

# 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](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**

[Newsletter 22 August 2023](#)

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**YEAR A  
READINGS**

**27<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**27<sup>th</sup> August**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading  
Gospel

Isaiah 22:19-23  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sept**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading  
Gospel

Jeremiah 20: 7-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16: 21-27



## EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug	7:30 pm	Bible Study Group OLOG Meeting Room
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Aug	10.00 am	Coffee morning at Silverspoon Cafe, Silverstream
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	9:30 am	Classes from St Brendan's School at Mass OLOG
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	2:00 pm	Circle of Friendship in the Pettit Centre
<b>Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Classes from St Brendan's School at Mass OLOG</b>

## 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.**



## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

2:00pm, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, in the Petit Centre.

This month Claire Turner (nee Braddock) is coming to talk to us about her charity, Nourish Trust, which works through schools providing families in need with hampers of food at Christmas time.

Our book swap table has many interesting books. Also, a gold coin donation or gift of toiletries would be most appreciated.. We will end the afternoon with our usual chat and cuppa.

## MAORI PASTORAL CARE COLLECTION

A reminder that the Annual Collection in support of the Maori Pastoral Care will be taken up this week Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

### THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

This marks a turning point in the life of Jesus, and of the disciples. It is the first time that his disciples recognise him as the Messiah. Recall turning points in your own life when you came to some deeper understanding of who Jesus is.

'Who do you say that I am?' This is possibly the most important question that Jesus puts to us. In your heart of hearts, how do you answer this question? Jesus praises Peter for his faith and comments that this was not his own doing but a gift of God. Perhaps there have been times when you have been more than usually conscious that faith is a gift. Be thankful for the gift you have received.

These are troubled times for the Church and the promise of Jesus that 'the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it' are an encouragement. What helps you to draw strength from this promise of Jesus? What signs of hope do you see in the Church today?



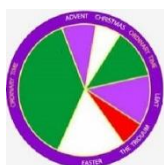
### SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK 3-9 September

*'Imagine Peace for all: Peace begins with you! Every human being desires communion and peace. Everyone needs peaceful co-existence.'* Pope Francis.

We hope people will begin their journey by reflecting on their own personal peace and how to seek the peace of God in all areas of their lives. For resources and more information visit

[www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week](http://www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week) .

If you wish for a copy of the reflections let us know in the Office.



### LITURGY COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP

Our Lady of the Valleys Liturgy Committee is a very small group of committed parishioners, who share their talents, time and treasures to oversee and support the liturgical celebrations in the Parish. Current members are Liz McCaul, Josephine Eynon, Trish Leahy, John O'Malley, Chris Henley, Stella Stowers and Fr Tony. They would welcome anyone who would like to join us in planning and delivering these important Liturgical Celebrations, or the other parish ministries who also serve our Parish. Contact Fr Tony or the Parish Office.

### DATE CLAIMER - CHURCH LIFE SURVEY 2023

On the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> September our Parish will be participating in the 2023 Church Life Survey. This is a nationwide survey of all Christian church attendees and a confidential opportunity for you to have your say on the life of our church! More information will be available in next week's bulletin. We encourage all to engage with this process.



## COVID UPDATE

The Government recently removed the mandatory seven-day isolation and wearing a mask when visiting a healthcare of aged care facility was no longer required by law. While this is no longer required parishioners are encouraged to make good personal health choices around keeping themselves and other safe in this time of flu and colds.



## BISHOPS URGE ALL CATHOLICS TO STUDY SYNOD'S WORKING DOCUMENT *INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS*

All Catholics are being urged to read the working document that will guide the Synod meeting in Rome in October and help to set the future direction of the Church. Bishop of Auckland Stephen Lowe says "It is a document that reflects the Holy Spirit speaking to people throughout the world. As such it is a document for the whole Church, and I invite everyone to prayerfully read and reflect on it, and to pray for the Synod's work over the next 18 months." More information including links to *Instrumentum laboris*: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-2/> Link to a PDF of *Instrumentum laboris*: [www.catholic.org.nz/assets/ENG\\_INSTRUMENTUM-LABORIS.pdf](http://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/ENG_INSTRUMENTUM-LABORIS.pdf) Link to a PDF FAQ and Synthesis with detailed information about *Instrumentum laboris*: [www.catholic.org.nz/assets/FAQ\\_SYNTHESIS\\_IL\\_ENG-v2.pdf](http://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/FAQ_SYNTHESIS_IL_ENG-v2.pdf)

## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'It is indispensable and praiseworthy that the pastoral care of our communities be open to the many forms of poverty and plights that are everywhere... it is necessary that works of solidarity, the works of charity that we carry out, not divert us from contact with the Lord Jesus. Christian charity is not simple philanthropy but, on the one hand, it is looking at others through the very eyes of Jesus and, on the other hand, it is seeing Jesus in the face of the poor. This is the true path of Christian charity, with Jesus at the centre, always.'

Pope Francis, [\*Angelus\*](#), 23/08/2020



**THE FRUIT & VEGE CO-OP** provides a pack of local, fresh, seasonal produce every week for \$15 across the greater Wellington region. There's over 40 pickup locations in the region with four in Upper Hutt and one in Stokes Valley. Find out more and join now at [www.hauorakai.nz](http://www.hauorakai.nz)

## RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOME

Do you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion? If you do, then please contact the office 972 4282.



## FUNDRAISER

Tess (Wasson's granddaughter) and Sadie (O'Brien's granddaughter) have been selected for the NZ under 20's Ultimate Frizbee team for the Trans-Tasman series in Sydney in late September.



A fundraiser is the highly rated, newly released movie "Scrapper" at Lighthouse Cinema on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30 pm. Cost is \$20 pp with giveaways and raffles with great prizes. Internet payment is available. Please contact Chris (0276462318) or Heather (0276427158)



## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

### Why a homily?

The homily is an essential part of the Sunday Mass. The homily, the scripture readings, the Profession of Faith and the Prayers of the Faithful form a unity which we call the Liturgy of the Word. The goal of this part of the Mass is to proclaim the Gospel and to illuminate its meaning and its ramifications for our lives. The homily, therefore, is usually based on a theme arising from the readings or from the particular mystery of faith being celebrated that day.

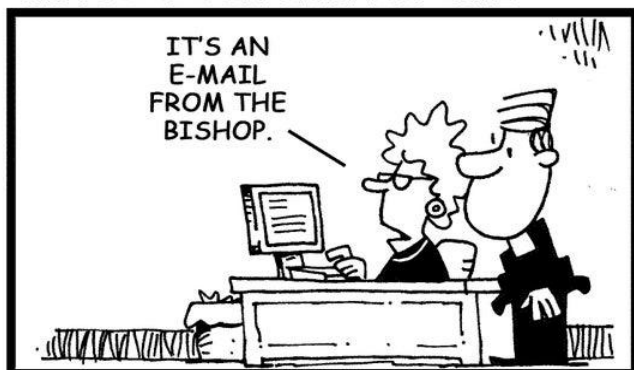
## NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you wish to receive the weekly parish newsletter by email please advise the Parish Office of your email address: [office@olov.org.nz](mailto:office@olov.org.nz)



**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 Philomena McCabe and Nadine Herrick. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

## 21ST 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.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 16:13-20

## PUZZLE FOR YOU

### Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



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

CHRIST	EARTH	SON	PROPHETS	PEOPLE
BLESSED	KINGDOM	CHURCH	GATES	BAPTIST
LIVING	ROCK	FATHER	HADES	ELIJAH
JOHN	HEAVEN	PETER	KEYS	JEREMIAH