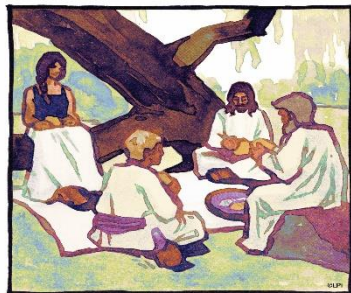


# Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



<b>Parish Priest</b>	Father Tony Kearns	
<b>Churches</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)
<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	<b>Tel</b> (04) 972 4282
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Heretaunga	
<b>Website</b>	Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
<b>St Brendan's School Newsletter</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>
	56 Palmer Cres	<b>Tel</b> (04) 939 1909
	<a href="http://www.stbrendans.school.nz">www.stbrendans.school.nz</a>	

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter READINGS YEAR B 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

5 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 John 4: 7-10 John 15: 9-17	
12 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Mark 16:13-20	

## UPCOMING EVENTS

4 <sup>th</sup> May	2:00 pm	Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre
5 <sup>th</sup> May	7:00 pm	Parents Meeting for Confirmation, Pettit Centre
<b>TUE-THUR</b>		<b>NO WEEKDAY MASSES 6-9<sup>th</sup> MAY</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> May	5:30 pm	Men's Night at Silverstream Bowling Club
9 <sup>th</sup> May	7:30 pm	Finance Meeting

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – CONFIRMATION

The programme to prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation begins Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May with a PARENTS MEETING in the Pettit Centre at 7:00 pm. At least one parent for each candidates needs to be there to get the Programme pack for their child(ren).



### FR TONY AWAY FROM PARISH

Archbishop Paul has asked all priests of the Archdiocese to attend a Priests' Assembly from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May till Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. There will therefore be no weekday Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. If you urgently need a priest, contact the Parish Office and/or leave a message on the answerphone **04 972 4282**. Fr Tony will be monitoring the answerphone messages on a regular basis. Please pray for our priests as they meet together.

**QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT January – March 2024**

<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>63,359</b>
<b>Less Expenditures</b>	
• Pastoral Costs	(25,306)
• Property Costs*	(11,452)
• Administration Costs	(9,601)
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>(46,359)</b>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>17,000</b>
<b>Balance Sheet Flows</b>	
• Balance Sheet Inflows	3,837
• Balance Sheet Outflows	(6,082)
<b>Excess/(Deficit) for the Qtr</b>	<b>14,754</b>



**THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

A commandment of love is something of a contradiction in terms. Love is a free choice. That is what gives the thrill to the experience of being loved. Recall times when you received gestures of love from another –

- a spontaneous embrace from a husband or wife;
- a wave from a friend;
- words of comfort and affirmation

not because the other person felt obliged to reach out to you but because they wanted to let you know that you were loved. What effect did that have on you? Did it bring you joy? Perhaps you have had a glimpse of the truth of what Jesus said, that it is in loving that our joy is complete.

Often love and friendship make demands on us. Parents give freely of their times and energy to the care of their children but sometimes it requires a lot of effort. Also, in responding to the needs of friends or spouses we can be challenged to ‘lay down’ our own ‘lives’ at least for a time. Can you recall when a time when putting yourself out for others bore fruit for them and for you?

‘I chose you’. Have you had the experience of being ‘chosen’ by someone? What was it like for you to be chosen? What is it like for you to consider yourself as one chosen by Jesus? That is what we are – chosen by Jesus and commissioned to bear fruit through our love.

**MEN’S GROUP**

The Men’s Group will meet on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at the Silverstream Bowling Club at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to attend this social event as it is an opportunity to get to know other men in the parish. Any enquires please call Roger Wasson on 528 7847



**MEN’S GROUP**

## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



'To love as, Jesus means to offer yourself in service, at the service of your brothers and sisters, as he did in washing the feet of the disciples. It also means going outside of ourselves, detaching ourselves from our own human certainties, from earthly comforts, in order to open ourselves up to others, especially those in greater need. It means making ourselves available, as we are and with what we have. This means to love not in word but in deeds.'

*Pope Francis, [Regina Caeli](#), 9 May 2021*



### WOMEN'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP MEETING 4<sup>th</sup> May

Our next Circle of Friendship gathering will be on Saturday 4 May at 2:00pm, at the Petit Centre behind Our Lady of Grace Church. This month we are fortunate enough to have 2 speakers. Tracey Oden and Trish Noble will each tell their story of their journey whereby Trish donated a kidney to Tracey.

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.

### WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

#### Why do we say 'alleluia'?

Alleluia comes from the Hebrew word which means 'Praise Yahweh'. It appears as a prayer in the Old Testament psalms and as the chant of the saints in heaven in the Book of Revelation. It was taken over by the Christian liturgy as the response of those redeemed through Christ. In the Mass, the alleluia verse is our way of responding to the second reading and preparing for the proclamation of the Gospel. For Christians, 'alleluia' is a bit like a victorious battle cry or a cheer leader's whoop! It reeks of celebration, life, strength, freedom and all those wonderfully liberating qualities offered us through the resurrection of Jesus. To mutter it is to contradict its meaning!



### FESTIVAL OF LIFE SUNDAY – MAY 5TH 2024

In baptism, through water and the word, a person is immersed in Jesus Christ, and journeys with Christ, through his death and resurrection to a new life. This week we celebrate an initiative of the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue. We highlight Baptism, and its significance for Christian unity. This initiative affirms the shared belief "in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins" as confessed in the Nicene Creed. Today we spend some time focussing on Baptism which is the seedbed from which Christians can develop a deeper appreciation of one another on our journey to wholeness.

### HEALING SERVICE

Fr John Rea SM will conduct a Healing Service at Sacred Heart Church Petone 41 Britannia St. on Tuesday 7th May beginning at 7:30 pm. Please invite all who need Jesus' healing. All are welcome.



## UNDERSTANDING THE TREATY OF WAITANGI FROM A CHRISTIAN VIEWPOINT.

Join a discussion group with resources supplied by Common Grace, an ecumenical Christian-based group.

Either Monday 6 May 7-9 pm or Thursday 9 May, 1-3 pm

23A Rawhiti Street, Stokes Valley. Limited to 12 participants per group.

RSVP to Sr Ruth pbvm asap indicating which group you wish to join.

Email [coleruthrc31@gmail.com](mailto:coleruthrc31@gmail.com) or text to 0211236291



### ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE SILVERSTREAM

Join us for our Open Day on Thursday 23 May 2024, this is for Year 9 boys enrolling or looking to enrol for 2025. Parents, caregivers and students are invited to attend a presentation at 9 am or 1.30 pm on Thursday 23 May at St Patrick's College Chapel. Each session lasts approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. No prior registration is required to attend the open day, we look forward to welcoming you!

If you have any questions please email the Rectors EA, Maria Tough Email: [toughm@stream.school.nz](mailto:toughm@stream.school.nz) or Ph: (04) 939 4224

### FOUND

A set of keys outside the Pettit Centre. If they belong to you 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 Paddy Byrne, Don Black, Antonio Pereira, Dennis Fairfax, Jill Hawthorne, and Pauline Prince. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

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



**COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



6th Sunday of Easter • John 15:9-17

## PUZZLE FOR YOU



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



Father  
 Love  
 Remain  
 Obey

Command  
 greater  
 lay  
 down

Life  
 friends  
 servants  
 master

Business  
 chose  
 bear  
 fruit