

# Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



|                                       |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Parish Priest</b>                  | Father Tony Kearns  |   |
| <b>Church</b>                         | Our Lady of Grace Church, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga (HTG)<br>St Francis Xavier Church, 152 Stokes Valley Road. Stokes Valley (SV) |   |
| <b>Sunday Eucharist</b>               | Sat 5:30 pm Vigil (SV)  | 8:30 am (SV) and 10:30 am (HTG)   |
| <b>Weekday Eucharist</b>              | Tuesday / Thursday  | 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)   |
|                                       | Wednesday/Saturday  | 9:00 am (Heretaunga)  |
|                                       | Friday  | 9:30 am (Heretaunga)  |
| <b>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament</b> | Friday  | 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)  |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>                 | By appointment with Parish Priest   |   |
| <b>Presbytery and Parish Office</b>   | 5 Palmer Crescent   | <b>Tel</b> (04) 972 4282  |
| <b>Parish Administrator</b>           | Monday – Friday   | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm   |
| <b>Website</b>                        | <a href="http://www.olv.org.nz">www.olv.org.nz</a>  | <b>E-mail</b> <a href="mailto:office@olv.org.nz">office@olv.org.nz</a> <a href="mailto:pp@olv.org.nz">pp@olv.org.nz</a> |
| <b>St Brendan's School Newsletter</b> | 56 Palmer Cres  | <b>Tel</b> (04) 939 1909  |
|                                       | <a href="#">Newsletter, 17 October, Term 4 2023</a>   |   |

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B READINGS 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

|                      |  |   |  |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading<br>Gospel | Is 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8<br>1Cor 1: 3-9<br>Mark 13: 33-37 |  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading<br>Gospel | Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11<br>2Peter 3: 8-14<br>Mark 1: 1-8     |  |

### UPCOMING EVENTS

### COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2024 - HURRY GOING FAST!!



Limited numbers. Available at the Parish Office or in the Church foyers for \$12 each please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.



### CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards are now available. They will be at the foyer of both Churches and in the Parish Office. A pack of 8 cards is \$6 each.



### NEWSLETTERS

Recently we upgraded the computer in the office and there were a few stumbling blocks. We have been alerted that some of you may not be receiving the newsletter and other notices. If so, please inform the office via a call or email. Sorry for the inconvenience caused. If on the other hand you do not wish to get these emails please advise us.

### RITE II RECONCILIATION

At our Lady of Grace Church on next Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 4:00 pm



**If you would like Rite I Reconciliation please contact Fr Tony for an appointment 04 972 4282**

## MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

|                                |                                    |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b> | <b>5:30 pm</b>                     | Mass 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent St Francis Xavier Church               |
| <b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | <b>8:30 am</b>                     | Mass 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent St Francis Xavier Church               |
|                                | <b>10:30 am</b>                    | Mass 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Our Lady of Grace Church               |
| <b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | <b>5:30 pm</b>                     | Family Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church, preceded by carols from 5:00 pm     |
|                                | <b>12:00 am</b><br><b>Midnight</b> | Christmas Mass at St Francis Xavier Church, preceded by carols from 11:30 pm |
| <b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | <b>09:30 am</b>                    | Christmas Day Mass at St Francis Xavier Church                               |

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

It is easy to interpret this passage as a warning about impending death or disaster. Recent wars and tragedies are examples. Yet the coming of the Lord is not just the moment of death, but any moment of grace.



Recall unexpected graces – good things that happened when they were not anticipated.

Perhaps some of these were moments when you were particularly alert and aware of what was going on in you and around you and this enabled you to be open to the moment of grace. Recall the contrast with moments when that alertness and awareness were not present.

The servants were given charge of the household 'each with their own job'. See yourself as a person given a responsibility within the household of God's people. What is it like for you to see yourself trusted in this way by God? What has it been like for you when you have been shown trust in this way by another person?

Jesus says that what he is saying to his disciples he is saying to all. Have there been times when you have been a messenger of hope to others, encouraging them to wait for a moment of grace. Who have been the ones to encourage you?



## MINISTRY VOLUNTEER'S FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

In the upcoming week members of the Liturgy Committee will be looking for people to assist in the celebration of the various Masses at Christmas. To try to make it easier for these people (and to save some of the ringing around that happens to cover all the events/ministries) lists of the ways that parishioners can assist have been placed in the foyer of both Churches. If you are a minister and know that you will be at a certain ceremony, please indicate your willingness to assist.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 8<sup>TH</sup> DEC

Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated on our Diocesan feast day at St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral, Karori at 7.00pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

[https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw\\_welcom/the-feast-of-the-immaculate-conception-8-december/](https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_welcom/the-feast-of-the-immaculate-conception-8-december/)



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2024

Enrolments for the 2024 Sacramental Preparation Program are now open for those candidates who would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist.



Enrolments can also be submitted on-line at [www.olv.org.nz/sacraments/](http://www.olv.org.nz/sacraments/). Enrolment forms are also

available in the foyer of both churches and the School. Though enrolments close on 2nd February 2024 **please endeavour to enrol before the 15<sup>th</sup> December** as this allows time over the January period to undertake preparation work. The Programme starts on February 18<sup>th</sup> as the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Debby Morgan, the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.

## CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Christmas Hamper Raffle, drawn on Wednesday, raised \$550 and was won by MJ Cheape. Catholic Women's League are grateful to all who supported this and wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas.



## LIVING STONES - UPDATE

Have you noticed the poster in the church foyer? This summarises the parish consultation feedback and a copy is attached.

The committee has engaged Colliers to undertake a full market valuation of the parish property portfolio. When this is completed and reviewed the various options will be sent to the parish community for consideration.

Meanwhile please talk to any of the committee members if you have questions.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Thank you to all the people that leave food for the needy in the basket I am now making an extra request to all our parishioners for help to fill the boxes for the needy for Christmas we like to give them a little extra for Christmas but this year's funds are short and are in need of help to put a little extra in the boxes the following is what we would love to be able to give them -biscuits tins fruit salad pks sweets sugar cholate jellies Xmas mince pie chippies tins of salmon the basket is at the front of the church thank you all in anticipation Kindest regards Pat O'Grady



**SAVE THE DATE – QUIZ FUNDRAISING EVENING** The Parish Pastoral Council have begun organising a quiz evening. The date for this event is Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024, at 7:30 pm. Save the Date!

## HOUSE CLEANER NEEDED

Elderly parishioners require the services of a house cleaner for three hours a week in Pinehaven. Phone 5286257



## VACANCY ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

Executive Assistant to the Archbishop. The Archdiocese of Wellington is seeking an Executive Assistant to Archbishop Paul. For people interested in the role, and to obtain a role description, they should contact Ngan Nguyen from McLaren Associates on 04 472 8095.



### MERCY VILLAS

Located in Upper Hutt its aim is to make a positive difference in people's lives, by empowering residents to remain able bodied and independent, while living an active life. Mercy Villas whānau are expected to strive in creating positive relationships, friendships that encourage companionship through connection to the Mercy Villas community. From time to time, we offer affordable, well appointed, safe one-bedroom villas and apartment to couples or single people on the New Zealand Superannuation, with consideration given to those renting or impacted by hardship. We do not provide any medical or care staff, nevertheless, residents are encouraged to embrace family support and use care agencies as long as individuals remain independent.

If you would like to explore the possibility of going on Mercy Villas wait list, in confidence phone Damian on 04 527 4333 or email [mercyvillasuh@gmail.com](mailto:mercyvillasuh@gmail.com)

### 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.



**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 Lawrence Warwick, Frances Casagrande, Trevor Dench, and Caitriona Clay. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



# Change is Coming



## Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

Thank you for sharing your feedback, including your hopes, aspirations, concerns and issues for our Parish in our recent consultation. Your insights will support shaping the future of our Parish.

Key themes have emerged, and they are listed below.

Now, we are excited to engage with our youth.

We will keep in touch with progress!  
[livingstones@olov.org.nz](mailto:livingstones@olov.org.nz)



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B.



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



1st Sunday of Advent • Mark 13:33-37

# PUZZLE FOR YOU

## In the Potter's Hand

Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Isaiah 64:8

The puzzle is based on Psalm 100



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

|       |        |      |       |        |
|-------|--------|------|-------|--------|
| CLAY  | POTTER | NAME | CALLS | WORK   |
| SIN   | LORD   | DOWN | FACE  | SAVED  |
| ANGRY | HIDDEN | HAND | COME  | ISAIAH |