

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2018
28th January 2018



Father Tony Kearns
Parish Office and Presbytery (04) 972 4282
Residence: 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga
Parish Secretary: Marilyn Keating
Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Email: office@olov.org.nz
Email: pp@olov.org.nz
Website: www.olov.org.nz
St Brendan's School - 939 1909



THE DEEP END:

Genuine authority / 'But man, proud man, / Dress'd in a little brief authority, / Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd...' / Measure for Measure - William Shakespeare

We probably wouldn't have to look too hard for examples of public figures who seem to fit the above description. Puffed up with a sense of their own importance, they are anxious to be seen as the expert on a given subject, in spite of their limited knowledge or experience. We criticise politicians if we feel they are blind to the struggles of ordinary people. They don't know what it's like, for example, to live on a minimum wage, or to be at risk of homelessness. On the other hand, it is refreshing when those in power have faced some of these issues themselves, or have made the effort to do their research and to listen to people. We can tell when someone is speaking with genuine authority and care.

Those who listen to Jesus teaching in the synagogue know there is something different and exciting about him. His teaching is in sharp contrast to the scribes they are used to hearing. The difference, stated twice in this passage, is his authority, and it leaves his audience 'astonished'. He does not use it the way we might tend to use our 'little brief authority', to make ourselves look good. Instead he uses his authority to serve, to love, and to bring mercy and freedom.

Tríona Doherty

Meetings in the Parish

1st February – School starts at St Brendan's

3rd February – Circle of Friendship

Parish Picnic – 11th February at midday at Trentham Memorial Park, next to the children's play area, entrance off Brentwood Street. Last year was a great success but let's make this year even better. This is a good way to meet up with new and old parishioners in a relaxed atmosphere.

A very big thank you to Father Tom and Father Pat from the Columban Mission for their services to our Parish whilst Father Tony was away.



Ash Wednesday 14th February 2018 Timetable for Our Lady of the Valleys

6.30am Our Lady of Grace Church

9.30am Our Lady of Grace Church (with School)

7.30pm St Francis Xavier Church

The 9:30 am will also be the Opening School Mass for St Brendan's School.

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.



Ashes for Ash Wednesday – parishioners are invited to bring their Palms from last year's Palm Sunday service to leave in the basket in the foyer of the Church ready for this coming Ash Wednesday. These will be burnt to provide the Ashes used to mark the beginning of Lent on 14th February. Thank you.

David Seymour's "End of Life Choice" bill – David Seymour's "End of Life Choice" bill seeks to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide in New Zealand for those over 18 years with a terminal illness or an irremediable condition. The bill passed the first reading just Christmas and is now in the Select Committee. The process of the bill going to Select Committee the second time offers a final opportunity for New Zealanders to have their say on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide, prior to the bill going to parliament for the final vote by parliamentarians.

Our Parish will be holding information sessions at masses the weekend of 3rd and 4th February, outlining the process of writing submissions to the Justice Select Committee. It would be helpful if you could put a pen in your bag when you come to mass that weekend. Catholic bishops have prepared a fact sheet for you and the Nathaniel Centre has prepared a flier reminding us that our voice counts as well as steps in writing a submission.

In the meantime, if you wish to submit an on line submission you can so by going to "notoassistedsuicide.nz" for a quick link to place your submission. Follow the instructions. You can enter text directly or upload a document in pdf or doc format.

Legalising euthanasia or assisted suicide would endanger the lives and well being of people who are vulnerable, including those suffering from mental health issues, our elders, and the disabled.

You can check out information on the Nathaniel Centre website: www.nathaniel.org.nz/euthanasia. In the meantime if you have any questions feel free to contact Prue von Keisenberg 021 252 0226 or 976 3960

We have a new email address which is: office@olov.org.nz and a new website which is: www.olv.org.nz. Please visit the new website and let us have your feedback. Please change old email address as this will soon be no longer available. I have had a number of emails bounce back to me due to email addresses no longer in use. If your email address has changed or if you are not receiving emails from the office would you please contact me so that I can update your new email address?

Sacramental Preparation Programme 2018 - Enrolments for the 2018 Sacramental Preparation Program are now open for those candidates who would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of both churches. Though enrolments close on 9th February 2018 please endeavour to enrol before the 18th December as this allows time over the January period to undertake preparation work. The Programme starts on 18th February and the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Louise Peirce the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.



The Fundraising Committee are having a Garage Sale on Saturday the 17th March so hopefully you did a big clean out during the Christmas break and have lots of great things for us to sell. Please remember no TV's, computers etc as these do not sell. More information in the coming weeks.



Automatic Payments – thank you to all of you who took the time, over the Christmas break, to either go onto Automatic Payments or to have increased their donation to the Parish. It is appreciated that you are keeping the Parish in your thoughts and prayers. God bless you all

Are you able to help? – Graham Carr from the Home of Compassion is requiring an able body person to take him out 3 mornings a week from 9am to 12pm. If you are interested would you please contact his sister, Andrea Hart on 022 107 5640. This is a paid position.



Circle of Friendship Ladies Gathering - Next Saturday 3rd February will be our first gathering of the year with a meet and greet, and a cuppa, in the Pettit Centre between 2 – 4 pm. As well as catching up with each other, some of you may wish to recount an interesting story from the recent Christmas/summer holidays. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, please ring Melinda on 234 1271. A gold coin donation towards our Parish expenses would be appreciated.

Welcoming Former Refugees to Wellington - Over the past two years, the parishes and organisations of the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington, working in partnership with the Anglican Diocese and the Red Cross, have worked to stock and prepare 168 homes for 559 former refugees being resettled in the Wellington region. 15 refugee households will be arriving in Wellington in late February. We are again looking for groups able to assist: Collecting household and pantry items: House set-up groups: Checking and sorting: If you can help please contact Catholic Social Services (04 385 8642) or email refugees@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz If you wish to help please check out the Notice Board for more information.



Want to be part of the local solution to end abortion? Join 40 Days For Life: 14th Feb to 25th March. For 40 days we will lift up prayers on the footpath outside Wellington Hospital asking that abortion providers, workers and abortion-minded mums and dads will choose life for babies in the womb. By participating you will be a prayerful, peaceful witness for life. Typically, participants commit to pray weekly at a particular day and hour during the 40 Days campaign. However, you can select just one or a few hours to pray during the 40 days. Pray as a family, as an individual, with friends, or as a group. Learn more ph. 237 8343 or go to fli.org.nz/40daysforlife.
Opening Event: Sunday 11th February 2 pm in Knox Hall, 574 High St., Lower Hutt. Come and hear about the importance of protecting unborn children, mothers and families from abortion in our community. **Mass for Life: Tuesday 13th February 7 pm St Anne's Church, Emmett St., Newtown.** Join Cardinal Dew in A Mass to pray for the protection of life from conception to natural death and the success of this Lent's 40 Days for Life campaign.

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 (Gordon MacDonald and Sheryl Morgan) that they may rest in peace and those whose anniversary occur around this time.



Weekly Collection: \$1,061.80

Our Lady of Grace Church 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Mass Times Sunday –10:30am

Samoan Community - Mass 3rd Sunday – Church 12 noon

Weekdays Wed, Sat 9:00am Mass, Fri 9:30 am

Reconciliation – Please ring for an appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday (during school terms) 10.00 am – 6pm

St Francis Xavier Church 152 Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley

Mass Times Weekends 5.30pm Vigil (Saturday) and 8.30am (Sunday)

Samoan Community - Mass 4th Sunday – Church 11.30am

Weekdays – Tues, Thurs, 9.30am Mass – Mon, Wed, Fri, 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	
28 th January – 4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		4 th February – 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20	First Reading	Job 7: 1-4, 6-7
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 7: 32-35	Second Reading	1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23
Gospel	Mark 1: 21-28	Gospel	Mark 1: 29-39