

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
16th February 2020



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.olov.org.nz
St Brendan's School - Veronica Sawers (04) 939 1909



THE DEEP END

The bare minimum

There are times when we try to get by with the bare minimum. Maybe we have scraped through an exam with the minimum of effort, or done a last-minute rush job to complete a work project. Plenty of us know what it's like to do just enough housework to keep it from descending into chaos! Perhaps unconsciously, we sometimes take the same approach to our relationships – only phoning a parent once in a blue moon to 'check in,' or visiting a friend only when we are reminded. It can be easy to slip into a pattern of acting out of a sense of duty rather than love.

Of course, our faith can go the same way. Are there times when we approach the Eucharist with a niggling feeling that something is not quite right? If so, Jesus has some strong words for us in today's Gospel. If we believe that all we are expected to do is 'follow the rules,' we have missed something important. Jesus does not want us to merely follow the letter of the law. Where is the joy or the challenge in that? He tells us that our virtue must go deeper than simply doing the bare minimum. Not only must we not kill, we must not be angry with others. Not only must we not break a promise, we must be honest in all our dealings and in our speech. If we approach the altar without being on good terms with others, we are not in true communion with God.

Obedying the rules is the bare minimum. The Gospel is calling us to a more radical way of living.

Weekly Collection: \$ 1,341.20



FAMILY MASS AND PARISH PICNIC 16th FEBRUARY

THIS SUNDAY at the 10:30 am Mass will have its first **FAMILY MASS for 2020**. All families are invited to come to this celebration

After Mass please stay on for the **ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC** at midday in the Presbytery grounds of Our Lady of Grace Church. Last year a fun time was had by all let's make this year even better. This is a good way to meet up with new and old parishioners in a relaxed atmosphere. Feel free to come in picnic attire to the Mass with your lunch to save going home. There will be **NO Morning Tea** in the Pettit Centre that day.

Barbeques will be available if you want to bring food to cook, along with tea, coffee and cold drinks for the younger attendees.



IN THE PARISH

Wed 19 th Feb	11.00 am	Mass with Anointing – Pettit Centre
Thurs 20 th Feb	1.30 pm	Mass with Anointing at Stokeswood Rest Home
Thur 20 th Feb	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting



Please note there will be **NO 9:00 am Mass** on 19th February at OLOG and **NO 9:30 am Mass** on 20th February at SFX.



WEDNESDAYS OF LENT - MASS

On each Wednesday in Lent there will be an additional Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 6:30 am for those who might like to choose this as a Lenten Observance.

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK provides the framework to enjoy one of the Church's oldest traditions of prayer called Lectio Divina - sacred reading. People are often surprised at how easy it is to pray this way, and how deep such prayer can be. It can change your day or your life. Six minutes a day. That's what you're asked to give during these next 40 days of Lent. There are 15 copies available in the Church foyer at \$6 per book and if more are required please put your name down and we shall order some more.



PARISH CDF LOAN FOR EARTHQUAKE STRENGTHENING

The Finance Committee is pleased to advise parishioners that the final Loan repayment for the CDF loan was made this week. The Loan was taken out in 2010 for almost \$200,000 to provide funding for remedying the 'leaky building' issues in the Heretaunga Presbytery and the Earthquake Strengthening of OLOG Church. The Finance Committee and Parish Council thanks all those who over the last 9 years have supported the Parish with their financial contributions and also the various "Fun and Fund Raising" efforts undertaken to repay the loan.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2020 - Enrolments for the 2020 Sacramental Preparation Program are now open for those candidates who would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of both churches and the School. The Programme starts on February 23rd and the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Louise Peirce the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.

ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Parishioners are invited to bring their Palms from last year's Palm Sunday service to leave in the basket in the foyer of the Church ready for this coming Ash Wednesday. These will be burnt to provide the Ashes used to mark the beginning of Lent on 26th February. Thank you.



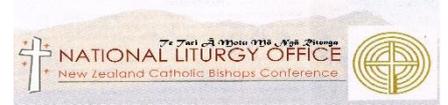
CAN YOU HELP?

The S.V.D.P. Society are desperate for volunteers for VINNIES shop at 3 Scott Court Stokes Valley. We work 4hour shifts, 10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm Monday to Friday, We would love to hear from you if you are able to help. Please ring Gordon Holmes on 09382750

SPIRITUALITY OF SERVICE

Arising from the 2017 Synod, Sr Elizabeth Julian RSM PhD, has developed a programme on "Spirituality of Service".

This Lenten journey will be presented locally by way of 10-15-minute videos, prayer, scripture, Pope Francis writings, and questions for shared discussion. For more information see Church notice Board or phone John O'Malley on (04) 970 6392, or 0274 370 130.



CORONAVIRUS AND LITURGY

The National Liturgy Office has sent out a letter regarding the Corona virus and its possible impact in New Zealand in relation to the reception of Holy Communion. Should an outbreak be recorded in New Zealand up to date information and clear procedures will be implemented but at this time it is sufficient to remind parishioners that:

- ✘ the reception of the Body and Blood of Jesus, while it is a more complete sign of communion is not necessary in order to receive all the fruits of Eucharistic grace.
- ✘ Many parishioners will be aware of their own vulnerability of health or perhaps have been in contact with someone recently returned from overseas. These may want to restrict bodily contact or to refrain from taking Holy Communion under both forms.

The full text of the communication from the National Liturgy Office is available in the foyer of both churches



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

From February 26 through April 5, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil on the public footpath outside Te Mahoe in Wellington Regional Hospital. Six babies are known to have been saved at previous vigils in New Zealand. If you'd like more information, please contact 0212317954

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year the Ecumenical World Day of Prayer has been composed by the women of Zimbabwe and takes place on Friday March 6th.

The local celebrations will be at the Salvation Army Centre on Fergusson Drive at 10am and at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Silverstream. at 1p.m.

Our Lady of Grace members will take special part in the latter one and all parishioners are invited to attend. If you would like to be there please contact Geraldine (mgsims@xtra.co.nz). If you have any items from Africa or mats from any country please bring them. There will be a rehearsal on Friday Feb 28th at 1.p.m. at St. Mary's

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER 2020 MISSION FAIR

Come and support the Sisters of St Peter Claver raise funds for Catholic Missionary work around the world. The fair has something for everyone with a variety of stalls, raffles, food and entertainment. On Saturday the 22nd of February from 10am to 1pm at St Francis de Sales Church Hall and Grounds. Donations of good quality items for sale at the Fair are greatly appreciated and can be delivered to the sisters at 1 Mersey St, Island Bay, Wellington



“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME”

‘Parents must not worry about their young children disrupting church services, as a baby’s cry is a “beautiful homily” said **Pope Francis**’. Speaking as he baptised 32 children in the Sistine Chapel on Sunday he pointed out that children are “choral”, and if one is making a noise “they all begin and a concert will take place”.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those souls in purgatory and who have died recently including, Tom Ryan, Lenny Naidoo, and Yvonne Avery. We also pray for those 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 (Sat) and 8:30am (Sun)

Samoan Community Mass 4th Sunday – 11:30 am

Weekdays– Tues, Thurs, 9:30am Mass – Wed, 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	
16 th February Sixth week in Ordinary Time		23 rd February Seventh week in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Ecus. 15:15-20	First Reading	Levit. 19: 1-2, 17-18
Second Reading	Corinthians 2: 6-10	Second Reading	Corinthians 3: 16-23
Gospel	Mathew 5: 17-37	Gospel	Mathew 5: 38-48



NOTICE FOR FUNERAL OF TOM RYAN

Requiem Mass will be celebrated for Tom Ryan on Wednesday 19th February at 1:00pm, St. Francis Xavier Church. Rosary on Tuesday 18th February at 7:00 pm.