

## Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

**Our Lady of Grace 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga**

972 4282

**Mass Times Sunday - 8am & 10am**

**Samoan Community - Mass** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Pettit Centre 11.30am

**Weekdays** Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 9am

**Anointing Mass** held on the second Wednesday of each month and replaces the 9am Mass that day.

**Reconciliation** - Saturday (or by appointment) 9.30am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday (during school terms) 10am – 6pm

## **St Francis Xavier 152 Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley**

972 4282

**Mass Times Weekends 5.30pm Vigil (Sat) and 9.30am**

Also 11.30am - in the Samoan language on the fourth Sunday of the month.

**Weekdays** - Mon to Fri, 9.30am

**Anointing Mass** held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at Stokeswood - 1.30pm

**Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion** Saturday 9.30am

**Reconciliation** Saturday (or by appointment) 5pm

**Pastoral Council Chairperson** - Chris Henley

563 6899

**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

**Bereavement Group** – Heretaunga Leola Kelly

976 5875

**Catholic Women's League** – Heretaunga Chris Wasson

528 7847

**Eucharistic Ministry** – Home Visits – Caryl Robinson

938 0886

**Samoan Community – Heretaunga** – Mena Aukuso

973 1326

**Samoan Community – Stokes Valley** – Tino Aukusitino

563 9172

**Passionist Family Groups** – Terry and Heather O'Brien

528 6976

**Pettit Centre Bookings** – Bookings taken during Office hours only

972 4282

---

### **First Reading - Isaiah 35:4-7a**

Isaiah prophesies about God's vindication.

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10**

Praise the Lord my soul

**Second Reading - James 2:1-5**

James teaches that there is to be no partiality within the Christian community.

**Gospel Reading - Mark 7:31-37**

Jesus restores a man's hearing and speech.

### **Next Sunday's Readings: 13 September – 24th Week in Ordinary Time - Year B**

First Reading Isaiah 50: 5-9

Second Reading James 2: 14-18

Gospel Mark 8: 27-35

# *The Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys*

**23rd Week in Ordinary Time - Year B**

**6 September 2015**



Father Ron Bennett: Email: [rbennett@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:rbennett@actrix.gen.nz)

Father Danny Cipriano Email: [dccipriano1950@gmail.com](mailto:dccipriano1950@gmail.com)

Parish Office and Presbytery 04 972 4282

Residence: 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Parish Secretary: Marilyn Keating

Office hours: Monday 9am-1pm, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-2pm

Email: [olog@paradise.net.nz](mailto:olog@paradise.net.nz)

St Brendan's School Heretaunga - 939 1909 Principal: Libby Hainsworth



*Dear Friends*

*In just over four weeks' time the second phase of the Synod on the Family will begin in Rome. The theme this year is "The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World".*

*Pope Francis himself has asked for the prayers of the Church for those who will attend the Synod and debate issues to do with family life. We pray also for families who face many difficult issues today where family values are challenged in the modern world. There has been much debate since the Synod last October. Much of it has focussed on the need for mercy, welcome and acceptance of those who struggle in so many different ways. Some think that the Church's teaching on marriage, family life and sexual morality will be changed.*

*As someone who was present at last year's synod I do not think it was about changing teaching at all, but about the pastoral care that we try to offer one other. I have also been telling people that this is a Synod for the Universal church and that there were very many different issues spoken about. For millions of families around the world it is a matter of survival, of the simple fact that so many struggle just to stay alive and keep their families together. I cannot erase from my mind the daily TV images of refugees - displaced and separated families – risking their lives, and losing their lives, in their desperation for a better life for themselves and their children.*

*At the end of last year's gathering Pope Francis said: "...we still have one year to mature, with true spiritual discernment, the proposed ideas and find concrete solutions to so many difficulties and innumerable challenges that families must confront; to give answers to the many discouragements that surround and suffocate families...May the Lord accompany us and guide us in this journey for the glory of his name." This newsletter therefore carries my urgent plea for the prayers of the Archdiocese of Wellington for Pope Francis and for all who will attend this Synod that the Lord will accompany and guide us all.*

*With thanks for your prayers and every blessing. + John (slightly abridged to fit page)*

## Meetings in the Parish

St Vincent de Paul 7pm at Stokes Valley

## Mass with Anointing Wednesday 9 September at 11am

All welcome to the Pettit Centre for this Mass and Sacrament, followed by a shared lunch. If you haven't been before, come and share the blessings and friendly get-together. Transport can be arranged – phone Patricia 972 8043. There will be no 9am Mass in Heretaunga on Wednesday 9 September as this is replaced by the Anointing Mass at 11am.



## 1st Communion Sacramental Programme:

13 September 10am Mass at Our Lady Of Grace

1st Communion Day - 27 September followed by party at St Brendan's School Hall

**School's Buddy Mass** – Tuesday 8 September starting at 9.15am in the church.

**Becoming a Catholic:** A new R.C.I.A. course (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will begin on Tuesday 18 of August at the Pettit Centre. If you know anyone interested in joining this program please contact Stella Wadsworth, the Parish Secretary, or Fr Ron

**Urgently Required** – St. Vincent de Paul Stokes Valley urgently require helpers to work a half day in the Stokes Valley Shop. 10am-1pm or 1-4pm Monday-Friday. If you are able to help us please contact Gordon 938 2750 or Frances 527 8449.

**Parking during the winter months** - it would be appreciated if parishioners please not park their cars on the grass during the next few months. Many thanks

**Suzanne Aubert:** Suzanne founded the Sisters of Compassion in New Zealand; an order devoted to the care of children and the sick and relief of suffering and poverty. Throughout her service of 66 years, this extraordinary woman provided a wonderful example of unselfish love and resolute determination. Her witness shone beyond the Church, touching a wide cross-section of society. The various Homes of Compassion and soup kitchens are testimony to that.. A process is now in place for her elevation to sainthood. Exhaustive information on her life and heroic exercise of Christian virtues was presented to Rome in 2013 and now the various stages from veneration, beatification and canonisation may precede, God willing. The Compassion Sisters have asked us to pray for her cause. Prayer cards are available in the foyer as well as copies of Suzanne Aubert News. If taking the latter please return so others can read it. There is also a very comprehensive website [www@suzanneaubert.org.nz](http://www@suzanneaubert.org.nz). Parish Coordinator: Terry Kavanagh Ph 528 6313.



## Family Groups: - September gatherings

Holmes Group - Movie at Lighthouse Theatre TBA

Henley Group - Sat 12 Sept 7 pm Fish and Chip night with a surprise element, at 152 Stokes Valley Road

Grace Group - Sat 12 Sept "A Walk in the Woods" Lighthouse Theatre Time ASAP

Heretaunga Group - Sun 20 Sept Te Papa then cuppa at 3pm

## Preference Enrolment Forms to sign:

Fr Ron will be available to sign preference forms as follows:

St Joseph's Catholic Presbytery, 1 Pine Avenue Tuesdays 3pm to 4pm

Our Lady of the Valleys Catholic Presbytery, 5 Palmer Crescent Thursdays 5pm to 6pm

## 31 July 2015 Financial Summary Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

Cash and Bank Reserves \$ 91,580

Liabilities (mortgage at OLOG) \$ 140,277

Income Year to Date \$ 60,745

Expenses Year to Date \$ 50,866

Net Income - Expenses \$ 9,879

The accounts up to 31 July 2015 have been approved by the Finance Committee and show income keeping up with expenses, with a small surplus. These figures are for the whole Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys. Maintenance work on the roofs at both churches is under action in August/September, and some work on a block wall at the rear of the church in Heretaunga has been instructed after an amendment to the Building Consent was approved by the Upper Hutt City Council. This is the last part of the earthquake strengthening work that is required to the Heretaunga church. If you have any queries on the accounts, or are interested in being involved in this aspect of the parish please contact Tim Peirce, Chairman of the Parish Finance Committee on 527 7262.

**Fr Ron** is now visiting the 'H' Streets.

**Seasons for Growth** - Have you wondered what to do or say to a person who is grieving? Seasons for Growth is offering a training course in dealing with change, loss and grief among adults. If you are interested please check out the Notice Board for venue, date etc.

**St Francis Xavier Altar Society** – the collection will be taken up this weekend.

Please take your copy of the Wel-Com and read up about the news from the region.

**Catholic Women's League** – Regional Day will be held on the 4 October – starting with the 10am Mass in the Church and then onto the Pettit Centre for the meeting. More information in the next couple of weeks.

**Please remember in prayer**, all who are sick and unwell, (Judith Curry, Lorraine Wilson (nee Fairfield), Francis Dahl, Alfred Moss, Mike McKone, Myrna Chan, John Honey, Roy and Lorraine Sinclair, Pat Hewson, and Pat Enright) those who are lonely and worried. We pray also for those who have died recently Eunice Robinson and those whose anniversary (Larry Pritchard) occur around this time.

**Thank you** to Fr Michael Sweere who has graciously offered weekday Masses while Fr Danny is away. We are very grateful.