

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
8th September 2019



Father Tony Kearns
Parish Office and Presbytery (04) 972 4282
Residence: 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga
Parish Administrator: Jovena Fernandez
Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Email: office@olov.org.nz Email: pp@olov.org.nz
Website: www.olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School - 939 1909



THE DEEP END



Rethinking our attachments

The Gospel is troubling. Does Jesus really expect us to hate our families, friends and even ourselves in order to be his followers? We are being invited to think about how we attach ourselves to things and to people, even to images of ourselves. Attachment can cause all sorts of suffering in our lives. If we are to grow, we must move on from the comfortable, let go of the familiar. That can often be painful.

During the month of September, we are celebrating the Season of Creation. We know that our world is currently suffering from a catastrophic loss of bio-diversity, largely caused by a consumerist culture. God's creatures are disappearing from the Earth at a rate we can scarcely comprehend. Insects, mammals, trees, plants and creatures are becoming extinct. We pray that this decline may end, and we acknowledge that we are part of a complex, delicate and interdependent web of life, created by God. Today's Gospel invites us to let go of the attachments in our lives which contribute to this destruction. Let us try to live more simply and sustainably, and to encourage others to do the same. We are called to examine our relationship with material things and walk more gently on the earth.

'It is not enough to think of different species merely as potential 'resources' to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves ... Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right' (*Laudato Si'*, 33).

Suggestion for the week: Can you remove single-use plastics from your life? Buy a reusable water bottle and reusable coffee cup. Say no to plastic straws and food wrapping.

Weekly Collection: \$1532.10



NZ CATHOLIC

The Sept. 8 – 21 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Fr Matthew Gibson ordained in Hamilton. NZ co-hosts safeguarding conference in Rome. Bishops urge parishioners to stand for life. Visiting Deaf priest stresses need for sign language training.



IN THE PARISH		
Thur 12 th Sept	7:30 pm	➤ OLOG Meeting Room - Finance Committee
Sun 15 th Sept	10:30 am	➤ 10:30 am First Holy Communion at Our Lady of Grace Church, followed by First Holy Communion Breakfast at St Brendan's Hall
Sat 21 st Sept	7:30 pm	➤ 7:30 pm Worship Night 7:30pm St Francis Xavier Church



PARISH QUIZ EVENING TICKET SALES

Due to popular demand we have organised another Parish Quiz evening. The date has been set for the Friday 18 October 2019 at the St. Brendan's School Hall. It's time to start planning and get a team together so book this date into your calendar. Tickets for the **Parish Quiz Evening** are now on sale and available at Mass services or from:



Chris Wasson 528 7847

Trish Leahy 528 5161

Mike Dench 0211233211.

We have three raffles on sale up until the Friday 18 October 2019. The prizes are:

- Two nights' accommodation at the **B&B Martinborough Experience** value around \$300
- 2 X grocery hampers

We are still looking for support from the Parish for items that would be suitable for raffle prizes, such as: scratchies, groceries, jams, or wine. If you can help out and support us, please contact either Chris Wasson or Mike Dench

SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK 8-15th September *Fair you Say?*

Social Justice Week was established in 1997 as an ongoing commitment on the second Sunday of September. This year the theme is Fair You Sa? Using Carndal Cardjin SEE-JUDGE-ACT method. It is an invitation to notice the inequity or injustice in our communities, then discern how to act in FAIRNESS. If you are interested material is available in the foyer of both churches.



For more resources and information see www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

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 this week's newsletter is the collation and summary of comments for your consideration. Once again thank you for your engagement with the process



CAREGIVER NEEDED

A kind caring person would be very much appreciated to accompany 71yr old Graham Carr (living at the Home of Compassion) on an outing or walk once or twice a week. Contact Andrea Hart - 0221075640

DEVELOPING A SPIRITUALITY OF SERVICE

Searching to understand your spirituality better? Looking for a way to express your spirituality through service

This six session program is being offered in your parish, in October. If you would like to join a group, please register by September 20th with Chris Walkerdine at c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz or by telephoning 04 496-1706



MASS FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY DIVORCE OR SEPARATION



Cardinal John extends a warm welcome to any and all who are affected by separation and divorce to join him in the celebration of Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Church, 60 Knights Road, Lower Hutt, 7pm, Wednesday 25 September 2019, followed by a glass of wine and light refreshments. For more information or if you would like to help in any way with the Mass, please contact Felicity at the Marriage, Family and Young Church Ministries Office (04) 496 1719 or email f.giltrap@wn.catholic.org.nz

TRAINING FOR PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD AND LEADERS



Thanks to all those who recently undertook training as Leaders and Proclaimers of the Word. The Liturgy Committee is committed to providing ongoing training for those who provide ministries in our Parish, and will continue to offer other training in the near future. A big **THANKS** too Pat Hoult who shared his insights and knowledge with all the attendees.

VIGIL FOR THE UNBORN: Saturday 21st September. St Anne's Catholic Church, Emmett Street, Newtown. Starts at 10:00 am with Mass. Ends at 12.00 p.m. For more information contact Family Life International NZ PH: 021 231 7954



SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS

If you missed out on the initial workshops held to show us how we can make our churches and Parish a safer place for vulnerable people, additional catch up sessions are available at the Catholic Centre, 22 Hill Street, Thorndon. Dates and times are:

Monday 9th Sept 10:30 am

Tuesday 10th September 2:30 pm

Tuesday 8th October 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9th October 7:00 pm

You are required to attend safeguarding workshops if you work within the Parish with children or young people, or adults who are vulnerable. **For bookings to attend one of these sessions, or to access via Zoom conference please contact the Parish Office 972 4282**



SACRED HEART SCHOOL, DUNEDIN - 125th CELEBRATIONS, 2020 All Ex- pupils and former Teachers are advised that at Labour Weekend 2020, the School will celebrate the 125th anniversary of its opening in North East Valley, Dunedin. Everyone interested in attending these celebrations should email: reunion125@sacredheartdn.school.nz



STEWARDSHIP NETWORK MEETING

Please join us at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Petone. 1:00 -4:00pm 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.

“WORSHIP NIGHT 21st SEPTEMBER– “KNOWN”

The Overflow Youth Group would like to invite you all to another Worship Night on Saturday 21st September, 7:30pm at St Francis Xavier Church in Stokes Valley. This month’s worship night’s theme is ‘Known’, to be fully known and loved by God. This worship night will allow you to open your hearts and fully internalise the love that God will always have for you. 1 John 4:16 says; “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.” Let us all join in worship and open our hearts to be fully known and fully loved by our God. The night will be concluded with light refreshments. Hope to see you there.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently including, Yvonne Cox. Jack Withington, Kevin Montgomery, Murray Gray, Ray McCormack, and those whose anniversary occurs around this time including Josephine Holmes, and Anni Morris. 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

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
8th September – 23 rd week in Ordinary Time		15th September – 24 th week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Wisdom 9: 13-18	First Reading	Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14
Second Reading	Philemon 9-10, 12-17	Second Reading	1 Timothy 1: 12-17
Gospel	Luke 14: 25-33	Gospel	Luke 1: 1-32