


# 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	Tel (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	Tel (04) 939 1909
	<a href="http://www.stbrendans.school.nz">www.stbrendans.school.nz</a>	

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter READINGS 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 YEAR B

7 <sup>th</sup> April	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 4: 32-35 1John 5: 1-6 John 20: 19-31	
14 <sup>th</sup> April	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19 1John 2: 1-5 Luke 24: 35-48	

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr	2.00pm	Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	7:30 pm	Parish Finance Committee



### PLANNED GIVING – IRD CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The New Tax year began on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Over the next couple of weeks, the Parish Office will be preparing and checking the Inland Revenue Charitable Donation receipts for 2023-24 year.

These will be available by end of April /early May along with the envelopes for the year 2024-25.

Your contributions are much appreciated and support the life and ministry of your Parish. We do encourage parishioners to contribute by Automatic Payment.

Please note that the 2023-24 Tax Receipts produced record donations given by parishioners that are **BANKED** between the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. **The cash collections received last weekend for Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Dues were banked on Tuesday 2nd April and so will be recorded in the 2024-25 tax year.**



## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next gathering will be on Saturday 6 April at 2pm, at the Pettit Centre. The speaker is Helen Daisley and she is speaking on her sub-Antarctic cruise. Please feel free to bring along a friend who may be interested in joining us.

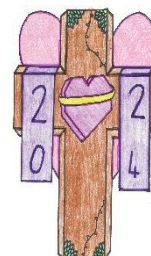
As usual, donations are always gratefully accepted. Don't forget our book swap. We will end the afternoon with our usual chat and cuppa.

## PASCHAL CANDLE DESIGN

Once again students from St Brendan's have designed a logo of 2024 Paschal Candle. The design chosen for this year is above

The artist supplied this explanation of the design

*I chose the hearts because God loves everyone. The thorns around the cross represent Jesus' crown of thorns and the brown colour of the cross, the wooden cross on which he was crucified. The purple ribbons draped on the cross come from the purple banners on the altar at Lent.*



Thanks to all the students who submitted designs. As in past years ALL the supplied designs will be displayed on the walls of both Our Lady of Grace Church, and St Francis Xavier Church for the next seven weeks of the Easter Season



## Parish response to *Laudate Deum* (04-10-2023) and *Ad Theologiam Promovendam* (01-11-2023) from the Holy Father

The Parish Pastoral Council will make available the recycling of bottle tops in each church foyer from Easter Sunday. Clean plastic tops and plastic jar lids numbered 2 and 5, and clean metal tops, metal jar lids, beer crown tops and can ring tabs can be deposited for recycling. Unlike kerbside and city council recycling systems we can guarantee that the plastic tops and lids numbered 2 and 5 will go to a plastic recycling business.

## FROM MAINTENANCE TO MISSION - GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT!

Divine Renovation (DR) is a Catholic organisation focused on parish renewal. Fr James Mallon, DR's founder, introduced DR to NZ in 2018 at the national clergy assembly in Christchurch. Since then, the model has continued to inspire and facilitate renewal parishes all over the world. The Archdiocese is delighted to welcome Mr Dan O'Rourke (D.R's current president) to Wellington for an evening specifically focussed on strategies for renewal in our parishes. Parish Pastoral Council members and everyone interested in parish leadership are warmly invited to join us for a thought-provoking evening of inspiration as we ponder where to for our parishes.

Thursday 18 April - 6:30pm (Cup of tea) 7.00pm- 9.00pm **Venue:** St Francis of Assisi Church, Johnsonville, Wellington. [Click here for a one-minute intro to Divine Renovation](#)

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were frightened? For whom have you been an agent of peace?



The greeting is followed by Jesus missioning his apostles, and us, to continue his project of spreading the Good News of God's love and forgiveness. What does it mean to you to see yourself as missioned by Jesus?

Jesus promises the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples to be witnesses to forgiveness. Forgiveness is at times an essential step on the road to peace. Perhaps you can recall when holding on to a hurt or grudge disturbed your inner peace. What helped you to forgive and find peace?

Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting, and questioning, played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strengthened by such moments?

'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed'. That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having had to prove every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

## LIVING STONES UPDATE



The parish property portfolio valuations from Colliers is expected to be received by the end of the month. When this is received and reviewed, the various options will be sent to the parish community for consideration.

We are seeking a few more parishioners to join our committee to assist in the facilitation of the next steps. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Fr Tony or one of the other members of the group.

## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'Today is Easter, the Pasch, a word that means "passage", for in Jesus the decisive passage of humanity has been made: the passage from death to life, from sin to grace, from fear to confidence, from desolation to communion. ... We are not alone: Jesus, the Living One, is with us, forever. Let the Church and the world rejoice, for today our hopes no longer come up against the wall of death, for the Lord has built us a bridge to life. ... May you, the Lord of life, encourage us on our journey and repeat to us, as you did to the disciples on the evening of Easter: "Peace be with you!" (Jn 19:21).'

*Pope Francis, [Urbi et Orbi](#), Easter 2023*

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY MASS

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at St Joseph's Church, Upper Hutt **1:30pm**  
Reconciliation, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet **2:30pm** Mass

After Mass - Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image and Relic followed by Afternoon tea.

## CARITAS AOTEAROA

Come work for us – Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand We're on the hunt for an experienced Executive Assistant (EA) to support the Chief Executive. The ideal candidate will have plenty of EA experience, excellent communication skills, and the ability to manage time well. Reporting to the CE, they will need to be able to handle sensitive matters with discretion, demonstrate attention to detail, and understand modern business systems. Affinity with Caritas' mission is a plus. An exciting opportunity within a close-knit Wellington based team. Visit: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us>.



## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

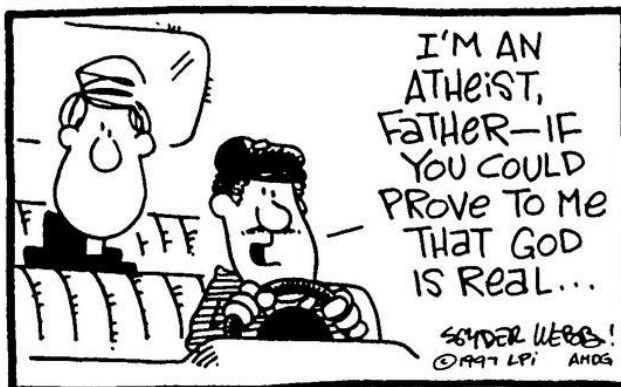
### The Easter Season

Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, is the climax of the Church's life marking Christ's victory over sin and death. Traditionally, the Easter vigil is the time for baptising newcomers to our Church. The season of Easter extends for 50 days after Easter Sunday, closing with Pentecost Sunday. In the early Church this period was a time of catechesis for the newly baptised. Called *mystagogy* ('reflection on the mysteries'), this catechesis led the baptised to a deeper understanding of what it meant to bear the light of Christ to the world. Appropriately, the Gospels of the Easter season reflect this missionary theme. It is an opportune time for all Christians to ponder the missionary significance of their baptism.

**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 Margaret Gray, Veronica Butler, Margaret Wysocki, Pat McMenamin, Trena Jacomb, Wendy Lee Frampton, and Colleen Hussey. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER





FOR THE YOUNG ONES

**GROWING**   
WITH THE *Gospel*  
CYCLE B



**COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



©LPI

2nd Sunday of Easter • John 20:19-31

PUZZLE FOR YOU

# Seeing Is Believing

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 20:19-31



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

THOMAS	DISCIPLES	DOORS	MIRACLES	TOUCHED
HANDS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	SHOWED	SIGNS
SIDE	RECORDED	BELIEVED	JESUS	LOCKED