

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
16th August 2020



Father Tony Kearns
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COVID LEVEL 2

PLEASE NOTE ALL MEETINGS AND GATHERING FOR THE NEXT WEEK WILL DEPEND ON THE DECISION MADE BY CARDINAL JOHN ON TUESDAY 18TH AUGUST. A COPY OF THE CARDINAL'S AND NZCBC DIRECTIVES ARE ON OUR WEBPAGE.

COVID-19 UPDATE – Cardinal John has written to all parishes on Wednesday 11 August to update guidelines for this weekend until Tuesday 18 August next week with the current situation of Level 2. To be safe Cardinal John is suspending all Masses, and parish activities which involve gathering. This means there will be no Masses this weekend 15-16 August, and the dispensation from the Sunday obligation is in place.

The dispensation also applies to the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is a Holy Day of Obligation and falls on Saturday. There are to be no exceptions for this suspension of public Masses over the next few days. Cardinal John says "It is vital that we all work together to keep everyone safe."

Taking communion to the Sick and Reconciliation are also suspended for the same period of time. There is no Eucharistic Adoration. Cardinal John will provide further advice on Tuesday depending on the government's decision about Alert Levels.

Cardinal John will be presiding at mass at 9am on August 15th and it will be posted here <https://www.youtube.com/c/MCSHWellington>

Auckland on Sunday from 7am there will be Mass online <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>

St Joseph's Upper Hutt Live Streaming – 9 am Mass online

www.facebook.com/StJosephsParishUH

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQFNBOFGXBmuf75T3HAYIMQ>



NZ COVID TRACER QR CODE

We continue to encourage parishioners to co-operate in Contact Tracing by using the booking in system for Sunday masses. Parishioners can use QR CODE displayed in all Parish buildings the registration system (via the Parish website or <https://www.picktime.com/OLOVMassAvailability>).



THE DEEP END – A woman of faith

You can almost hear the chuckle. It is not mentioned, but I always imagine that Jesus smiles or even laughs as he delivers the line, 'Woman, you have great faith.' Today's gospel recounts an unusual exchange between Jesus and the unnamed Canaanite woman who challenges him. She has seen what Jesus can do, she has faith, and she is advocating for her daughter. She is persistent, shouting out to Jesus and apparently also badgering the disciples, to the point where they plead with Jesus to 'give her what she wants.' Jesus' rebuke seems shockingly unkind: 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs'. But the woman doesn't give up. It is a matter of justice for her, as is evident in her witty response about the dogs getting the scraps from the master's table. 'Good for her!' – we feel like cheering.

It's a strange story, with Jesus at first appearing cold in his response to the woman. But as we know, he has a tendency to test his followers. His disciples, who know him well and have seen lots of miracles, often fall short. But this woman passes with flying colours. Jesus can see that she is a person of strong faith, clever and determined. She is not easily dismissed. In allowing her to state her case, Jesus also presents a challenge to the religious and social status quo. This pagan woman (Jesus' reference to 'house-dogs' tells us a lot about her status) exhibits more faith than his own disciples.

Jesus does not want us to be silent, compliant or complacent. He rejoices in those who are brave and persistent, and eager to challenge the injustices they see around them – those who have the gift of changing minds and hearts. We might call it the gift of prophecy.

Triona Doherty

Weekly Collection: \$ 747.10



COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2021

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.

IN THE PARISH		
Wed 19 th August	11.00 am	Mass with Anointing Pettit Centre
Thur 20 th August	01.30pm	Mass with Anointing Stokeswood Rest Home
Thur 20 th August	7:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sun 30 th August	2:00 pm	AGM at Pettit Centre Heretaunga



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

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



ANNUAL PARISH REPORT

The Parish Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 2:00pm on Sunday 30th August in the Pettit Centre in Heretaunga. The full report has been emailed to Parishioners on our Parish distribution list this week (along with the Parish bulletin). Copies of the Report are also available in the foyer of each church for parishioners to read before the meeting. If you have any questions about the Annual Report please contact the Parish Office.



UNACCOUNTED COLLECTION FUNDS

Last week we received an envelope with the No. 274 (from the year 2015) on it could be the person whose envelope it is please ring the office as we cannot account for it.

BNZ BANKING

We have been advised by the bank that they will not be accepting cheques from July 2021. Those who are still using cheques may want to switch to Automatic Payment or will have to shift to cash. Please contact the office if you wish to change over.



28th August 2020 – Stop supplying chequebooks

July 2021 – Stop cheque acceptance, cheque issuing and deposit paper



PARISH ROLL UPDATE

During the lockdown period the Parish Council organised a Telephone tree to keep in touch with parishioners. The compilation work highlighted that the Parish Roll maintained on a database may have become out of date as some listed parishioners could not be contacted. Parishioners are encouraged to contact Jovena in the Office to check that we have up to date contact information, address, email, and land and cell phone numbers. Your assistance would be appreciated.

Human Love in the Divine Plan (Theology of the Body)- *First intake in Wellington!* Courses for Young Adults (ages 18-35 years) on September 5 & 6, and for Adults on September 19 & 20. Venue: Challenge 2000, 1 Wanaka St, Johnsonville, Wellington. Early Registration: \$40.00 (closes: 29 August). General Registration: \$50.00. Contact 0220289737 or email info@marriageandfamily.org.nz.

AGM - NOMINATION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS

With an eye of the upcoming Annual General Meeting, a number of current Parish Councillors' term of appointment have come to an end. Currently Parish Councillors stand for a two-year term with the right of renewal for two more terms.



Nominations are open for new Parish Councillors and nomination forms are available in the foyer of both churches. These should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office as soon as possible. This allows time for the nominated candidates' names to be advised to the Parish before the AGM.

Please take the time to prayerfully discern who you think might be a suitable person to serve our Parish on the Parish Council. If you would like more details on the role of Parish Councillors and the function of the Parish Council please feel free to speak to one of the existing Parish Councillors or Father Tony.

Also don't forget to mark your calendars for the AGM itself 2:00pm at the Pettit Centre Heretaunga on Sunday August 30th.

WELLINGTON SINGLES FOR CHRIST (SFC)

Looking for a fun group of Young Adult Single/unmarried Catholic Men and Women to live out your faith with? If so, the SFC will be holding their Christian Life Program. It consists of 12 talks over the course of four weeks and an overnight weekend retreat. It's open to all single men/women 18 to 35 of all faiths. Talks will be held on Saturday afternoons at 1 pm beginning from August 29, 2020 in St Peter and Paul's Church Hall, 37 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville. This is a free event, but koha is welcome. For more information reach out to Liezel on 0226287761 or Marc on 0211095450



COAST TO COAST ROSARY

On the 15 August the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven, our patronal feast, there is to be a Coast to Coast Rosary throughout New Zealand. The main intention is to pray for the honouring of the gift of life. So many lives are lost in abortion and euthanasia. We will pray in reparation and intercession for a culture of life to prevail in our society.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON YOUNG CHURCH MASS

Te Awakairangi Parish and the ADW young Church team welcome you to come along to the first Archdiocesan Young Church Mass of 2020 hosted at SS. Peter & Paul Church on Sunday 30th August 5:30PM. This special youth mass will be celebrated by Cardinal John. Bring a plate for refreshments afterwards. All welcome **Young Church Mass music practice**

Open to all Te Awakairangi youth singers that want to share their talents in the upcoming ADW Young Church Mass. Come along to the choir practice on Monday 24th August from 6:30PM at SS. Peter & Paul church. For more information email carmen.sam90@gmail.com



NZ CATHOLIC The August 9 – 22 issue is out now. Some headlines are: Priests shouldn't promote political parties. Auckland's Mercy Spirituality Centre closes. Vatican instruction gives guidance on parish reforms. St Paul a model for ecumenical dialogue.

NZ Catholic is once again making available free of charge their latest issue in digital form. The link is <https://indd.adobe.com/view/3e987077-7246-44cb-92f0-a55d59017d5c>

Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
16th August 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		23rd August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Is 56:1, 6-7	First Reading	Is 22: 19-23
Second Reading	Rom 11: 13-15, 29-32	Second Reading	Rom 11: 33-36
Gospel	Matt 15: 21-28	Gospel	Matt 16: 13-20



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell especially Ron Gillies who is improving, those affected by the COVID-19 virus, and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently including *Nora O'Sullivan, Bill Taylor, Deirdre McEvoy, Joan Davis, and Teve Asovale*. Please pray for Annie Cornie for a special Intention. We also pray for Mary Kearns, Michael Dillon, Oka Vila and 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 Stokes Valley

Terry 528 6313 Gordon 938 2750

Petone Shop 568 6408 SV Shop 563 9278



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

Power to Heal
Coloring Page



SOMETHING FOR THE OLDER ONES TOO

Crumbs from the Table

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



1. A _____ woman came to Jesus and asked him for help.
2. The woman begged Jesus to have _____ on her.
3. The woman told Jesus that her daughter was possessed by a _____.
4. The _____ asked Jesus to send the woman away.
5. Jesus said, "I was sent only to the lost _____ of Israel."
6. The woman continued to _____, "Lord, help me."
7. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's food and toss it to their _____."
8. "Even the dogs eat _____ that fall from the master's table" the woman answered.
9. Jesus saw that the woman had great _____.
10. Because the woman had great faith, Jesus _____ her daughter.

Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)

healed	crumbs	Canaanite	sheep	faith
dogs	plead	demon	disciples	mercy