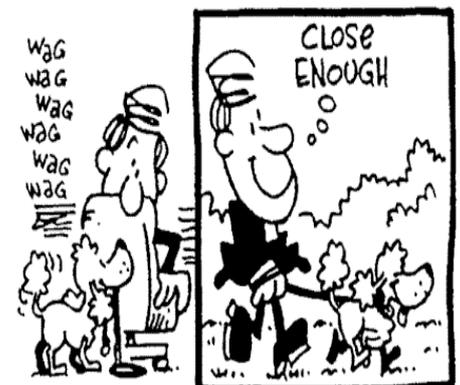
Reconciliation Please ring for an appointment

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	
30th June Thirteenth week in Ordinary Time		7th July Fourteenth week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	1 Kings 19:16, 19-21	First Reading	Isaiah 66:10-14
Second Reading	Galatians 5:1, 13-18	Second Reading	Galatians 6: 14-18
Gospel	Luke 9: 51-62	Gospel	Luke 10: -12, 17-20