

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
23rd August 2020



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COVID-19 UPDATE – Cardinal John wrote to all parishes on Monday 17 August. In summary as long as we are in COVID-19 LEVEL 2 Cardinal John has permitted WEEKDAY MASSES to resume but SUNDAY MASSES because of the 100 attendee limit remain SUSPENDED

For Our Lady of the Valleys Parish the effect on our Service Timetable is as follows:

- Weekday masses at 9:00 am Wednesday and Saturday at Our Lady of Grace Church will be celebrated
- **SUNDAY Mass at St Francis Xavier Church at 5:30pm Saturday evening will NOT proceed if we are still at LEVEL 2**
- **SUNDAY Mass at St Francis Xavier Church at 8:30 am Sunday will NOT proceed if we are still at LEVEL 2**
- **SUNDAY Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 10:30am will NOT proceed if we are still at LEVEL 2**
- **Weekday Mass on Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 am at St Francis Xavier will be celebrated**
- **Weekday masses at 9:00 am Wednesday and Saturday at Our Lady of Grace Church will be celebrated**

When the Wellington region moves to LEVEL 1 Sunday Masses will again be celebrated

The Government is schedule to review lockdown levels on MONDAY 24th AUGUST

ONLINE MASSES

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>).

IN THE PARISH		
Wed 26 th August	10.00 am	Coffee morning at The Garage Café (Brendan Foot site 485 Fergusson Drive Trentham) after 9:00 am Mass. All welcome
Thur 27 th August	07.30pm	Parish Liturgy meeting
Sun 30 th August	2:00 pm	AGM at Pettit Centre Heretaunga please pre-book



THE DEEP END – ‘But you ...’

‘Christ asks for a home in your soul, where he can be at rest with you, where he can talk easily to you, where you and he, alone together, can laugh and be silent and be delighted with one another.’



CARYLL HOUSELANDER

There is something very exciting about really getting to know someone. Whether it’s talking to a like-minded new friend, or the first flush of romantic love, there is nothing like the thrill of getting close to someone and enjoying their company, discovering who they are and being truly ourselves with them. Today, Jesus asks an important question: Who do you say I am? He sets up the question by first asking the disciples: ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ He gets answers based on the gossip and chatter about him: ‘John the Baptist, Elijah, one of the prophets.’ But then Jesus gets to the heart of the matter with the burning question: ‘But you, who do you say I am?’ He knows that his disciples know him better than anyone, and so it proves to be, when Peter immediately answers: ‘You are the Christ.’ There is an intimacy and a confidence in this response, based on the time they have spent together and the close and loving relationship between them.

Jesus asks us that same question today: ‘But you, who do you say I am?’ The ‘but you’ is crucial. He is not asking what we have heard about him. Of course, we learn about Jesus from the Scriptures. Most of us have been learning about Jesus ever since we were children, listening to stories and parables in school or at home. But do we know him? Do we pray and talk and spend time with him? Perhaps we could reflect in the coming days on this question: Who is Jesus, to you?

Triona Doherty

Weekly Collection: \$ 592.00



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.



UNACCOUNTED COLLECTION FUNDS

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



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

PJ's appeal for Wellington Children's Hospital - on behalf of the CWL and the Parish we were able to donate 27 sets of new PJ's for this appeal. Thank you to everyone who supported this appeal."

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. Some copies will be available on the day as there have been no Sunday Masses celebrated over the past two weeks. If you have any questions about the Annual Report please contact the Parish Office.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At this stage the Parish AGM is going ahead on SUNDAY 30th AUGUST at 2:00pm. It is expected by that date we will be at Alert LEVEL 1. To give an indication of numbers attending the AGM details have been placed on our Online Booking System and parishioners are encouraged to log in and indicate that they are intending to attend. 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.



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.

TE KUPENGA–CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE is seeking a Marketing and Business Development Advisor to build the profile of the organisation, which was formed on 1 January by the merger of Good Shepherd College and The Catholic Institute (TCI). The role is Auckland-based and fixed term full-time for two years. Full details: <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/50415919> ‘

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

ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected everyone is. If we do not take care of one another, starting with the least, with those who are most impacted, including creation, we cannot heal the world.

Pope Francis

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 5:30 pm. 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 6:30 pm at SS. Peter & Paul church. For more information email carmen.sam90@gmail.com



NZ CATHOLIC

Seeing that we are again at Covid-19 alert levels 2 or 3, there will be no deliveries of the current print issue of NZ Catholic to parishes.

However, as we did last time at these alert levels, the latest version of NZ Catholic is being made available free of charge for you to distribute. A cover graphic is also attached to assist in this. The link to the free issue is below.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/3c9e92b5-0dd7-45ad-b33f-286618e52857>

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE has a small number of places available for Preference students in Year 9, 12 and 13 for 2021.

Please see our website for further information <https://www.stmw.school.nz/SMC-Parents/Enrolments-Fees/Enrolments-Fees> or phone the school office 473 5554.

NZ CATHOLIC BISHOP'S CONFERENCE ADVICE ON ELECTIONS

On Friday blogs and social media claimed that the Catholic Bishops have endorsed the **New Conservative Party**. **This entire report was untrue. The Bishops do not endorse political parties.**

Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
23rd August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time		30th August 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Is 22: 19-23	First Reading	Jer 20:7-9
Second Reading	Rom 11: 33-36	Second Reading	Rom 12: 1-2
Gospel	Matt 16: 13-20	Gospel	Matt 16: 21-27



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 *Deirdre McEvoy, Joan Davis, and Teve Asovale*. Please pray for Annie Cornie for a special Intention. 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 Stokes Valley

Terry 528 6313 Gordon 938 2750

Petone Shop 568 6408 SV Shop 563 9278





PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
23rd August 2020



1. For our Holy Father the Pope, the successor of Peter the Rock, that he be blessed, protected and respected.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**
2. For other leaders of God's people, especially our cardinal, bishops, priests and parish staff members, that they be wise and creative in their leadership.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**
3. For leaders of nations, that they continue elimination of Covid-19, but also don't neglect the special care required for the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the ill and the unemployed.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**
4. For all of the people of this faith community, that we use the keys of the kingdom of heaven to open the treasures of God's great love for us.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**
5. For all who worship in this church, that we be bold in proclaiming that Jesus is our Lord and our God, our Good Shepherd and our Saviour.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**
6. For our deceased parishioners, relatives and friends, especially *Nora O'Sullivan, Bill Taylor, Deirdre McEvoy, Joan Davis, and Teve Asovale* that they rejoice in the full knowledge of God's glory.
LORD HEAR US **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER**



Binding Referendum Question

Do you support the End of Life Choice Act 2019 coming into force?"

What is the End of Life Choice Act 2019 Referendum about?

If passed, the End of Life Choice Act 2019 (EOLC Act) will make assisted suicide or euthanasia available to competent people with a terminal illness who are 18 or over, *and* are thought to have six months or less to live *and* are in an advanced state of irreversible decline *and* experience “unbearable suffering that cannot be relieved *in a way the person considers tolerable*”.

The group most at risk if we legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide are those vulnerable to the suggestion they would be ‘better off dead’ – our elders, disabled people, and people with depression and mental illness who find themselves fitting the eligibility criteria.

The specific wording of the referendum question is important. **We are not being asked to vote on the idea or desirability of euthanasia. Rather, we are being asked to vote on the robustness of a specific law.**

A group of more than 200 lawyers, some of whom support euthanasia, are opposed to the EOLC Act because it is a badly drafted, dangerous law that is

The End of Life Choice Act 2019 is NOT about the following things that are *already legal* in New Zealand:

- Turning off life support – already legal and available.
- Refusing treatment – already legal and available.
- ‘Do not resuscitate’ orders – already legal and available.
- Administering medication to relieve pain – to the point of sedating a person if required – already legal.

broader and riskier than comparable laws.

Why are people voting ‘NO’ to the End of Life Choice Act (including many supporters of euthanasia)?

- It is not just for the ‘exceptional’ hard cases – up to 25,000 people annually will be eligible under this law.
- It is not an option of last resort – it does not require that a person first make use of available treatments.
- A person as young as 18 can end their life without telling a family member or other significant person.
- There is no mandatory stand-down or cooling off period in the EOLC Act as there is in other countries - under the proposed NZ law, a person could be dead less than 4 days after diagnosis.
- Unlike overseas laws, the EOLC Act does not require independent witnesses in the decision process.

- A person does not need to be competent when they make the final decision to die, unlike overseas laws.
- There is no process for effectively detecting pressure or coercion – a doctor simply has to ‘do their best’.
- There is no screening for depression and no requirement to assess or provide mental health support.
- A person with a terminal illness does not need to be in pain to avail themselves of this law.
- It does not provide for a legal right to access palliative care – overseas, people are choosing assisted death because of a lack of other choices. Palliative care is not yet universally accessible in New Zealand.
- Prognosis is always a guess. Doctors cannot predict how long a person with a life-limiting illness might live. Many people with a prognosis of less than six months go on to live full lives for years.
- It will not protect our elders who are the victims of abuse, mostly from their own families. Elder abuse affects 10% of our elders and continues to rise.
- Key medical groups, including the New Zealand Medical Association, Hospice New Zealand, Palliative Care Nurses and Palliative Medicine Doctors all oppose the EOLC Act as unsafe.
- Overseas trends show that an increase in non-assisted suicides cannot be ruled out.
- **The Act cannot be changed to make it safer.** If the Referendum passes, it will be enacted as it stands.

Conclusion: The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed. Whatever one’s views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not ‘compassion’ to vote for a dangerous law.

For more information see: www.nathaniel.org.nz or www.riskylaw.nz or www.votesafe.nz or www.hospice.org.nz/resources/end-of-life-choice-act-our-concerns/euthanasia-our-opinion/

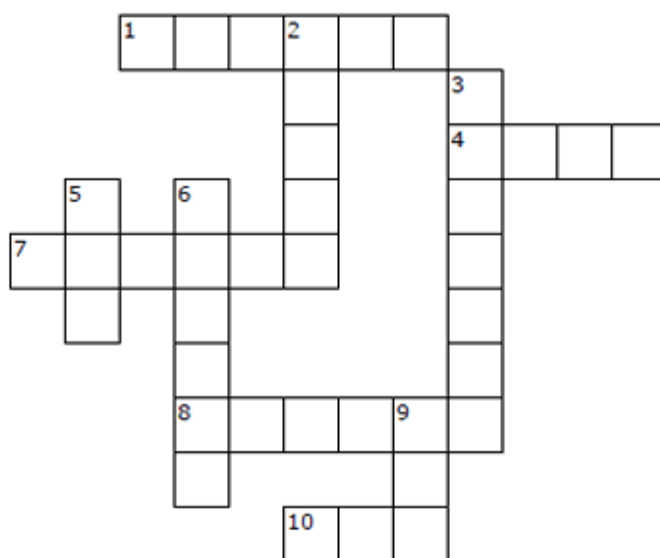
Authorised by John Kleinsman, The Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics, 15 Guildford Terrace, Wellington 502

FOR THE YOUNG ONES

Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. Persons; men, women, and children; human beings
4. A large stone that sticks up out of the ground or the sea
7. A male parent
8. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets
10. An adult male human being

DOWN

2. The name that Jesus called Simon
3. A persons who speaks for God
5. To speak
6. The whole body of believers in Christ
9. A male child in relation to his parents

PETER	FATHER	PEOPLE	SON	CHRIST
PROPHET	ROCK	MAN	CHURCH	SAY

SOMETHING FOR THE OLDER ONES TOO

Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



I W H Q O X N F C T Z V D L M
P V V P O E U A Z F U I B O M
E R Y G V M S T S P S Y D R N
O X O A R J R H B M E G O O M
P P E P G E D E L G N T S C S
L H I I H E L R B I S P E K E
E K F R S E Y I K A V U V R U
U T E S W I T J J O P I M O W
M H E Y O E Q S E A A T N P I
T L C T S A J I Z R H J I G M
B A H Y P R P J S I E K O S L
X P R J N T F E J A D M A H T
I L I B U H D J L A J P I X N
J J S Y L A J G A T E S T A T
G L T E H U I S A C H U R C H

CHRIST	EARTH	SON	PROPHETS	PEOPLE
BLESSED	KINGDOM	CHURCH	GATES	BAPTIST
LIVING	ROCK	FATHER	HADES	ELIJAH
JOHN	HEAVEN	PETER	KEYS	JEREMIAH