


# Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



**Parish Priest** Father Tony Kearns  
**Church** 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  
 Heretaunga  
**Parish Administrator** Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
**Website** [www.olv.org.nz](http://www.olv.org.nz) E-mail [office@olv.org.nz](mailto:office@olv.org.nz) [pp@olv.org.nz](mailto:pp@olv.org.nz)  
**St Brendan's School** 56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909

7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time		Year A	19 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>READINGS</b>			
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	1 Levit 19: 1-2, 17-18 2. 1 Cor: 3: 16-23 Matt 5: 38-48	
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	1 Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 2 Rom 5: 12-19 Matt 4: 1-11	

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb** **ASH WEDNESDAY** See item later for Mass times  
**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb** 7:30 pm Parish Liturgy Meeting  
**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Feb** 10:30 am Sac Programme Children's Session Pettit Centre



**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY**  
**At Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga**  
 Eucharistic Ministers, Cleaners, Cafe  
**At St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley**  
 Eucharistic Ministers, Cleaners.



**Please contact the office on 9724282 if you can help out.**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**you can help**

## PREPARE FOR LENT (sourced from Cardinal John's regular newsletter)

- Start thinking about Lent **NOW** and how it will change your life.
- What will you do this year to **PRAY** Lent?
- How will you try to live each day with God at the centre of your life?
- Try reading the daily Scripture each night and then throughout the next day (see attached link for Scripture references <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>)
- Review each day, reflect on the fits and graces of each day, and on the progress you are making with Jesus.

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Jesus tells us to act out of love and says that acting out of love is better than acting out of revenge. What does your experience tell you?



Perhaps you have at times hit back in revenge when you have been hurt or offended. What effect did this have on you, on others, and on your relationship with them? Contrast this with the times when you resisted the urge to retaliate. What outcome did this have on you, on others, and on your relationship with them ... at the time, and in the long-term?

From other passages in the gospels it is clear that Jesus did not mean that we should ignore injustices, and never make a stand against others. What lessons have you learned in life on when, and how, to make a stand? What wisdom would you share with others from your experience?

### MASS TIMES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> February

As in the past the following Masses will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be imposed at them all.



6:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga

9:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church (St Brendan's attending)

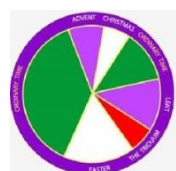
7:30 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley

### WEDNESDAYS OF LENT FROM 22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY

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.

### QUOTE FROM EMERITUS POPE BENEDICT XVI

'Each of us the result of a thought from God, each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary. There is nothing more beautiful that to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know him, and to speak with others of our friendship with Him.



### Liturgy Workshop based on Desiderio Desideravi

The National Liturgy Office are running a workshop based on Pope Francis' recent Apostolic Letter Desiderio Desideravi. Venue Ss Peter & Paul Church, Lower Hutt. Sat. 25th Feb.2023. 10.00am – 3.00pm Attendees: Anyone involved in liturgies or interested in learning about key liturgy components. For more info and to register please contact Christine on 496-1706 or email [c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz)



## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

What a wonderful turn out for our first gathering for 2023!

It was encouraging to see everyone again, keen to resume our regular monthly 'get-togethers', and celebrate the tenth anniversary of our Friendship Circle as we looked back over the years.

We enjoyed recalling the themes, sharing times, and speakers covered over the last ten year's meetings, and were treated with a delicious shared afternoon tea and a celebration cake made by one of our members.

Donations to our gold coin collection will be used to support our chosen charities, the toiletries collection will be passed on for the needy in Upper Hutt, and we thank folk for their generosity in this respect. The book-swap table continues to be popular.

**Next month (March 4th)** we are looking forward to hearing newly ordained Father Alfred Tong as our guest speaker on his life journey to the priesthood. All welcome to come along and join in the entertainment and fellowship.

### “Receive Holy Spirit Power”

Through the Holy Spirit you come to know God and experience His Love; enabling love of God, yourself and others.

Current of Grace Conference 2023 at El Rancho. 24-26th March. See the poster for more details

## LENTEN CARING ENVELOPES



Envelopes are available in the foyer of both churches for the Bishops 2023 Lenten Appeal. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or the single donation envelope. These can be placed in the collection baskets during the Sunday of Lent or mailed directly to the Caritas Offices. A freepost envelope is available for this latter option.

Donations received by the Caritas Office by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 will have tax receipts for the 2022/23 Tax year. If received after 1<sup>st</sup> April they will be issued for the 2023/24 tax year.

CARITAS thanks you for your generous support.



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 1:00 pm

"I Have Heard About Your Faith" – this is the theme of this year's Ecumenical service prepared by the WDP Committee of Taiwan. You are invited to join in worship and fellowship at St Joseph's Church, Upper Hutt, followed by afternoon tea. For further information ring Susan 970 3730 or Helen 528 9635.



## PARISH PICNIC

The ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC is held last Sunday. With high clouds keeping the heat of the sun down parishioners gathered on the Presbytery front lawn for a picnic lunch together, sharing of fun and friendship, with cricket and other games being played by parishioners of all ages.

Thanks to all who helped to make the day the success that it was. We look forward to a fun filled year together and to the 2024 PARISH PICNIC next year. Thanks to the Parish Council for organising the event.

## ST BRENDAN'S NAVIGATOR SYNDICATE

As we begin the school year, classes across all age groups focus on the akonga developing an understanding of themselves and how they fit in their class and school community. We learn that while we are all unique and have individual strengths, needs and interests, we are all made in the image and likeness of God. Students explore their uniqueness, find out about others around them, and learn about inspiring Gospel leaders. Through understanding ourselves, we can see how we are connected to one another. This learning helps the students make connections and form relationships with each other, with the church and with God. In the Navigator syndicate, we aspire to use this knowledge of ourselves and others, to work together and support each other in being the best we can be - Kia mahi tahi tatou.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** all who are sick and unwell, those affected by the COVID-19 virus, and those who are lonely. We pray also for those who have died recently including Mons John Carde. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest

in peace.





FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Matthew 5:38-48 • 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## A PUZZLE FOR YOU

### PUZZLE

Circle the picture that is facing the **wrong** way.  
Then color in all the pictures.



### MISSION

I will forgive and pray for everyone who  
mistreats me.