

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th October 2020



Father Tony Kearns
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Though in LEVEL 1, we are still encouraged to continue with **CONTACT TRACING** for Masses and other gatherings in the Parish. Details of online pre-registering are (via the Parish website or <https://www.picktime.com/OLOVMassAvailability> or use QR CODES displayed in all Parish venues, or manually sign in on the CONTACT TRACING Sheets provided.

Your assistance will help to keep us all safe.

Restrictions retained per Cardinal John's latest directive are

- **Communion under one kind (no Precious Blood)**
- **Sign of Peace returns but no physical contact**
- **Communion in the hand only**

The full text of Cardinal John's latest directive is available in the foyer of both churches.

Weekly Collection: \$1,219.70



WELCOME

We welcome Fr Kevin Head SM to our parish this weekend. Fr Kevin is the Editor of the Marist Messenger magazine.

IN THE PARISH		
Wed 14 th October	7:30 pm	RCIA Enquiry Evening OLOV Meeting Room
	7.15 pm	St Vincent de Paul Heretaunga
Thur 15 th October	1:30 pm	Anointing Mass Stokeswood. NO 9:30 Service
	7:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
Fri 16 th October	10:00 am	Adoration at OLOG resumes for Term IV
Sat 17th October		ELECTION DAY
Sun 18 th October	7:00 pm	Parent Meeting Sac Programme Pettit Centre



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.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Attached with this newsletter is information with regard to dealing with grief. We are looking for any Parishioners interested in attending a seminar and/or training sessions on behalf of the Parish. Please contact the office if interested.





THE DEEP END – A royal wedding

Today's gospel is difficult. Stories of judgement, weeping and gnashing of teeth just do not appeal to most people. We hear about a King whose invitations to his son's wedding banquet are repeatedly refused. In some instances his messengers are killed. One interpretation of this parable is that it is an allegory for the Jesus story, God's invitation to the Messianic banquet has been refused by those who are expected to embrace it. This banquet is therefore opened up to the unexpected, the Gentiles, the poor, those on the margins, the outcast.

Going deeper again, we can hear that God wants to be in a relationship with each of us. We are all invited to this banquet. Yet, sometimes we exclude ourselves from being in fellowship with God. We may be hurt, suffering in a way that is preventing us from accepting the invitation to experience God's love and hospitality. We simply want to be left alone. Notice how the host in this parable persists. God does not give up on us.

And what about that poor chap who did come but was not suitably dressed? If we accept the invitation we should be ready for change and not just change of an outer garment, real change. Because any real experience of God in our lives transforms us in some way or another. Parables were meant to shock those who heard them. The Gospel is meant to make us uncomfortable. Otherwise, what changes for us? We can sit around and listen to nice gentle passages that keep us comforted, or we can be challenged and moved to experiencing something real, something which requires us to show up and be transformed. It is up to us whether or not we accept this invitation.

Jane Mellet
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RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER - VALUING THE VULNERABLE

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought us again to face ancient questions about the different ways we value life. While the society around us often shows that some lives are worth more than others, we reject that idea. Some of the ways we are seeing that at the moment include commentators who suggest the lives of elderly people, people with disabilities and existing medical conditions, and people who are not part of the paid workforce are not "productive" members of society and therefore more expendable than others.



NOVEMBER – REMEMBERING THE BELOVED DEAD

In 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 during November. A box is 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 St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley, at 7:30 pm for the deceased, and especially for those who have died in the last twelve months. All are welcome to attend.

FAREWELL TO THE CAPUCHIN FRIARS

All are invited to a Farewell and Thanksgiving Mass for the Capuchin Friars who are withdrawing from work in the Archdiocese at the end of 2020. The Friars have been involved in Parish and Mission work since 1958. Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 18th October 9.30 a.m. St Patrick's Church, Kilbirnie.





CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Annette Reid, guest speaker at our gathering last Saturday proved a popular choice, with 32 attendees interested in the gardening theme. Annette, as usual, imparted lots of practical advice for planting and caring for our plants, and for keeping us safe and fit in the process! The gold coin donation for charity, the collection of toiletries for women in need, and the book exchange table all being kindly supported.

Mix and mingle over afternoon tea was very friendly, and wonderful to see the new friends and neighbouring church parishioners joining us as we reach out to our community.

BROTHER AND SISTER ALL - (*Fratelli tutti*) a profound Papal call



Pope Francis has written a new encyclical calling us to see all humanity as brothers and sisters. A press release from Cardinal John on behalf of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conferences says. *'It is a profound document that can change minds and hearts. It can be one avenue to do nothing less than 'renew the face of the Earth.' Take it and pray.'*

For a link to the full NZCBC's response and to the Papal encyclical click https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_community/fratelli-tutti-new-encyclical/



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' 2020 ELECTION STATEMENT

A copy of the Catholic Bishops' 2020 Election Statement is available on the website. Printed copies are available in both church foyers. We encourage you to take the time to read this document, reflect on it and make a considered choice of how you will vote in the upcoming General Election.

The Statement online here: www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Catholic-Bishops-Election-Statement-2020.pdf A media statement about it is online: www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/bishops-election-statement-2020/

QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT July - September 2020	
Operating Income	35,545
Less Expenditures	
Pastoral Costs	(21,768)
Property Costs*	(29,525)
Administration Costs	(6,750)
Total Operating Expenditure	(58,043)
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(22,498)
Balance Sheet Flows	
Balance Sheet Inflows	6,804
Balance Sheet Outflows	(6,552)
Excess/(Deficit) for the Qtr	(22,246)



* Property costs for the quarter include the annual insurance premium of over \$20,000.

WHEN SUICIDE COMES TO CHURCH



A workshop specifically designed for clergy, chaplains, pastoral workers, lay preachers and youth ministers with award winning suicidologist Barry Taylor to be held at St Andrew's, The Terrace on Tuesday 24th Nov. The early bird price is \$115 +GST and includes morning and afternoon tea and lunch. Register online through Eventbrite for further information 04 905 6145.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) This program, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith begins with two Introductory/Welcome sessions on **are on this Wednesday the 14th October and 21st October at 7:30 pm** in the Meeting Room of Our Lady of Grace Church in Heretaunga. 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. If you or a friend would like to join this program please join us on the 14th October or phone: Fr Tony 972 4282 or Liz McCaul 527 3211



BE INFORMED ABOUT THE END OF LIFE CHOICE ACT REFERENDUM:

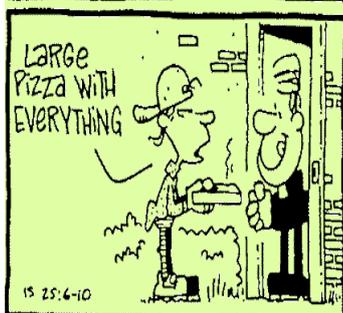
The Act only requires a doctor to “do their best to ensure that the person expresses their wish free from pressure.” However, the Act fails to outline how this happens. Doctors are not trained to detect coercion and are further limited in their ability to detect coercion because, unlike the Netherlands, they cannot interview others without the patient’s permission. Requests for an assisted death are often motivated by depression, something that is also extremely difficult to detect. There is no mandatory screening for depression in the Act.

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. See www.riskylaw.nz or www.votesafe.nz or www.carealliance.org.nz or www.nathaniel.org.nz



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell, those affected by the COVID-19 virus, and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently including *Patrick Blewman, Kolokita So’Otaga, Tito Stefano.Sr. Mary Elizabeth Sherry, David Coleman, John Muollo, and John Spavin.* We also pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in peace.

Sunday Readings		Sunday Readings	
11 th October 28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		18 th October 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Is 25: 6-10	First Reading	Is 45: 1, 4-6
Second Reading	Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20	Second Reading	Thess 1: 1-5
Gospel	Matt 22: 1-14	Gospel	Matt 22: 15-21



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

SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNG ONES

Invitation To The Wedding Feast



"Now go out to the street corners and invite everyone you see."
Matthew 22:9 (NLT)

AND THE OLDER ONES TOO

The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	R	V	G	K	W	S	T	L	X	Q	E	A	D	H	F	B	N	C	O	U	I	J	Y	M	Z

1. 4-21-12-7-8-7 _____
2. 22-18-3-22-8-12-14 _____
3. 14-22-18-18-12-2 _____
4. 1-13-2-13-17-9-12 _____
5. 6-12-14-14-22-18-4 _____
6. 7-12-2-3-13-18-8-7 _____
7. 17-13-18-11-21-12-8 _____
8. 2-12-16-21-7-12-14 _____

INVITED	WEDDING	BANQUET	DINNER
SERVANTS	GUESTS	PARABLE	REFUSED