

Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



Parish Priest Father Tony Kearns
Churches Our Lady of Grace Church, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga (HTG)
 St Francis Xavier Church, 152 Stokes Valley Road. Stokes Valley (SV)
Sunday Eucharist Sat 5:30 pm Vigil (**SV**) 8:30 am (**SV**) and 10:30 am (**HTG**)
 Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)
Weekday Eucharist Wednesday /Saturday 9:00 am (Heretaunga)
 Friday 9:30 am (Heretaunga)
Weekday Liturgy of Word and HC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament Wednesday 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)
 Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)
Reconciliation By appointment with Parish Priest
Presbytery and Parish Office 5 Palmer Crescent **Tel** (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm
Website www.olv.org.nz **E-mail** office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School 56 Palmer Crescent **Tel** (04) 939 1909

Fifth Sunday of Easter **2d May 2021**

Readings for

2 nd May	1 st Reading	Acts 9: 26-31
	2 nd Reading	1 Jn 3: 18-24
	Gospel	Jn 15: 1-8
9 th May	1 st Reading	Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48
	2 nd Reading	1 Jn 4; 7-10
	Gospel	Jn 15: 9-17



UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Tue 4 th May	5.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club
Wed 5 th May	1.30 pm	Catholic Women's League at Pettit Centre
Sun 9 th May	7.00 pm	Sacramental Program



Though in **ALERT LEVEL 1**, we are still encouraged to continue with **CONTACT TRACING** for Masses and other gatherings in the Parish. **QR CODES** are displayed in all Parish venues or manually sign in on the **CONTACT TRACING Sheets** provided.

Weekly Banking

\$1,399.70



WELCOME

We welcome Cardinal John to the Parish this Sunday as he celebrates Mass with us at 8.30 am at St. Francis Xavier's Church.





THE DEEP END Bound together

Have you ever visited a vineyard, with its rows of vines, heavy with clusters of ripe grapes? If you're not familiar with vines, think of an apple tree laden with apples, or a fruit bush ripe for picking. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vine to describe his relationship with his disciples. He tells them that he is the vine, and they are the branches. The life of Jesus flows into us and sustains us, and this is the reason our lives can bear fruit in love, in kindness, patience, compassion and welcome.

The symbolism of the vine works on many levels. If a branch is separated from the vine, it cannot flourish on its own. It must be connected to the vine from which it gets its nourishment. Each of us must be firmly rooted in Jesus and nourish that relationship. He invites us to 'remain' in him - to rest in him, to be part of him. And if you look at a vine plant, often its branches are so entangled, it can be hard to know where one ends and another begins. We note that Jesus is addressing the disciples as a group rather than as individuals: 'you are the branches'. We are a community, and we grow together, bound together by the love of God.

Today, we reflect on what it means to be so intimately connected with Jesus, the true vine. We bring to mind the many gifts he has given us, and the ways in which his love bears fruit in our lives.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

All women of the Parish are invited to our monthly meeting on Wednesday, 5th May at 1.30 pm in the Pettit Centre.

Don't forget to bring an item for our sales table to help towards our funds for the Missions.

We also have a request for toiletries e.g., toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, brush, comb from Lower Hutt Hospital.

Any spare rosary beads would be gratefully received too.

PLANNED GIVING – IRD CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The receipts are ready and will be available at the foyer of both churches. Kindly ensure that you pick up your receipts and the new envelopes. If your Donation Receipt/Envelopes are not in the foyer of the church please advise the Parish Office who can arrange for it to be relocated for you.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Parents are reminded about a Confirmation meeting for their children at 7 pm on the 9th of May.



HELP!!!

Request – for Rosary Beads and toiletries

We are looking for help to supply the Medical Ward at Lower Hutt Hospital with basic toiletries, e.g. soap, deodorant, brush, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush – for those who have an unexpected visit to hospital. The request for rosary beads is for patients in End of Life Care at Lower Hutt Hospital.

If you can help with this please ring Chris 5287847 or Marilyn 5284869.

FAMILY PILGRIMAGE WITH MARY IN HONOUR OF ST. JOSEPH

Join the Family Pilgrimage with Mary in honour of St. Joseph on May 1 & 2 (Sat-Sun) to pray for the needs of families starting with Mass at 9:00 am at St. Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria Wellington followed by a trip to other churches dedicated to St. Joseph. Visit www.marriageandfamily.org.nz or email psison@marriageandfamily.org.nz for more information.



NZ CATHOLIC The May 2-15 issue is out now. Some headlines are:

Deacon ordained in Auckland. Catholic agencies state priorities for the Budget. Papal knighthood for former diocese general manager. PTSD – when memories won't go away.

The next issue of *NZ Catholic* will be published on May 16.

ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

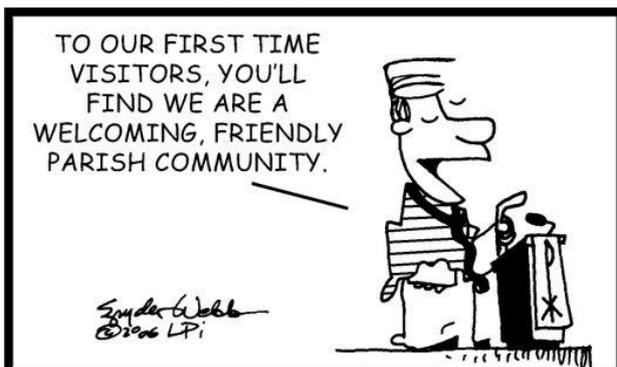
Each one of us is a branch of the one vine; and all of us together are called to bear the fruits of this common membership in Christ and in the Church.

[Pope Francis, 2015](#)

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 *Ron Gillies, and Robert Lendrum, and* for those whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in peace.



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER



SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNG ONES

PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

vine
joined
branch

Father
pray
fruit

honored
gardener
clean

inev v i n e

Fareth _____

genarder _____

chanbr _____

fritu _____

lecan _____

jedoin _____

rapy _____

onhored _____

MISSION

Read Galatians 5:22-23 with your family. Write down the nine different kinds of fruit that will grow from your faith, when you stay connected to Jesus.

AND THE OLDER ONES TOO

Lighter Side

Fiscal Riddles

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

The Right Answer

During his children's sermon, our assistant pastor asked the kids, "What is gray, has a bushy tail, and gathers nuts in the fall?"

One five-year-old raised his hand, "I know the answer should be Jesus," he began, "but it sounds like a squirrel to me."

A Good Sermon

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. — George Burns