


Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



Parish Priest	Father Tony Kearns	
Churches	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	Tel (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator	Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Website	www.olv.org.nz	E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School Newsletter	56 Palmer Cres	Tel (04) 939 1909
	www.stbrendans.school.nz	

Pentecost Sunday READINGS YEAR B 19th May 2024

19 th May	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 2:1-11 Cor 12: 3-7, 12-13 John 20: 19-23	
26 th May	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Deut 4: 32-34, 39-40 Romans 8: 14-17 Matt 28: 16-20	

UPCOMING EVENTS		
23 rd May	07:30 pm	Parish Liturgy Meeting

PASTORAL PLAN

The Parish Pastoral Council together with input from a wide group including representatives from the liturgy committee, youth, parish groups, ethnic communities, and St Brendan's School have drafted a pastoral plan for our parish. They reflected on the key themes from the Synod 2021-2023 process adopted in the archdiocese and took on board results from the recent community survey. The plan covers six key areas and like all good plans, it needs feedback from you, the parish community and regular reviews so that it remains a living document that reflects our parish's aspirations.



You can read the draft plan [2024-05-10-OLOV-Pastoral-Plan-2024-2034-DRAFT.pdf](#), pick up a copy from the foyer, or ring/email the office and we will send you a copy.

Parish Council members will meet with various parish groups over June and July to gather feedback, and you can give us your feedback directly by 31 July. Simply:

- email the parish office: office@olv.org.nz
- discuss with Fr Tony or any Parish Pastoral Council member (see list in the church foyer)
- or provide any written comments to the Parish Office

We appreciate you taking the time to have your say. Once we have reviewed and made any updates to the plan, we'll publish a final version and identify

action items for the next 12 months. Darrell Mellow, Chair, Parish Pastoral Council



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED AT OLOG

We are looking for volunteers to do the church cleaning at Our Lady of Grace church once every three months. If you could get yourself and two others to help out, please do contact the office and we would be grateful.

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 or Ph: (04) 939 4224



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Jesus recognised that his disciples were not capable of taking in everything at once. Wisdom about life comes slowly and sometimes painfully. Hearing the 'right' answer at the 'wrong' time does not help us. We need to be ready and open to receiving the truth if it is to have any impact. Perhaps you can recall some occasions when it was the 'right' time for you to learn a truth about life. Remember your experiences of growth in understanding.

The Spirit can guide us to understanding in different settings. Understanding may have come to you when you were praying or reflecting on your life. Perhaps the Spirit guided you through the words of someone close to you, or through the words and actions of people you read about or saw on TV. Remember and give thanks for the people who have helped you to greater wisdom in life.

The Spirit also speaks to us through 'the signs of the times'. The church has lived through a troubled decade or two, and society has been through turbulent times with the climate crisis, political unrest, wars and forced migration. How do you think the Spirit is speaking to us at this time?

Wisdom is handed on from person to person, and from generation to generation, within families, within communities, etc. Are there any particular gems of wisdom that you cherish from what has been handed on to you? What wisdom would you like most of all to pass on to those close to you?



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

A most informative and very well-attended afternoon was held at our last Circle of Friendship gathering for May.

We were fortunate to have a kidney transplant recipient and her donor sharing their inspirational story of the highs and lows of this procedure.

A true testament to their lifelong love and friendship.

The afternoon finished with much chatter and fellowship over afternoon tea.

All are most welcome to attend our 'get-togethers'- held on the first Saturday of each month at 2pm -4pm in the Parish hall.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

What does the name Pentecost mean?

'Pentecost' comes from the Greek word for 50. Fifty days after Easter, the first day after seven weeks marked the beginning of a new era. The Jews had a feast for the first fruits of the season on the 50th day after Passover. The coming of the Holy Spirit marks the birth of the Church. The many nations in Jerusalem that day are the first fruits of the harvest. The disciples received the wind of new breathing, the fire of new loving and the tongues of new preaching.



Why do we celebrate Pentecost?

At Pentecost we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles as tongues of fire. The name Pentecost (in Greek: 'fiftieth day') originally referred to the Jewish Feast of Weeks which fell fifty days after the Passover. This feast celebrated the first fruits of the harvest offered to God and also the giving of the Law to Moses. The early Church gave it Christian significance, rejoicing in the 'first fruits' and the 'new law' heralded by Christ's resurrection. Today we celebrate Pentecost as the conclusion of the Easter season, fifty days after Easter Sunday. Conscious of the missionary zeal which galvanised the apostles into a united body, we often think of Pentecost as the birth of the Church.



ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to our Parish then welcome. Please fill in one of the cards in the foyer: "New to our Parish?" so we can put you on the Parish roll.

We are a very vibrant and welcoming Parish and have lots of groups and ministries you might like to join. For more information, please contact Jovena in the Parish Office 972 4282 or email office@olov.org.nz

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



STELLA MARIS WELLINGTON

Our volunteers offer practical and spiritual assistance to seafarers visiting our port. We urgently seek people to assist in this important service, especially those with languages other than English, particularly Tagalog, Indonesian, Mandarin and/or Cantonese, Vietnamese, Russian and Ukranian. We also need knitters able to knit beanies to give as gifts to seafarers. To learn more, please contact Kelly Ross at kellyannross9@gmail.com, or Sarah Dench at sarahdench@yahoo.com

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



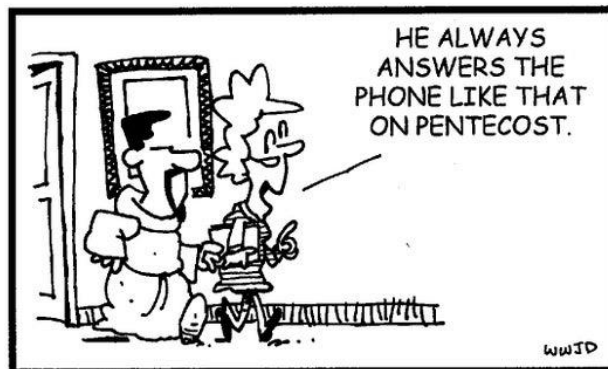
'Today, if we listen to the Spirit, we will not be concerned with conservatives and progressives, traditionalists and innovators, right and left. When those become our criteria, then the Church has forgotten the Spirit. The Paraclete impels us to unity, to concord, to *the harmony of diversity*. He makes us see ourselves as parts of the same body, brothers and sisters of one another. Let us look to the whole!'

Pope Francis, [Homily Pentecost 2021](#)



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 Roselina Sacote, Paddy Byrne, Don Black, Antonio Pereira, Dennis Fairfax. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

PENTECOST



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Pentecost Sunday • John 15:26-27: 16:12-15

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



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

SPEAK	LANGUAGE	PENTECOST	HEAVEN	BLOWING
SOUND	OTHER	HOLY	SPIRIT	HEAR
FILLED	WIND	FIRE	TONGUES	AMAZED