


# 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) 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) Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)
<b>Weekday Eucharist</b>	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 Heretaunga <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</b>	56 Palmer Cres <b>Tel</b> (04) 939 1909
<b>Newsletter</b>	<a href="http://schoolwebsites.school.nz/stbrendans_mailpoet_routeion_view_data/Wzg2LCJhNjBhNTMxMjUxNjgiLDAsMCwwLDFd.pdf">schoolwebsites.school.nz/stbrendans_mailpoet_routeion_view_data/Wzg2LCJhNjBhNTMxMjUxNjgiLDAsMCwwLDFd.pdf</a>

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### READINGS YEAR B

<b>25<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Romans 8: 31-34 Mark 9: 2-10	
<b>03<sup>rd</sup> Mar</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Exodus 20: 1-17 1Cor 1:22-25 John 2:13-25	

UPCOMING EVENTS		
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00 am	Coffee morning at Silverspoon Cafe, Silverstream
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	02.00 pm	Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre

# Come and join!

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
at 11.30 am (after the 10.30 mass)  
Our Lady of Grace Church (Lawn), Heretaunga

## Our Lady of the Valleys Parish Picnic

Live music performances  
Games for the kids  
Tea, coffee, and some refreshments!  
Gas BBQ will be available!  
Bring meat and picnic to enjoy!



**Barbeques will be available if you want to cook sausages etc for lunch**

## BIG THANK YOU

In the days leading up to Christmas the Filipino community organised for the Parish a Simbang Gabi – a series of Masses leading up to Christmas Eve. At these Masses collections were taken up. The funds generated have been gifted to the Parish. It will be put towards the refurbishment of the Pettit Centre.



The Parish is grateful for the generous donation provided to us and the effort put in to organise the event.

## WEDNESDAYS OF LENT FROM 14<sup>th</sup> 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.



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PRAYER REQUESTS

In the foyer of both churches are cards that have the name of one of the candidates in this year's Sacramental Preparation Program. Parishioners are invited to take one of these cards and pray for the names candidate as they move through program this year towards First Holy Communion. This is a way we all can support these young members of our faith family on their journey of faith.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be prayed each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm in St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley. ALL WELCOME

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next gathering will be on Saturday 2 March at 2pm, at the Pettit Centre.

Norma Sawers will talk to us on the following topic "Travels with my daughter" in which she will share with us some of the adventures they have had in their travels together over the years.

Please feel free to bring along a friend who may be interested in joining us.

As usual, donations are always gratefully accepted. Don't forget our book swap. We will end the afternoon with our usual chat and cuppa.



## 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 31<sup>st</sup> March will be included in the 2023/24 tax year.

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Some special spiritual experiences are well-nigh impossible to describe in words. The Transfiguration was one of these. Jesus had a new and deeper insight into his relationship with his heavenly Father, one that would sustain him through what lay ahead of him. Have you had WOW moments that you found hard to describe to others? How have these sustained you in difficult times?



It can be both scary and wonderful to witness transformation in another, especially a person who is close. At times parents get a taste of this when a child's talent blossoms and is recognised by the child. We may also experience it when a dear friend recognises s/he is in a blind alley and gives up an addiction.

'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.' Peter, James and John were particularly close to Jesus, but they were not good at listening to Jesus, especially when he spoke of the painful road of servant discipleship. Jesus is the one we must listen to, even when his message is hard to hear. It is in this message we find life. When have you found this to be true?

Strangely this instruction came to the disciples when they were confused and 'in a cloud'. Perhaps you recall a moment of insight coming to you at a time when you were confused.



### HEALING SERVICE

Fr John Rea will conduct a Healing Service at St Teresa's Church Plimmerton on Tuesday 12 March at 7.30 pm. All are welcome. Please invite all those in need of Jesus' healing

### VIDEO OF NZ EXPERIENCES OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Archbishop of Wellington Paul Martin, SM, Wairarapa parish Priest Fr Dennis Nacorda, and Auckland Vicar for Māori Manuel Beazley have shared their experiences of the Holy Father's Synod on Synodality in Rome last October. This YouTube video is a recording of a Zoom session they held with a live audience. Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COKdE6mIojU>

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



For further information, please phone Maria Hammond 0273547367



### THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE WELLINGTON

Are celebrating 80 years of Faith, Service and Action in conjunction with their Annual Conference at St Bernadette's Parish Hall, Naenae on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> commencing at 1pm and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March starting at 9am. Conference Mass is at 5pm Saturday, with the main Celebrant Monsignor Gerard Burns. One of the Keynote Speakers will be Joy Cowley on the subjects of "The Pros and Cons of Priests being able to Marry" and "Feminine Spirituality". Individual Registration Forms are available. For further information please contact Helen on [archdio.sec@gmail.com](mailto:archdio.sec@gmail.com)





## COVID-19 UPDATE

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

## INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS

You're all invited to morning tea at the Silverspoon Cafe, Silverstream, at 10am on Wednesday 28th February. We plan to do this on the last Wednesday of every month. We'd love to see you there.



## MINISTRY VOLUNTEER'S FOR HOLY WEEK EVENTS

In the upcoming week members of the Liturgy Committee will be looking for people to assist in the celebration of the various services during Holy Week. The services range from Palm Sunday representatives to attend the Chrism Mass to receive the Holy Oils for the Parish; Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Thursday; Readers and Eucharistic Minister for Good Friday through to more decorators and readers for the additional reading at the Easter Vigil; 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.

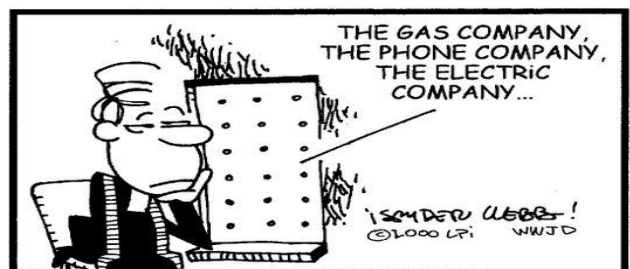
## UPCOMING GROUND MAINTENANCE AT OLOG

The oak tree overlooking the Pettit Centre will also be trimmed back from the building to avoid leaves, acorns etc collecting in the gutters and causing them to overflow. A professional arborist will be undertaking the work soon. The Parish has been advised of a rise in the cost of mowing the lawns at Heretaunga due to increasing amount of cabbage foliage. This foliage needs to be manually picked up before the lawns can be mowed. The increase will be in the order of \$80 per mow (approx. \$1200 pa). The Finance Committee has decided as a long-term solution to remove the cabbage trees from the property.



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

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2nd Sunday of Lent • Mark 9:2-10

# PUZZLE FOR YOU

