

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 Parish Office 5 Palmer Crescent Tel (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator Heretaunga
 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
Newsletter [Newsletter 22 August 2023](#)

24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		YEAR A READINGS	17th September 2023
17 th Sept	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Ecus 27: 30-28:7 Romans 14: 7-9 Matthew 18; 21-35	
24 th Sept	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 55: 6-9 Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 Matthew 20: 1-16	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun 17 th Sept	10:30 am	First Holy Communion at OLOG and Breakfast at St Brendan's School Hall
Wed 20 th Sept	11.00 am	Anointing Mass in the Pettit Centre
Thur 21 st Sept	01.30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV
	07.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting

Please NOTE there will be **NO** Mass at 9.00am at OLOG on 20th Sept. and at 9.30am on 21st Sept. at SFX as this is replaced by the Anointing Mass.

CONGRATULATIONS



The Parish congratulates the candidates who will be receiving their First Holy Communion on Sunday the 17th of September. Thanks go out to their parents, Jenny Mahony the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator and all those who helped to make this event a success. May the Lord bless each candidate and lead them on His path.



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY

St Francis Xavier, Stokes Valley
 Sacristan, Eucharistic Ministers, **Sunday morning Cafe**
Please contact the office on 972 4282 if you can help

out.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This program, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith will begin with an Introductory/Welcome session.

These are opportunities for those interested in joining the Catholic Church family to come along and find out a little about the RCIA programme and to ask questions. The **Introductory Session is scheduled on Wednesday 25th October 2023 in the Meeting Room at Our Lady of Grace Church, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga.** This program is designed for those wishing to become Catholic. If you or a friend would like to join this program, please phone: Fr Tony 972 4282.



CHURCH LIFE SURVEY 2023

Thanks to the over **60** people who over the past weeks have been competing the Church Life Survey for our Parish. Some trends are being shown but it is still early days yet, we are only half way through the completion period. The Survey will come to an end about the 27th September so if you haven't had your say please do so today.



This nationwide survey of church attendees is a confidential opportunity for you to have your say on the life of our church! Members of the Parish Pastoral council will be at Masses to answer any questions. To complete the survey, scan this QR code in the bulletin or in the church, click the link in the online parish bulletin or St Brendan's school newsletter, or pick up a paper copy in the foyer after Mass. Completed surveys can be left in the box in the church foyer.

<https://clsnz.org/chis96Be2rldawic/01GZD3X065J5Q79Z9NQ2RJCXBW/en-rc>



THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

These opened on 01 August and close on 30 September. Eight Catholic Foundation Scholarships are available to students residing in the Wellington Archdiocese who are in their final year of secondary education. Scholarships of \$2,000 each for the first year of tertiary education are as follows:

follows:

- ❖ The Margaret Ryan Scholarship for students studying for a degree in teaching •
- ❖ Halina Morrow Fladrzynska Scholarship for refugees
- ❖ Joseph Francis Kish Scholarship for refugees
- ❖ Krystyna Danuta Downey for refugees

Application forms and criteria are available on our website Kathy Whelan, Secretary, Catholic Foundation, PO Box 1937, Wellington. Phone: 021 666 405 Visit our new website: www.catholicfoundation.org.nz.

SEASON OF CREATION EVENT

How well do we know our Awa – the Hutt River?

Ecumenical River Prayer walk on Sunday 24 September. More information on public group facebook *Te Awa Kairangi Prayer walk*.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL



Jesus surprised Peter by telling him he needed to forgive seventy-seven times. Perhaps you have known the value of this when something reminds you of a past hurt and you find you need in your heart to forgive again the person who hurt you. What was this like for you? How has a capacity to have a forgiving heart helped you?

Sometimes we need to forgive ourselves for things we regret about past behaviour. What happens to you when you cannot do this? How has your ability to forgive yourself for past mistakes influenced your attitude towards yourself now?

Pope Francis chose as his motto 'miserando atque eligendo' (*seen with compassion and chosen*) to express his belief that Jesus viewed his past mistakes with compassion, and called him, nonetheless. At this moment can you see Jesus calling you, no matter what your past has been like?

Are there people whose ability to forgive has inspired you? Recall them and the forgiveness they showed and give thanks for their example.

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.



ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'It becomes ever clearer that the path of forgiveness can truly renew the Church and the world. To offer today's world the witness of mercy is a task from which none of us can feel exempted... The world needs forgiveness; too many people are caught up in resentment and harbour hatred, because they are incapable of forgiving. They ruin their own lives and the lives of those around them rather than finding the joy of serenity and peace. Let us ask Saint Francis to intercede for us, so that we may always be humble signs of forgiveness and channels of mercy.'

Pope Francis, [*Homily at Assisi, 4 August 2016*](#)

FUN QUIZZ EVENING

Proceeds to the Wellington Free Ambulance. The Upper Hutt Branch of the Catholic Women's League are supporting Ulysses Club Wellington in holding a Fun Quizz, at the St Brendan's School, Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga. Friday, 27th October 7.15pm for a 7.30pm Start. Tickets cost \$10 per person. Tables of 5-8 persons. Supper and Lucky Ticket number draws included. Raffles available for sale. Tickets available from Susan 970 3730 or 021 068 3065.



THANK YOU MARGARET LANIGAN

Margaret has been doing the Sacristan duties at SFX for both weekday masses and the Sunday Mass for very many years – so much so that she has lost count of when she began. She was housekeeper to the Parish Priest, on various committees in the Parish, Eucharistic Minister in church and to the sick and she continues to help where she can. Thank you Margaret your work is greatly appreciated.

CAN YOU HELP?

During the month of December we the Keating's have family arriving from overseas. We need accommodation for a few relatives, either caravan, camper vans or a home for up to six to eight people. We also have 3 children ages 9, 8 and 6 and would like to borrow bikes or scooters. Please ring Marilyn Keating on 5284869



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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 Kathleen Smith, Lucia Pereira, and Patricia Alsford. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

24TH 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.



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 18:21-35

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



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

MANY	SINS	PETER	FORGIVE
SEVEN	TIMES	JESUS	TIMES
ASKED	BROTHER	LORD	HOW