


# 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)  
**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament** Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)  
**Reconciliation** By appointment with Parish Priest  
**Presbytery and** 5 Palmer Crescent  
**Parish Office** Heretaunga **Tel** (04) 972 4282  
**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  
**Newsletter** [St Brendan's School Newsletter, 27 June, Term 2 2023](#)

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time		YEAR A READINGS	23rd July 2023
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Kings 3: 5, 7-12 Romans 8: 28-30 Matthew 13: 44-52	
30 <sup>th</sup> July	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19 Romans 8: 26-27 Matthew 13: 24-43	
<b>EVENTS THIS WEEK</b>			
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	11.45 am	Living Stones at the Pettit Centre	
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	Coffee morning at Silverspoon Cafe, Silverstream	

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY

**Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga**  
**CAFE VOLUNTEERS, CLEANERS,** Altar Society (flower arrangements and brass polishing)  
**St Francis Xavier, Stokes Valley**  
 Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters  
**Please contact the office on 9724282 if you can help out.**



## PARISH MORNING TEA

You are all invited to our last Wednesday of the month morning tea at the Silverspoon Cafe in Silverstream village at 10am on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July.

## LENDING LIBRARY

We would like to offer a lending library of novels, books magazines etc in the Pettit Centre. If anyone has a suitable bookcase that is spare we would be willing to take it off your hands and place it in the Pettit Centre. Contact the Parish Office.





## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see everything is not right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to seeing the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth? Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning by making mistakes, or asking stupid questions, or taking foolish risks?

The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?



## PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – DATE CLAIMER

The 2023 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August at 12:00 noon in the Pettit Centre. Please mark this date. It is a chance to celebrate the wonderful ways the mission of

Jesus is working in our Parish, the election of new Parish Councils and a chance to bring ideas and issues to the attention of the various parish organisations and committees. Our Annual Report to the Parish is available on our webpage <https://olov.org.nz/publications/olov-annual-report/> or printed copies are available in the foyer of both churches.



## NOMINATION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS AT 2023 AGM

With an eye of the upcoming Annual General Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023, a number of current Parish Councillors' term of appointment have come to an end. Currently Parish Councillors stand for a two-year term with the right of renewal for two more terms.

We are therefore opening nominations for new Parish Councillors from 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023. From this weekend nomination forms are available in the foyer of both churches. These should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July. This time frame allows time for the nominated candidates' names to be advised to the Parish before the Annual General Meeting.

Please take the time to prayerfully discern who you think might be a suitable person to serve our Parish on the Parish Council. If you would like more details on the role of Parish Councillors and the function of the Parish Council please feel free to speak to one of the existing Parish Councillors or Father Tony.



## HOLY HOUR

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 25 July 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.



## LIVING STONES PROCESS - "One Parish - One Community"

Recent newsletters have had items from the Living Stones Group. To re-invigorate reflections, prayer and conversations about the future of Parish assets the group would like YOUR feedback on a series of questions

These questions while posed now will be given a public forum at **This Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 11:45 am** in the Pettit Centre at the Heretaunga site

Opportunities will be given for attendees to express hopes and aspirations, their concerns and issues relating to the property holdings in the Parish. This is a step along the way to see where and what the Parish's future development might look like.

The key questions at the meeting will focus on

- ❖ What are the treasures we currently have across the Parish?
- ❖ What are the treasures we lack across the Parish?
- ❖ How do you see the needs of the Parish in 15-years' time and the resources/properties to ensure a nurtured faith?
- ❖ Of those resources/properties identified, what do you think should be the highest priority?

If you would like to provide a direct response to these questions please either follow the link <https://forms.gle/h3PTJ5ikRS5hMPmH9> to the online form; got to [www.olv.org.nz](http://www.olv.org.nz) clicking the link on the home page or emailing comments to [livingstones@olv.org.nz](mailto:livingstones@olv.org.nz)

**Fr Tony, Julie Stewart, Seu Sio, Pat Hault, Tino Aukusitino, Chris Henley, Conor Healy.**



### ST JOSEPH'S LIFECARE (formerly St Joseph's Home of Compassion)

The home urgently requires a volunteer sacristan/s for the Chapel. This would include setting up for Mass Tuesday - Friday at 4.30 pm, assisting with reading the Scriptures and distributing Communion.

Please contact Fr Bernard Carney (resident Chaplain) 021668150 or Alma McNicol (Pastoral Care Coordinator) 0221738247

### HEALING SERVICE – TITAHİ BAY

Fr John Rea will conduct a Healing Service in St Pius X Church Titahi Bay on Friday 28 July beginning at 7.30 pm.

All are invited and especially those who need healing. Jesus still heals today.





## ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Is a weekend experience for couples intending to be married. Weekends for 2023 are on 19 & 20 August, and 25 & 26 November at Otari Parish presbytery, 301 Karori Road. Registrations close 2 weeks before. For more details go to the website <http://www.ceewellington.co.nz>

## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'This field then, involves reconciling, with great trust in God and in his providence, two seemingly contradictory approaches: decision and patience. Decision is that of wanting to be good wheat — we all want this — with all our might, and thus keeping away from the evil one and his seduction. Patience means preferring a Church that acts as leaven in the dough, that is unafraid to sully her hands washing her children's clothes, rather than a Church of "purists" who presume to judge ahead of time who will be in the Kingdom of God and who will not.'

Pope Francis, *Angelus*, 23 July 2017.

**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 Wayne O'Connor and Robert Eynon. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.



## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

### Bells and smells

Why is the Catholic Church so full of 'things': bells, incense, candles, and holy water? Catholicism is a very 'earthy' religion. In becoming human through the person of Jesus Christ, God has shown us that material realities are not to be scorned but embraced as part of our loving response to our Creator. While we know that no image or 'thing' can capture the presence of God who is Mystery beyond all comprehension, we also recognise that human persons need to express themselves in a human way. When we portray the mysteries of our faith through human realities we are not 'confining' God but simply making a statement about the truths we hold dear

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE A



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 13:24-43

# PUZZLE FOR YOU

## Mustard Seeds and Yeast

Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. Matthew 13:34 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Matthew 13:31-33

1. Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you locate a word, draw a circle around it.

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



MUSTARD	KINGDOM	GROWS	FLOUR	LARGEST
SMALLEST	HEAVEN	WOMAN	PARABLE	SIXTY
POUNDS	YEAST	DOUGH	BIRDS	SEED