

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)

Weekday Eucharist

Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)
Wednesday / Saturday 9:00 am (Heretaunga)
Friday 9:30 am (Heretaunga)

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)

Reconciliation

By appointment with Parish Priest

Presbytery and

5 Palmer Crescent

Tel (04) 972 4282

Parish Office

Heretaunga

Parish Administrator

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Website

www.olv.org.nz

E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz

St Brendan's School

56 Palmer Cres

Tel (04) 939 1909

ASCENSION SUNDAY READINGS

YEAR A

21st May 2023

21st May

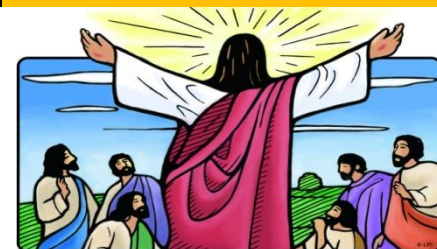
1st Reading
2nd Reading
Gospel

Acts 1: 1-11
Ephesians 1: 17-23
Matt 28: 16-20

28th May

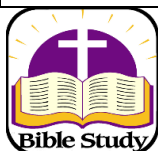
1st Reading
2nd Reading
Gospel

Acts 2: 1-11
1Cor 12: 3-7, 12-13
John 20: 19-23



EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tues 23rd May 7.30 pm Bible Study Group at OLOG
Thur 25th May 7.30 pm Parish Liturgy Meeting



BIBLE STUDY GROUP

There will be group bible studies in the meeting room at Our Lady of Grace Church. Is God impressing upon you to share some of the thoughts you get from the Sunday readings, or you want to listen to what others are learning from it? Come let us discuss and reflect the way together. Meetings will start from **7:30 pm -9:00 pm on Tuesday evenings.**

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY

Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga

Cafe, Cleaners, Altar Society (flower arrangements and brass polishing)

St Francis Xavier, Stokes Valley

Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Collectors, Readers for Sat 5.30 pm Mass.

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



HOLY HOUR

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 23 May at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Jesus meets the disciples for the last time. His final words give them direction for their future. Perhaps you can recall such parting moments in your own life – leaving home, school, college, or the death of a loved one. Was there an occasion when the words spoken to you gave you direction for the future?

Perhaps you can identify with Jesus in the story, when as a parent, teacher, or in some other way you sent someone on his/her way in life, knowing that you would not be with him or her as in the past. When did the way you parted help the other to make his or her way in life?

Despite this extraordinary encounter with Jesus some of the disciples doubted. Dealing with questions and doubt is part of an adult faith journey. How have your questions and doubts helped to shape the faith you have today?

Jesus commissioned this collection of believing and doubting disciples to carry on his work. We inherit that mission today. How do you see yourself as commissioned to continue the mission of Jesus?

Jesus told his disciples that although he would not be physically with them, he would be with them in a new way right through life. Have there been times when you were reassured by the love and support of another even though s/he was not physically present with you? What are the things that help you to be aware of the presence of the risen Jesus with you on life's journey?

CALLING ALL ST PATS TOWN & STREAM OLD BOYS

St Patrick's College Old Boys Association AGM

I would like to invite you to attend our Annual General Meeting which will be held online via zoom on Thursday 1st June 2023 @ 7pm. If you would like to attend please email secretary@spcob.org.nz with your name and when you attended either Town or Stream and we will send you an invite to the zoom meeting. Brad Hudson – President SPCOBA



XLT 2023

XLT is back in 2023! Come and join us for a night of Worship and Adoration on Friday 12th May at 7pm. We are heading back to our old location of St Anne's, Newtown to bring a whole new feel to XLT. Open to all teenagers and young adults, so invite your friends or bring your whole youth group. Also save the dates for the rest of the year so you don't miss out! May 12th, June 9th, July 7th, August 11th, September 8th, October 6th and November 10th. Follow us on Instagram @xltwellington.

NZ CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION provides pastoral care and chaplaincy for people involved in health care. We extend an invitation to doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, dentists, health administrators, lawyers, and anyone in allied roles. Next event: Retreat and Seminar 9-10 June 2023, based at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington. Register for this event at www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz

For general inquiries and updates for future events, email: newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com (NZCMA formation committee).



LIVING STONES PROCESS - "One Parish - One Community"

Recent newsletters have outlined the purpose, background and considerations of Living Stones.

It involves gathering information and feedback to develop options for the parish community to decide on the future of parish buildings in our community.

To reiterate the broad options are:

- Consolidate onto the Stokes Valley site
- Consolidate onto the Heretaunga site
- Build a new facility on a new site

Thank you for the feedback to date. This has been collated and will form a part of the ongoing considerations.

Next Steps:

The group is currently establishing a number of channels to allow for full parish feedback commencing in June. This will include a survey (Google Forms), open forum meetings, and a dedicated e-mail address.

In the meantime, please reflect on the following question:

What would you like to see in a new or redeveloped site that will take our parish into the future?

Fr Tony, Grant Avery, Julie Stewart, SeuSio, Pat Hoult, Tino Aukusitino, Chris Henley, Conor Healy, Colin Braddock.



ST BRENDAN'S

Our Pataka Kai shelf is now out in the front of the school Monday to Friday .

The shelf is for the adult school and church community to bring what they can and take mindfully what they need. It is only for food, not books .

Last week we had a generous response of feijoas left each day on the shelf and this was great to see, the community giving what they don't need. Thank you for generous support with this enviro project that our Navigators created last term.

St. Brendan's School Enviro Group would like to propose an exciting garden project involving our school and church community working together. We are not talking about the Chelsea Flower Show !!

Last Friday on a wet and cold afternoon a small enthusiastic group met and shared ideas about the garden ramble and other enviro projects for our school. If the Garden Ramble is to go ahead we will need gardens that can be viewed . If you would be interested in offering your garden to be part of this project please contact Chris Pullan c.pullan@stbrendans.school.nz

St. Brendan's Seed Bank Club Meet every Wednesday at 1:10pm in Room 7. We collect seeds from our school garden, sort and dry them. While the seeds are drying we creatively make recycled envelopes for the seeds and create attractive labels to put on the envelopes. Once the seeds are dried we package and sell the seeds to our school community. All funds raised will go to our school enviro club for further projects.

If you are interested in supporting this club and have a spare hour to work with a small group of children you are welcome to come along.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE THE ASCENSION?

On Ascension Sunday we celebrate Christ's final appearance after the resurrection whereby he was taken up into heaven. To some ears this might sound like celestial theatrics! As Christians, we understand it to be a profound affirmation of the fact that Jesus is indeed the Son of God who lives on forever beyond the material confines of this world. We are led to reflect on our own humanity from the perspective of the promise of eternal life. Christ has shown us God's love, and God's love is forever - limited by nothing, not even death. As Christians, our belief in this 'tomorrow' allows us to live 'today' with hope and courage.



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 Josie Ryan, and Jan Fletcher. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES



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PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



B T Q O M D Q S U F F E R U F
F N C Q W O P S A L M S T S A
G X N Q O F S M Z Z H N U C O
B B Y C R O T E C M E T N R J
R A P R S R S P S P F E C I A
N I G Y H G U P E G K D L P S
Z F S F I I M R N A N W D T P
B J Z E P V F S T A Y E E U O
X L K R E E G J T Q L H J R H
E T E U D N X S Y L P D U E T
E S X S E K R K I O E A M M P
J S X V S E W F R N D X I C H
A X A B D I L P E U V V N O R
D E C N K U N P L F J S D Q S
H R U I F H O G G V Y K S L C

RISE
SUFFER
HEAVEN
WORSHIPED

REPENT
PSALMS
SCRIPTURE
BLESSING

PROPHETS
OPENED
FULFILLED
UNDERSTAND

TAKEN
FORGIVE
MOSES
MINDS