

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
1st September 2019



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THE DEEP END



All are invited to the Banquet

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of a great banquet to explain God's vision for our world. He speaks of a place where those who consider themselves entitled to the highest seats at the table take the low seats. He urges us to invite the poor, the lame and the blind to this celebration. Jesus encourages us to turn the world upside down in a reversal, an upheaval, where the preferred option is for the poor and those considered least in society. Today is an important day, as we begin the Season of Creation (from 1 September until the Feast of St Francis on 4 October). Pope Francis asks all Christians to embrace this season in prayer, in living more sustainably and in raising our voices in the public sphere. We are invited to think more deeply about what is happening at present to the Earth, the environmental destruction which now threatens our world, our common home. The theme this year is 'The Web of Life.' The most vulnerable among us are suffering most deeply as this web of life begins to unravel. Our faith calls us to respond to this crisis with urgency. Let us hear the Gospel message today, where we are called to consider those on the margins, including those most at risk from climate change, and let us commit to working towards a world where all are seated at the banquet.

Suggestion for the week: Find out more and see what you can do as a parish community during this season of creation at www.seasonofcreation.org.

Weekly Collection: \$1,274.50



*HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to all those who take on
the role of fathers in our world.*



IN THE PARISH

Tues 3rd Sept

Wed 4th Sept

Sat 7th Sept

Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club at 5:30 pm

Catholic Women's League 1:30 pm at the Pettit Centre

Circle of Friendship 1:00 pm at the Pettit Centre

Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering

All ladies of the parish are invited to join us next Saturday 7 September for fellowship and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Sr Therese McConway will be speaking to us about her prison ministry, which she has just retired from, but she still has a lot of contact with the prison system. It would be appreciated if you could bring a small item, such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrush etc (nothing too expensive) for the ladies at Arohata Prison, which will be made up into a small parcel for them as they leave to go home. 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.



First Holy Communion and Family Mass

On Sunday, 15th September at 10:30 Mass, Our Lady of the Valleys is celebrating First Holy Communion for 27 of our young parishioners and a Family Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church and there after morning tea in St. Brendan's School hall.

If your family would like to be involved in Greeting or presenting the Offertory Gifts please contact Liz McCaul 5273211 or Father Tony.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) This program, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith will begin with two Introductory/Welcome sessions> These are opportunities for those interested in joining the Catholic Church family to come along and find out a little about the RCIA programme and to ask questions. **The Introductory Sessions are on Wednesday the 23th October and 30th October at 7:30 pm** in the Meeting Room of Our Lady of Grace Church **in Heretaunga**. This program is designed for those wishing to become Catholic. If you or a friend would like to join this program please join us on the 30th August or phone: Fr Tony 972 4282 or Liz McCaul 527 3211



TIME AND TALENTS SURVEY



Thank you for your responses over the last few weeks. Extra copies of the Survey sheets are still available in the foyer of both churches. Over the next week or so the collation of the offers to join ministries will be collated by the Parish Office and then the contact details will be forwarded to the appropriate Co-ordinator, so the new people may be added to the rosters. This may involve some amendments to these rosters as space is made for the new ministers to be allocated a turn. If you would like to step down from a roster please contact the Co-ordinator or the Parish Office. Your co-operation and patience is appreciated as we work on the results of the survey.

PARISH CHURCHES AND PRESBYTERY REVIEW

Thanks to all who participated in the four meetings over the past few weeks, and for the concerns, questions and suggestions made. All the responses are now being collated by the Steering Committee to be taken back to the Parish Council at their next meeting. Thanks also to those who completed the on-line survey on the webpage. This has now been closed and the responses included in the collated response. Included with next week's newsletter will be the collation and summary of comments for your consideration. Once again thank you for your engagement with the process



Archdiocese of Wellington Social Justice Week

Wednesday 11 September, 6.00-7.30pm, Connolly Hall, Thorndon, Wellington. Come join us this Social Justice Week, as we explore fairness and unfairness in our Diocese. This is an opportunity to learn about the experiences of Wellington Filipino healthcare and

construction workers, and the courageous and practical response of the Barangay Assumpta (Kapiti) Servant Team/Filipino Chaplaincy. Speakers include:

•Representatives of the Barangay Sta. Maria Assumpta/Filipino Chaplaincy Outreach Ministry / Cardinal John Dew / Hon. Iain Lees-Galloway, Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety. For more information, please contact Lisa Beech l.beech@wn.catholic.org.nz

Ecology, Justice and Peace

Jesus says: "But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you". This means choosing gratuitousness rather than self-seeking and calculating to obtain a reward, seeking interest and trying to increase your wealth. Indeed, the poor, the simple, those who 'don't count', can never reciprocate an invitation to a meal. In this way Jesus shows his preference for the poor and the excluded, who are the privileged in the Kingdom of God.

Pope Francis, [Angelus 28 August 2016](#)

HUMANITY OF THE UNBORN

You will be aware that the current Labour-led Government has proposed an alternative abortion law to our parliament. That Bill, being promoted by the Justice Minister, Andrew Little, passed its first reading last week and has now been referred to a Special Select Committee for further consideration and to give the public of New Zealand a chance to comment through the parliamentary submission process. You can find the Bill here:

<http://legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0164/latest/whole.html#LMS237550>

All Catholics are encouraged to have their say. The Submission process closes on 19th September https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/52SCAL_SCF_BILL_89814/abortion-legislation-bill

Stewardship Network Meeting at Sacred Heart School Hall, Petone. 1-4pm on Saturday 21st September. Three dynamic speakers including Cardinal John Dew, Afternoon Tea followed by small group discussion. Please register by September 18th with Ann Williams at a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz or telephone 04-496 5182.



UnPlanned the movie will be screened at The Penthouse Cinema, 205 Ohio Rd., Brooklyn on Wednesday 16th October at 6.00 p.m. The movie starts at 6.00 p.m. sharp. *Unplanned* is the true story of Abby Johnson a former Director of a Planned Parenthood abortion facility. It is a story of hope and inspiration that is touching lives wherever it is viewed. Now is a pertinent time for New Zealanders have this opportunity. To purchase a ticket got to <https://fan-force.com/screenings/unplanned-penthouse-cinema-cafe/> To find other venues and times visit the Fan Force website.

Greenstone Doors is holding a Brand New Shoe Sale at St Peter and Paul Church Hall, Knights Rd, Lower Hutt on Sat Sept 21st 10am-1pm Branded kids shoes, quality women's shoes and a few men's shoes priced from \$5-\$50. Payment by cash or eftpos.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell including Adam Huwaki and Yvonne Cox and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently including Jack Withington, Kevin Montgomery, Wallace Wratt, Murray Gray, Ray McCormack, Felice Benvenuti, and especially Joan Patton 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	
1 st September – 22 nd Week in Ordinary Time		8th September – 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29	First Reading	Wisdom 9: 13-18
Second Reading	Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24	Second Reading	Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Gospel	Luke 14: 1, 7-14	Gospel	Luke 14: 25-33