

**Our Lady of the Valleys Parish**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**8<sup>th</sup> March 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  
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St Brendan's School - Veronica Sawers (04) 939 1909



## THE DEEP END

### Listen to him

On this second Sunday of Lent, we hear the story of the Transfiguration. It is an account of a significant spiritual experience for the disciples. We can recall in our own lives, times when we received a new spiritual insight, moments when we came to know Jesus in a more profound way. These moments change us, they are powerful and can sustain us in difficult times.

During Lent we are invited into a new way of seeing. As our world faces enormous environmental challenges, faith communities have a huge role to play in protecting God's creation for generations to come. The roots of the environmental crisis are deeply spiritual, for we have become disconnected from nature and forgotten how deeply interconnected everything is. This calls for a deep conversion, a reconnection; to be filled again with a childlike sense of awe and wonder where our relationship with the natural world is concerned. This Lent, let us spend more time in nature, being aware of God's presence in every created thing. Let us stand awestruck before the beauty of the world.

'The entire material universe speaks of God's love ...Soil, water, mountains: everything is a caress of God ...From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night'. (Laudato Si)

Jane Mellet  
Melletj@gmail.com

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**Weekly Collection: \$ 1,493.20**



### CAN YOU HELP?

The S.V.D.P. Society are desperate for volunteers for VINNIES shop at 3 Scott Court Stokes Valley. We work 3hour shifts, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm 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 04 938 2750

### 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.

## IN THE PARISH

COMING  
UP

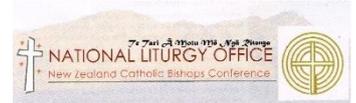
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00 pm	Saint Vincent de Paul – Stokes Valley
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.15 pm	Saint Vincent de Paul - Heretaunga
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.30 pm	Parish Finance Committee



### PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY

In preparation for Palm Sunday in April of this year the Liturgy Committee realised that supplier of the large **PHOENIX palms** that are used to decorate both churches was no longer able to assist us. They are enquiring if there is/are parishioner(s) who have a mature phoenix palm on their property which the Parish could call on for the supply of palms for decorating the Church. If you can help out please contact the Parish Office 972 4282

### UPDATE ON COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS AND CATHOLIC LITURGY FROM NATIONAL LITURGY OFFICE



Following discussions over the weekend with health professionals about the implication of COVID-19 Coronavirus on Catholic gatherings for liturgy, our advice is that the current standard procedures for safeguarding health continue to be followed and there is no need for churches to take further precautions at this stage. Should there be need for restrictions on receiving communion or exchange of Sign of Peace these will be immediately notified to parishes throughout the country.

### 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.

### CAR BOOT SALE

The Fund Raising Committee is looking to hold a Car boot Sale on the 21 March 2020 at Lady of Grace Church grounds 5 Palmer Crescent Upper Hutt from 10:00 am to 1:30pm. This will be a great opportunity to clear out the cupboards /shed. Contact Mike on 021 123 3211 to book a space or team up with others in a combined space. \$20:00 per space. We are also looking for volunteers to help out on the day with parking so if you can help please call.



### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PRAYER REQUESTS

In the foyer of both churches are cards that have the name of one of the candidates in this year’s Sacramental Preparation Program. Parishioners are invited to take one of these cards and pray for the names candidate as they move through program this year towards First Holy Communion. This is a way we all can support these young members of our faith family on their journey of faith.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (**RITE II**) will be celebrated at St Francis Xavier Church on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 3:00 pm. An invitation is offered to all in the Parish who wish to experience God's loving grace and forgiveness to join us at this celebration. We will be joined at this liturgy by the twenty-five young candidates who will be receiving the Sacrament for the first time.

If you would prefer to have the Sacramental privately under the **RITE I** format, Father Tony is usually available after the weekday Masses at St Francis Xavier or Our Lady of Grace Church or you can ring him at the Presbytery (972 4282) to arrange a time at your convenience.

## 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 021 231 7954



## MINISTRY VOLUNTEER'S FOR HOLY WEEK EVENTS

In the upcoming week members of the Liturgy Committee will be looking for people to assist in the celebration of the various services during Holy Week. The services range from Palm Sunday (where additional readers for the Passion Gospel; representatives to attend the Chrism Mass to receive the Holy Oils for the Parish; people to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday; Readers and Eucharistic Minister for Good Friday through to more decorators and readers for the additional reading at the Easter Vigil; To try to make it easier for these people (and to save some of the ringing around that happens to cover all the events/ministries) lists of the ways that parishioners can assist have been placed in the foyer of both Churches. If you are a minister and know that you will be at a certain ceremony please indicate your willingness to assist.

## CAN YOU HELP ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL ROAD PATROLLERS?



We need adults to support our Year 6 Road Patrol teams on Palmer Crescent and Sutherland Avenue as they are busy roads. If you, a family member or a friend, can help support between 8.30am-9am, or 2.45pm-3.10pm one day a week please contact the school office on 939 1909 or [office@stbrendans.school.nz](mailto:office@stbrendans.school.nz).

**St Brendan's Camp 2020** Our Year 7-8 team is counting down with great enthusiasm. They are looking forward to a week in Nelson where they will have the opportunity to participate in a range of activities at TeaPot Valley Camp, explore Nelson city where they will climb to the geographical centre of New Zealand and walk in the Abel Tasman National Park. Our fundraising has included muffin days, bake sales, pre-loved clothing sales and participation at the Market Night. We were also successful with two community grant applications. Camp will cost \$200 per student, if you are able to sponsor, or part sponsor a student, we invite you to make contact with our school office.

**WELL WATER: DRAW FROM THE WELL OF LIFE**

All are welcome to join St Joseph’s church, 1 Pine Avenue, Upper Hutt Lenten series which offers reflections on Pope Francis’s encyclical for care of creation *Laudato Si’* and local responses.

2 day time sessions: Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 March 10am-12 noon

3 evening sessions: Tuesday 17 to Thursday 19 March, 7.30-9.00pm



**GREENSTONE DOORS** is in need of volunteers for both our Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt branch. Do you have a few hours to spare each week? We are looking for volunteers who have a heart for woman and children and can work with a diverse range of people in a non-judgmental way. We need people who can help with reception duties, sorting baby clothing and hospitality. Please contact Jennie [office@greenstonedoors.co.nz](mailto:office@greenstonedoors.co.nz).

**ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE**

With Peter, James and John we too climb the Mount of the Transfiguration today and stop in contemplation of the face of Jesus to retrieve the message and translate it into our lives; for we too can be transfigured by Love. In reality, love is capable of transfiguring everything. Love transfigures all! Do you believe this?

Pope Francis: [Angelus 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Lent](#), 1 March 2015



**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, Fr Pat McCann SM, Donald O’Grady, Stan Wishnowsky, Beatrice McEvoy, Tom Ryan, and Shadow Hannah Larkin. 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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	
8th March Second week of Lent		15th March Third week of Lent	
First Reading	Genesis 12:1-4	First Reading	Exodus 17:3-7
Second Reading	2 Timothy 1:8-10	Second Reading	Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
Gospel	Mathew 17: 1-9	Gospel	John 4: 5-42