

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 Parish Office	5 Palmer Crescent Heretaunga	Tel (04) 972 4282
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 Newsletter	56 Palmer Cres	Tel (04) 939 1909
	19 September Term 3 2023 (schoolwebsites.school.nz)	

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time YEAR A READINGS 24th September 2023

24 th Sept	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 55: 6-9 Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 Matthew 20: 1-16	
1 st Oct	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Ezekiel 18: 25-28 Philippians 2: 1-11 Matthew 21: 28-32	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun 24 th Sep	2:00am	Daylight Savings starts - turn clocks forward 1 hour
Wed 27 th Sept	10.00 am	Coffee morning at Silverspoon Cafe, Silverstream
Thu 28 th Sept	7:30 pm	Liturgy Committee Meeting OLOG Meeting Room

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS



The Parish congratulates the candidates who received their First Holy Communion last Sunday. Thanks go out to their parents, Jenny Mahony the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator and all those who helped to make this event a success.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY

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



WELCOME TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT UNIT

We welcome to our Parish this weekend participants in the current Youth Development Programme run as part of the Trentham Army base. Thank you for joining us at our Eucharist at Our Lady of Grace Church at 10:30am.



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 **90** people who over the past weeks have been completing 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 this Sunday 24th September. More information on public group facebook *Te Awa Kairangi Prayer walk*.



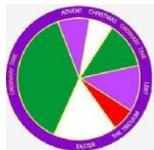
THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

'I was there first'. Envy easily comes to the surface when faced with the good fortune of others, especially when compared to what seems less favourable treatment of ourselves. Can you recall that feeling in yourself and what it did to you? Can you also recall times when you were content with your lot, even though it seemed others had greater gifts, better opportunities, etc.

A parent or teacher who gives a lot of time to a difficult child does not love the others less, but if we are one of those other children we may not see that. Recall a 'Jesus person' in your life who helped you to overcome feelings of envy and helped you appreciate that the apparently more favourable treatment of another did not mean a lessening of love for you.

This leads us to the core message of this parable, namely, that God's love is a free gift, and not earned. Recall moments when you were particularly conscious of the gifts that God has given you by counting all the blessings that you have, no matter how small.

'It is too late now' are words sometimes uttered to justify doing nothing about a situation. This parable tells us that where love is involved, it is never too late. Can you recall times when you got a positive response after taking action when you thought it was 'too late'?



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

'The Church needs to be like God: always going out; and when the Church does not go out, she becomes sick with the many evils we have in the Church. And why are these illnesses in the Church? Because she does not go out. It is true that when someone goes out there is the danger of getting into an accident. But better a Church that gets into accidents because she goes out to proclaim the Gospel, than a Church that is sick because she stays in.'

Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 20 September 2020

HOLY HOUR

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 26 September 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.





COVID-19 UPDATE

The Parish Council discussed and agreed at its September meeting to retain the restriction of communal wine. This will be reviewed monthly.

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.



CAN YOU HELP?



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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

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Why do we bless things?

Quite apart from the blessing of people and the blessing of the Eucharistic bread and wine at Mass, Catholics are renown for blessing objects: houses, medals, statues, vestments, food...even computers! As found in scripture, a blessing is an authoritative Pronouncement of God's favour. We bless as a way of placing our lives under the power of Christ. When we bless objects, we acknowledge the goodness of God's creation and our desire to use these gifts for the service and glory of God.



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, and Lucia Pereira. We

pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time especially Juanito and Julita Bagadiong. May they rest in peace.

25th 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.



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 20:1-16a

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Workers in the Vineyard

'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' Matthew 20:12 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 20:1-16



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

MONEY

HOUR

EQUAL

WORKERS

VINEYARD

LANDOWNER

HEAVEN

GRUMBLE

KINGDOM

GENEROUS

WAGES

HIRED

UNFAIR

RIGHT

RECEIVED