

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
6th October 2019



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THE DEEP END



A spark of faith

A question: do you feel that your faith is strong enough? I'd hazard a guess that for many of us the answer is *no*. Faith can be a fragile thing. It changes throughout our lives. It is tested and it wanes and wobbles

at times, particularly when we go through periods of pain or loss.

A lot of the time we feel like we could be doing better – we should be spending more time in prayer, meditating on the Scriptures, making more effort to put the Gospel into action in our families and in our communities. No matter what stage we're at in our faith journey, there is room for improvement; God always wants to draw us closer to him.

There is a great image of hope in today's Gospel. The mustard seed brings to mind something that is tiny, weak and insignificant. But Jesus says that if our faith is even the size of a mustard seed, we are capable of great things! God grows strength out of weakness. Once we have a small spark of faith in our hearts, it can grow into something strong. If we nourish it, turn to God more often, make more space for him in our daily routine, wonderful things will follow.

Find that spark, and let it shine!

Triona Doherty
 Email trionad@gmail.com

Weekly Collection: \$1194.30



NEW SIGNAGE

Visitors to the Stokes Valley site will notice the new signage in front of St Francis Church there, displaying the Parish's name, logo and updating the Mass times and contact details. Thanks to Judy, Terry and TC Signs for the work done to design, create and install the new livery. A matching sign is intended to be installed at Heretaunga when settled weather allows painting over of the existing sign



IN THE PARISH		
Tue 8 th Oct	7 pm	Saint Vincent de Paul – Stokes Valley
Thurs 10 th Oct	7.30 pm	Parish Finance Committee meeting
Fri 18 th Oct	7:00 pm	Quiz Night at St Brendan's School Hall



CHURCH AND PRESBYTERY REVIEW

Along with the newsletter last week was included the outcome of the Steering Committee's work summarising the option before the Parish as requested by the Cardinal's Directive to review **WHAT WE NEED** in terms of churches and presbyteries to move forward in the mission of Jesus Christ.

Parishioners are encouraged to take this document, (also available on our webpage www.olov.org.nz and prayerful consider the options put forward. Once this has been done please forward back to the Parish Office your responses by **Wednesday 16th October** by the various methods suggested in the overview. The results of these responses will be presented back to the Parish before the submission is made to the Cardinal. **PLEASE! PLEASE!** The Parish Council wants to know what you think; what you see as a way forward for us as a Parish serving the future mission of the Gospel and what we will **need** to be effective.



6TH OCTOBER – CELEBRATION OF SUZANNE AUBERT – MISSIONARY

During this Extra-Ordinary Month of Mission placed before us is a local missionary, Suzanne Aubert (Mother Aubert). She came from France to New Zealand to work to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. She is a local hero of our faith, - one who did ordinary things in an Extra Ordinary way (a Christ

Centred Way) Please go to the weblink

<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/aWGRI0lct> to see the impact this one person had had on the lives of people all over the world.

NOVEMBER – REMEMBERING THE BELOVED DEAD

During the month of November, it is our custom to remember those God has called through the gates of death to eternal life. Pages are available in the foyer to record those family and friends whom you would like to pray for at each Mass celebrated in the Parish during November. A box is also available to collect specific requests for Masses to be said for their intentions. On All Souls Day, November 2nd, a Special Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated in Our Lady of Grace Church, at 10:00am for the deceased, and especially for those who have died in the last twelve months. All are welcome to attend.



COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2020 – In **Limited** numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office for \$12 each please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.

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



PARISH QUIZ EVENING TICKET SALES

Quiz Night ticket sales are going well, so if you want to come along and have some fun you will need to get in quick.

The date has been set for 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 (\$10 per person and tables of up to 8 people) 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.

Just a reminder for those that are coming BYO and please bring a plate to share (finger foods) we will provide Tea and Coffee.

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.



ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to our Parish then welcome. Please fill in one of the cards in the foyer: "New to our Parish?" so we can put you on the Parish roll.

We are a very vibrant and welcoming Parish and have lots of groups and ministries you might like to join. For more information, please contact Jovena in the Parish Office 972 4282 or email office@olov.org.nz



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:

Tuesday 8th October 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9th October 7:00 pm

One more Safeguarding workshop will be held on **Tuesday 29th October**, at 60 Knights Road, Hutt Central at the Parish Hall, Te Awakairangi Parish, Sts Peter and Paul Church. This session will not be available by ZOOM.

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**

WORKSHOP FOR MINISTERS OF LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH COMMUNION AND THOSE VISITING THE SICK

Father Pat Bridgeman is facilitating a workshop on Thursday, 24th October from 7-9 pm at St Peter and Paul's Church in Lower Hutt.

Parishioners from Our Lady of the Valleys Parish, who are involved in these ministries, are urged to attend. Our Parish Liturgy Committee recommends this workshop as part of the parish renewal programme for lay Ministers. The Liturgy Committee will conduct a follow up workshop to reinforce current practise in our parish. If anyone would to join these Ministries you are also asked to attend. For further information please contact Liz McCaul: 5273211 or Father Tony.





HOSPITALITY AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Did you know that on Sundays after 8:30am Mass in front of the Church **OVERFLOW** (our Parish Youth Group) provide morning tea for all parishioners? Tea, coffee and a light snack are offered to encourage people to stay and chat.

ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

Despite being *the smallest* of all the seeds, [the mustard seed] is full of life and grows until it becomes "*the greatest of all shrubs*". And thus is the Kingdom of God: a humanly small and seemingly irrelevant reality. To become a part of it, one must be poor of heart; not trusting in their own abilities, but in the power of the love of God; not acting to be important in the eyes of the world, but precious in the eyes of God, who prefers the simple and the humble. When we live like this, the strength of Christ bursts through us and transforms what is small and modest into a reality that leavens the entire mass of the world and of history.

Pope Francis: [Angelus](#), 14 June 2015



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, Campbell Deforges, Pio Ioane, and especially Michelle Fairfield whose anniversary occurs at 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

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
6th October – 27 th Week in Ordinary Time		13th October – 28 th Week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2: 2-4	First Reading	2 Kings 5:14-17
Second Reading	2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14	Second Reading	2 Timothy 2:8-13
Gospel	Luke 17: 5-10	Gospel	Luke 17:11-19