

**The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
Tenth Week Ordinary Time - Year B
10th June 2018**



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**THE DEEP END
'He has gone out of his mind'**

In the gospel today we hear that Jesus made a visit home. Word about this radical teacher had gotten around and the religious leaders are not happy. In an effort to protect their son and brother, Jesus' family try to restrain him in order to protect him. The people who have gathered try to dismiss Jesus' teachings saying that he has 'gone out of his mind'. The religious leaders even go so far as to say that he is possessed by a demon! Perhaps their way of explaining away someone that they could not cope with. Who in our society today is explained away? Who do we wish would stop speaking out because it makes us uncomfortable? Who do we know who is speaking the truth and yet is dismissed by those in authority? Who tries to silence others?

One of the criticisms of Christians today is that we are not Christ-like or we are no longer challenged by the gospel message. Sometimes it is easier to 'keep your head down'. But Jesus knows that in order to bring change, to work for God's kingdom of love and justice and peace, this involves sticking your head above the parapet, whether that be in our communities, our families or in our church.

I began to wonder if anyone still believed Jesus meant those things he said. I thought if we just stopped and asked "what if he really meant it?" it could turn the world upside down. It is a shame Christians have become so normal.'

Shane Claiborne
The Irresistible Revolution

Jane Mellett

Weekly Collection: \$1,400.50

Archdiocesan Commission for Justice, Peace and Development

God is not afraid! He is fearless! He is always greater than our plans and schemes. Unafraid of the fringes, he himself became a fringe. So if we dare to go to the fringes, we will find him there; indeed, he is already there. Jesus is already there, in the hearts of our brothers and sisters, in their wounded flesh, in their troubles and in their profound desolation. He is already there.

Pope Francis: [Gaudete et Exsultate](#) #135

Meetings in the Parish

Thursday 14th June – Finance Meeting

Sacramental Programme – Confirmation

10th June – Parent Meeting Pettit Centre at 7:00pm

24th June – Group Session at Our Lady of Grace at 10:30am

24th June – Rehearsal in Our Lady of Grace, Church at 11:30am

1st July – Confirmation ceremony at Our Lady of Grace Church at 10:30am



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. We are therefore opening nominations for new Parish Councillors on 1st June. With this bulletin there is a nomination form that should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office by 30 June. Forms are also available in the foyer of both churches. This time frame allows time for the nominated candidates names to be advised to the Parish before the Annual General Meeting. 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 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.

Grief Support Meeting

On Thursday 31st May a meeting was called in the Presbytery in Heretaunga to look at the idea of setting up a Grief Support gathering in Our Lady of The Valleys Parish. There was a positive response to the idea and a number of suggestions around the purpose and format of the group were discussed. The group identified that there were a variety of diverse situations that entail grief, from the loss of a loved one through death, the breakup of marriages and families, the distress that occurs when employment of ceased from redundancy or injury/sickness and the rites of passage that we all experience in growing to maturity. Each needs to be sensitively approached and each requires a different level of type of support. The motto SEE/JUDGE/ACT was seen as a good use as a model.



Two major themes of the discussions were that suggested. Firstly, the need for broad but supportive and co-ordinated approach to the topic of grieving and the resources that could called upon both inside the parish and beyond to provide support. The second was the idea of the need to perhaps provide direct support either one-on-one or in a group environment to assist those who attend address the issues of grief in a caring, compassionate way from both suitably trained and supported parishioners and if necessary those with professional expertise.

To allow for further exploration of these topics another meeting has been called on Thursday 5th July at St Francis Xavier Meeting Room at the rear of 152B Stokes Valley Road, next to St Francis Xavier Church. If you would like to find out more about the group please contact Fr Tony on 972 4282

Parking At Our Lady Of Grace Heretaunga



With the winter weather now here we ask that those attending Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church **NOT** park on the lawns around the church and presbytery. During winter because of the damp the lawns become soft and easily damaged by vehicles driving on them. We would also ask that parishioners **NOT** park on the concrete apron in front of the church. Recently a couple of near accidents happened as parked cars were being driven out of the area where small children were playing and running about after Mass. Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated.

Passionist Family Group Events for June



Fri 15 th June	O'Leary Group House Mass at the Presbytery followed by Pizza and Pot luck desert	Contact – Christine 021518971
Sat 16 th June	Nixon Group – Games at Josie's	Contact Josie 5637735
Sat 23 rd June	Holmes Group Mid Winter Dinner at Brew'd Restaurant corner of Boulcott and High Street	Contact Margaret Lanigan 9717564
meet at 7:00 pm dinner at 7:30pm		

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women

Our meeting is Saturday 16th June at 115pm at Connolly Hall, Guilford Tce, Thorndon. Speaker: Emma Kim, Elijah House Inner Healing prayer minister on "From Hurting to healing".

All women welcome. Enquires: Shura 04 3899938



CWL Fun Quiz Evening – Fundraiser for Te Omanga Hospice – 29th June doors open at 7:15pm to start at 7:30pm at St. Joseph's Hall Pine Ave/Royal Street, Upper Hutt. Make up a team of 6-8 people or come along and join a table and enjoy a lovely supper. Tickets \$10.00 per ticket. No door sales. Contact Maria # 5288674

CWL National Conference is being held in Wellington from the 25th to 28th July, the Catholic Women's League of Aotearoa New Zealand will gather in Wellington for their biennial National Conference.

Highlights of these days of Conference will be Opening Mass by Cardinal John Dew /- Keynote Speaker Anne Dickinson reflects on "Women welcoming change". / An Art Exhibition of NCEA Art students from the Catholic Colleges of the Archdiocese. / A "Pilgrimage" by bus to the Home of Compassion to visit the Venerable Suzanne Aubert All enquiries to Christine Paterson, CWL, phone 479 6274. For more information please see the notice board.



St. Vincent De Paul Shop in Stokes Valley requires volunteers to help in their shop either 10:00 am -1:00 pm or. 1:00-4:00 pm. Could you spare a morning or afternoon to help us out? A friendly team to work with who all give their time generously to help others in the community. We also need a Book-keeper with computer knowledge 4 hours a month to pay our accounts and keep our finances in order. If you are able to help us please phone Jan 027 916 5609 or Gordon 938 2150

For Engaged Couples

A wedding is a day. Marriage is a lifetime. Prepare for your lifetime together by attending an Engaged Encounter marriage preparation weekend. Your next opportunity to attend a weekend is 14th and 15th July. For more information phone Simon and Kate on 801 6192 or go to our web site www.cee-wellington.co.nz



Women's Circle of Friendship At our last meeting Teresa Homan spoke to our gathering about her work with the Upper Hutt Housing Trust and B.E.S.T (A beneficiary advocacy service). Teresa's talk generated some thoughtful discussion about reaching out to the needy, keeping in mind Pope Francis's words "Who are we to judge?"

We thank, bless and applaud the selfless and dedicated efforts of Teresa and her team, in working with the needy and homeless people of Upper Hutt.

The gold coin donations from this meeting have been donated to the Upper Hutt Housing Trust.

Life in the Spirit Seminar

This seminar will be conducted at the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Lower Hutt on seven consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning on 5 June till the 17 July except for the 4th week which will be on Monday 25 June. Do you want to encounter Jesus on a deeper level? Come and be blessed. Further information on the notice board.



Synod Outcome – Go, you are sent... to deepen your bicultural relationship 5(c) The Archdiocese captures the shared story of our history



Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt welcomes enrolments for Year 9, 2019 from Monday 14 May and forms are to be completed online or returned to the College Office by Monday 2 July 2018. See noticeboard for more information

Prayer of the Faithful led by **Fr James Lyons**. An interactive workshop on how to write and present general intercessions for the section of the Mass known as the Prayer of the Faithful. Tuesday 12th June at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill St, Wgtn. Workshop 7.pm - 8.30pm. Everyone welcome. Please register by June 6th at a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz



Vigil for the Unborn: Saturday 16th June. St Anne's Catholic Church, Emmett Street, Newtown. Starts at 10:00 am with Mass. Ends at 12:00 p.m. Come-Pray-Sacrifice for the Unborn and a Culture of Life in NZ. For more information contact Family Life International NZ PH: 237 8343



The June 3 – 16 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Leaky building issues for NZ seminary. Catholic academic shortage a worry. Chaplaincy bulwark against campus cults. Harbour bridge bungy raises funds for Mercy Hospice.



Red Cross refugee support volunteer training

Thanks to everyone who assists with the preparation of homes for former refugees If you are interested in taking your involvement further to assist former refugee families directly, the next Red Cross refugee support volunteer training begins in July. Group interviews are on 25- 27 June, with six weeks of training beginning on 4 July.

For more information please phone 048050304 or see their website: <https://www.redcross.org.nz/what-we-do/in-new-zealand/refugee-programmes/volunteer-help-former-refugees/>

Please remember in prayer, all who are sick and unwell and those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently, Cath Hewson, Pauline Robertson, Theodora Zois, Kenneth Edgar Mosley and Maria Helen Fernandez and those whose anniversary occur around this time –may they rest in peace



Our Lady of Grace Church 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Mass Times Sunday –10:30am

Weekdays Wed, Sat 9:00am 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 (Saturday) and 8:30am (Sunday)

Samoa Community - Mass 4th Sunday – Church 11:30am

Weekdays – Tues, Thurs, 9:30am Mass – Wed, Sat 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

Reconciliation - Please ring for an appointment

Pastoral Council Chairperson

John Benvenuti 563 8775

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	
10 th June 10 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		17 th June Eleventh Week Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Genesis 3:9-15	First Reading	Ezekiel 17:22-24
Second Reading	Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Second Reading	2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Gospel	Mark 3:20-35	Gospel	Mark 4:26-34