

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
11th August 2019



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THE DEEP END
Ever-ready

Nowadays, many houses have security systems. We can have our homes monitored, 24 hours a day, to make sure they are safe. The really advanced systems even allow us to tap into the cameras from our mobile phones. We don't have to stay awake all night in case someone tries to burgle our home – the system takes care of everything. There are so many technologies available whose focus is to help us be prepared for all eventualities; we have apps for everything from predicting the weather to alerting us to traffic delays.

There are no such luxuries in the parables. The men who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast cannot afford to sleep. They won't receive an alert to their phone when their master arrives home. They have no option but to wait up. In the short parable of the householder and the burglar, Jesus again emphasises the importance of 'standing ready.'

Of course, Jesus is not really talking about watchmen and burglars, or being physically prepared; he is talking, rather, about spiritual alertness. It might seem morbid, but ask yourself this: if you were to die tonight, would you be ready? Your answer might tell you something about the areas of your life that need work. Another way in which we can be 'ever-ready' is to be open to the Holy Spirit. When our hearts are alert and open, we are more likely to see God's goodness in those we meet, and be ready to welcome his grace into our lives.

We could not imagine being without our gadgets and apps and all of the things that make our lives easier. Valuable though they are, there is something more valuable – indeed priceless – at stake.

Weekly Collection: \$2,040.90



IN THE PARISH



Sat 10th Aug 12:45pm Stokes Valley Meeting Church/ Presbytery Review
Tue 13th Aug 7 pm St Vincent de Paul Stokes Valley
Wed 14th Aug 7.15pm St. Vincent de Paul Heretaunga
Thurs 15th August Feast of Assumption (see item later for Mass times)
Fri 16th Aug 7:30 pm Stokes Valley Meeting Church/ Presbytery Review
Sun 18th Aug 2:00pm Heretaunga Meeting Church/ Presbytery Review

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Firstly thank you to all those who were able to join us last Sunday for the Annual General Meeting. Some good contributions were made from the parishioners giving some tasks for the parish new Parish Council to take on board.



Congratulations to the newly commissioned Councillors Darryl Mellow, Lagi Aukusitino, Edward Fernando and re-elected Councillor Mike Jonassen as a result of the Annual General Meeting on Sunday. Thanks to retiring Parish Councillors who have completed their terms on the Council, Mike Dench, Judy Connelly and Victoriana Aukusitino. These four join the Councillors whose terms expire next year Pru Von Keisenburg, John O'Malley, Conor Healy and Tino Aukusitino along with Father Tony who will make up the new Parish Council. The new Parish Council will be formally commissioned this weekend.



PRESBYTERY AND CHURCH REVIEW

As announced last week the Parish is holding a number of discernment meetings on issues relating to the Cardinal Directive to look at what resources we will need in the future to fulfill our mission to bring the Good News to this part of the Archdiocese. The current focus is on what **NEEDS** the Parish will have around the provision of churches and presbyteries, as compared with **what we currently own**.

An on-line survey has been placed on the Parish website along with information around the issue. (<https://olov.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019-07-16-Church-and-Presbytery-Discernment-Update.pdf>).

A direct link to the Survey is also available by clicking on https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13FfKFc0m1N7gw2uEnDg-c1g6_QY2gesvAMLuQOEfmDQ/edit?usp=sharing

Meetings are scheduled as follows in the weeks ahead

Saturday 10 th August	St Francis Xavier Church Stokes Valley 12:45pm
Friday 16 th August	St Francis Xavier Church Stokes Valley 7:30 pm
Sunday 18 th August	Pettit Centre Heretaunga 2:00 pm

Please take the time to prepare for and attend one of these gatherings and to complete the Parish survey to get your opinions, thoughts, concerns and ideas expressed and collated to be presented to Cardinal John by 31st Oct 2019.

Solemnity Of The Assumption 15th August

The 15th August marks the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. It is also the Patronal Feast Day of New Zealand, as the country was placed under Mary's. This day is marked as a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**. To allow parishioners to celebrate this day there is an additional Mass being celebrated in the Parish. The timetable for the Day

9:30 am	Mass at St Francis Xavier Church Stokes Valley
11:30 am	Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church with St Brendan's School
1:30 pm	Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home Stokes Valley (including Anointing of the Sick)
7:30 pm	Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church Heretaunga



Synod Go you are sent to use your assets wisely (4) Investigate repurposing and multi-purposing surplus/vacant and under-utilised assets.

Grace Family Group

Sunday 25 August from 12.30 pm at Boulcott Farm Eatery & Cafe. RSVP Marilyn & Paul 5284 869 (marilyn06@gmail.com) or Christine & Nigel cpask13@gmail.com BY Thursday 22 August. Tables reserved under 'Marilyn'



Time and Talents Survey

Pope Francis speaks often of Missionary Disciples. This theme is aimed at us all that we may find new ways of bringing the Good News to those around us, both in our Parish family and beyond. In this spirit the Parish Council has initiated the annual Time and Talent Survey of the Parish for weekend of 10th – 11th August. Parishioners are asked over the week ahead to prayerfully reflect on how they enliven a spirit of DISCIPLESHIP in themselves and in what ways they can perhaps offer their TIME, TREASURE OR TALENTS to the work of the Parish, the Archdiocese and the world. This idea of reflection on Ministry was part of the Care Ministry Appeal launched by Cardinal John recently. We are called reflect on what NEW ways we might be able to flex our ministerial talents to deepen our faith, and service of the Gospel. The Survey sheets will be distributed at all Masses this weekend and collected back at the end of Mass. Extra copies will be available in the foyer for the next few weeks.



Upcoming Training For Proclaimers Of The Word And Leaders

The Liturgy Committee is committed to providing ongoing training for those who provide ministries in our Parish. To this end in August a **TRAINING SESSION FOR PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD and LEADERS** is being provided and ALL those who undertake this ministry are requested to attend one of the two sessions. The sessions are scheduled for Tuesday 20th August at 7:30 at St Francis Xavier Stokes Valley and Sunday 25th August at 2:30 at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga. Please put one on these times aside even if you have been undertaking the ministry for a while as it will help you more effectively undertake LEAD and PROCLAIM THE WORD.

WORSHIP NIGHT AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

OVERFLOW invites you, your friends and family to another Worship Night on Sat 17th August, 7.30pm @St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley. In this worship night, we are called to ask the question - **Who r U?** As King David asks in 1 Chronicles 17:16: Then King David went in and sat before the Lord; and he said: "Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my house, that you have brought me this far? A night filled with prayer, praise, worship and fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ! Save the date and see you there!!!!



Exploring the true meaning of loveableness - a talk by Fr Kevin Connors In his recently completed thesis called "A phenomenology of the Eucharist", Fr Kevin seeks to unveil the kindness of God's face in the Eucharist and in each other, and explores the true meaning of 'loveableness'. Come and listen to Fr Kevin on Tuesday 20th August, at 7pm at St Anne's Church, Newtown. All are welcome



Catholic Ministries Appeal

Archdiocese of Wellington Launched last week that will enable Catholics across the Archdiocese to have a direct impact on growing evangelization and mission.

The theme of the appeal is: Pray, Give, Volunteer. People are asked to respond in one or more of these ways and the response will come through prayerful discernment. Cardinal John invites you to join him in providing financial support to these important Catholic ministries, to consider volunteering your time and to commit to pray for the work of the Archdiocese.

Ecology, Justice and Peace

How do we keep our faith as a family? Do we keep it for ourselves, in our families, as a personal treasure like a bank account, or are we able to share it by our witness, by our acceptance of others, by our openness?

Pope Francis: Homily for Family Day Mass, 2013



NZ Catholic August 11 – 24 issue is out now. Some headlines are: Christchurch Catholic cathedral to be demolished. Reaction to proposed abortion law reform. Bishop Dunn celebrates 25 years as bishop. Wellington raising profile of priestly vocations. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on August 11.



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 Ray Hurle, Felice Benvenuti, Fr. Maurice O'Connor SSC, Fr. Robert Lee SM, Milan Kljakovic, and especially Lucy and Gery Blom 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	
4th August – 18 th week in Ordinary Time		11th August – 19 th week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23	First Reading	Wisdom 18: 6-9
Second Reading	Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11	Second Reading	Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19
Gospel	Luke 12: 13-21	Gospel	Luke 12: 32-48