

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/Friday 9:30 am (Heretaunga) Saturday 9:00 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
Parish Administrator	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Website	www.olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School	56 Palmer Cres
Newsletter	
	Tel (04) 972 4282 E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz schoolwebsites.school.nz/stbrendans mailpoet@routeion.co.nz view.data.Wzg2LCJhNjBhNTMxMjUxNjgiLDAsMCwwLDdF.pdf

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**YEAR B
READINGS**

11th February 2024

11 th Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Levi 13: 1-2, 45-46 Cor 10:31-11:1 Mark 1:40-45	
18 th Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Gen 9:8-15 1Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15	

UPCOMING EVENTS

14 th Feb	Various	ASH WEDNESDAY See later in bulletin for Mass times
15 th Feb	1:30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood (No 9:30 am Mass)

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 14th 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.



ANOINTING MASS THIS WEEK STOKESWOOD REST HOME SV

This Thursday 15th is the 3rd Thursday of February so there is an Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Resthome at 1:30pm. **NOTE the Anointing Mass at Heretaunga is scheduled for Wednesday 21st Feb, NOT this week**

MASS TIMES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY 14th February

As in the past the following Masses will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be imposed at them all.



6:30 am	Mass at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga
9:30 am	Mass at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga
7:30 pm	Mass at St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT FROM 14th FEBRUARY

On each Wednesday in Lent there will be an additional Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 6:30 am for those who might like to choose this as a Lenten Observance.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our first gathering for the year was a meet and greet afternoon. Stories were shared, new friends were made and a buzz of conversation was heard throughout the afternoon. We appreciated getting together and having fun. One verse of the National Anthem was sung - the words "in the bonds of love we meet" are particularly pertinent for us all at this time. Happy conversation carried on over cuppa and eats. Blessings everyone.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.



This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will feel what we are feeling, and thereby heal us.

— Father John Muir



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 be submitted on-line at www.olv.org.nz/sacraments/. Enrolment forms are also available in the foyer of both churches and the school. **The Programme starts next Sunday with a Parent Meeting on February 18th** at 7:00pm in the Pettit Centre. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Debby Morgan, the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.

QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT October – December 2023

Operating Income	52,794
Less Expenditures	
• Pastoral Costs	(25,712)
• Property Costs*	(11,303)
• Administration Costs	(8,827)
Total Operating Expenditure	(45,842)
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	6,953
Balance Sheet Flows	
• Balance Sheet Inflows	5,680
• Balance Sheet Outflows	(3,515)
Excess/(Deficit) for the Qtr	9,118



THE TIME IS NOW – CARITAS LENTEN GIVING PROGRAMME

The time is now to empower vulnerable families to thrive. Lenten Giving envelopes are available from today. This year there is a single giving envelope. By reducing costs, we ensure more of your donations go to those in need. You can give once, or weekly – using the same envelope.

NOTE: Donations received by CARITAS in envelopes before 31st March will be included in the 2023/24 tax year.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



A wonderful opportunity to meet the King of Kings. Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every Friday from 10:00 am to 6:00pm. He waits patiently for YOU to come and visit Him. Tell Him your problems; request His help in any situation, ask for strength and courage in your difficulties. He is always there for you! Love and

Adore Him. Please contact the office for available time slots. 972 4282. Adoration began for 2024 on February 9th following the weekday Mass and continue for each Friday of school term time.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE, Prayer and Fasting to end abortion, will take place again in Wellington, Feb 14th-March 24th.

For further information, please phone Maria Hammond 0273547367





LIVING WATERS CAFÉ



Sundays after 10:30am Mass at the Pettit Centre Heretaunga. All parishioners are welcome. The café is held in the Pettit Centre behind the church and operates most Sundays from 11:30 until 12:30. The café is run by volunteers. Tea, coffee and a light snack are served. Children are catered for also. Gold coin donation is welcome but not essential. **We are current short of volunteers who could serve the function of the 4th Sunday of each month. If you (or group of you) could assist please contact the Parish Office.**



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 Helen Perez, and Mary Daly. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

6TH 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.



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Mark 1:40-45

PUZZLE FOR YOU



PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

LEPROSY

JESUS

POWER

WELL

WARNED

SHOW

GIFT

HEALED

WALKED

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



MISSION

Visit the sick. Make a card. Take a treat to share.
Give them something to read. Pray for them before
you leave. You will brighten their day.



BECAUSE VIBRANT
CHURCHES MATTER