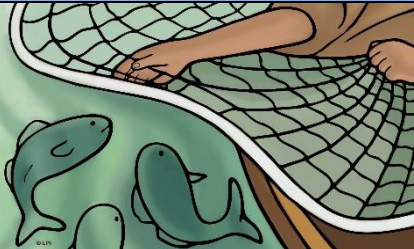


# Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



|                                       |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <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/Friday  | 9:30 am (Heretaunga)  |
|                                       | Saturday  | 9:00 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   | Tel (04) 972 4282   |
| <b>Parish Office</b>                  | Heretaunga  |   |
| <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</b>            | 56 Palmer Cres  | Tel (04) 939 1909   |
| <b>Newsletter</b>                     | <a href="#">schoolwebsites_school_nz_stbrendans_mailpoet_routeion_view_data_Wzg2LCJhNjBhNTMxMjUxNjgiLDAsMCwwLDFd.pdf</a>              |   |

| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time |  | YEAR B READINGS                                   | 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2024  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading<br>Gospel | Jonah 3:1-5,10<br>1Cor 7:29-31<br>Mark 1:14-20    |  |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading<br>Gospel | Deut 18: 15-20<br>Cor 7: 32-35<br>Mark 1: 21-28   |  |
| UPCOMING EVENTS                         |  |   |  |
| 03 <sup>rd</sup> Feb                    | 02.00 pm   | Women's Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre |  |

**OUR HEARTFELT THANKS AND GRATITUDE GOES OUT TO THE MARIAN COURT AND COLUMBAN PRIESTS FOR THEIR SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS.**

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2024 – JUST 5 LEFT!!

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.



### ALTAR SERVING

For those younger members of our parish interested in the altar serving ministry, there will be a training session on Sunday 28th January - straight after the 10:30am Mass at Heretaunga. We are also looking for servers for our 8.30am Mass at Stokes Valley, so please reach out and we can arrange training.

Please contact Conor Healy ([conorhealy26@gmail.com](mailto:conorhealy26@gmail.com)) to register your interest or to find out more information.

## ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Parishioners are invited to bring their Palms from previous year's Palm Sunday service (if you have them) to leave in the basket in the foyer of the Church ready for Ash Wednesday. These will be burnt to provide the Ashes used to mark the beginning of Lent on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you.



## VOLUNTEER STOKES VALLEY – PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

We have run out of volunteers from Stokes Valley for writing out the prayers for the Sunday Mass. This needs to be done just for two consecutive Sundays 4 times in a year. If you could help, please contact the office and you will be given all the information.

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only say it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out.



How marvellous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: "Repent!" We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say, "I'm done lying," and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my thoughts, and in my words..." Repentance and truth-telling work together.

Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

— Father John Muir LPi



## 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. The Programme starts on February 18<sup>th</sup> with the First Parent meeting at 7:00pm in the Pettit Centre at OLOG Heretaunga. The first season the program is for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This season happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Debby Morgan, the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.

### SAVE THE DATE- QUIZ FUNDRAISING EVENING: RE-GIFTING

The Quiz Evening on the 5<sup>th</sup> April needs prizes. Please would you consider re-gifting unwanted Christmas presents? You may win them back, perhaps! More details on where you can drop off your gifts will follow in the New Year. See you there. Money raised by the quiz will go towards the Petit Centre refurbishment.



**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, especially Mary Daly, Ursula Poczwa, Monsignor Charles Cooper and Thomas Cardinal Williams. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time especially Leo Perera. May they rest in peace.

3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE B



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Mark 1:14-20

# PUZZLE FOR YOU



## Jonah Runs from God

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are." Jonah 1:1

The Puzzle is based on Jonah 1:1 through 3:3.

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

|           |         |       |         |       |
|-----------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| SWALLOW   | SAILORS | THREE | NINEVEH | SHIP  |
| OBEY      | CALM    | DAYS  | STORM   | JONAH |
| OVERBOARD | NIGHTS  | BELLY | FISH    | SPIT  |