

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	

16th Sunday in Ordinary READINGS YEAR B 21st July 2024

Time	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel	
21 st July	Jeremiah 23: 1-6	Eph 2: 13-18	Mark 6: 30-34	
28 th July	2Kings 4: 42-44	Eph 4: 1-6	John 6: 1-15	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun 21st July	12:00 noon	Parish Luncheon at RSA Stokes Valley
Thur 25 th July	07.30 pm	Parish Liturgy Committee

FUNERAL PREPARATION/PLANNING

Some parishioners have approached the Parish Office over the last month or so for advice around preparing a Funeral Service for themselves for some later date, or just to have a chat about what is possible etc. If any parishioner would like to have such a chat with Fr Tony, please feel free to contact him or the Parish Office to make an appointment 04 972 4282.



PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – DATE CLAIMER

The 2024 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 4th August at 12:00 noon in the Pettit Centre. Please mark this date. It is a chance to celebrate the wonderful ways the mission of Jesus is working in our

Parish, the election of new Parish Councils and a chance to bring ideas and issues to the attention of the various parish organisations and committees. Our Annual Report to the Parish will be available shortly.

The Annual Report for the Parish is now available. It is emailed out to those on the Newsletter Distribution, in printed form in the foyer of both Churches and is also available online www.olv.org.nz/publications/olv-annual-report/



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

The apostles reported to Jesus all that they had done and taught. Perhaps you have had the experience of being able to check in with somebody and share an experience. What have you learned from such conversations?

Jesus saw that the apostles needed to rest and eat. What has been your experience of finding a restful place after a busy day? What kind of nourishment have you found necessary in order to maintain energy and enthusiasm?

When Jesus saw the crowd, he recognised their need and reached out to them. Who has been a Jesus person for you, someone who recognised your need and reached out to you? For whom have you been a Jesus person in that way?

It sometimes can be difficult to strike a balance between responding to the needs of others and meeting our need for rest and nourishment. What has helped you to keep the balance right?

NOMINATION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS AT 2024 AGM

With an eye of the upcoming Annual General Meeting on 4th August 2024, a number of current Parish Councillors' term of appointment have come to an end. Currently Parish Councillors stand for a two-year term with the right of renewal for two more terms.



We are therefore opening nominations for new Parish Councillors from the 16th June 2024. From this weekend nomination forms are available in the foyer of both churches. These should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office by Friday 26th July. This time frame allows time for the nominated candidates' names to be advised to the Parish before the Annual General Meeting.

Please take the time to prayerfully discern who you think might be a suitable person to serve our Parish on the Parish Council. If you would like more details on the role of Parish Councillors and the function of the Parish Council, please feel free to speak to one of the existing Parish Councillors or Father Tony.

LIVING STONES UPDATE

As previously advised, the parish property portfolio valuations were received from Colliers. The potential current value for both Heretaunga and Stokes Valley sites has been advised at around \$7 million.



Please note that the valuation number itself is a moment in time and is obviously subject to a number of variances that are changing all of the time.

Each of the parish properties presented different opportunities and challenges, and the Living Stones will continue to work on formulating options and a timeline for the Parish to consider.

BECOME PART OF A WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP PROJECT

Are you a locally-connected woman who would like to get to know women from a community who have recently settled in Aotearoa? We will be meeting once a month for 6 months. There will be activities to get to know each other with friendships growing over time. The women you will meet live throughout the Greater Wellington region. Initially they will be mostly mothers although the group may extend to the range of life stages over the project, so all expressions of interest are welcome. We

will begin with monthly gatherings on a Saturday afternoon in Lower Hutt with the first scheduled for 3-4:30pm Saturday 27 July. Your children are welcome to come too. Interested in becoming a locally-connected CSS volunteer for this project? Would you like more information? Please contact Deirdre at Catholic Social Services: d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz or call 021 2213944.



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 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@olov.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

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'Only a heart that does not allow itself to be taken over by hastiness is capable of being moved; that is, of not allowing itself to be caught up in itself and by things to do, and is aware of others, of their wounds, their needs.



Compassion is born from contemplation. If we learn to truly rest, we become capable of true compassion; if we cultivate a contemplative outlook, we will carry out our activities without that rapacious attitude of those who want to possess and consume everything; if we stay in touch with the Lord and do not anaesthetise the deepest part of ourselves, the things to do will not have the power to cause us to get winded or devour us.'

Pope Francis [Angelus](#), 18 July 2021

COME & SEE

Priesthood Vocations Morning with Archbishop Paul Martin and Fr Patrick Bridgman.

Saturday 20th July, 8:30am till 12:00pm. Starts with Mass at 8:30am at Sacred Heart Cathedral, followed by breakfast and a time of input, reflection and discussion at Viard House.

Visit our [Facebook event page](#) or contact l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz

HOPE and ACT with CREATION

All are welcome to a Season of Creation Workshop to animate Care for our Common Home in our communities. With an inspirational speaker, time to share ideas, and the opportunity to gather practical tips and resources for your community.

The Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission invite you to a workshop on Tuesday 6th August from 6.45pm to 9.00pm at St Peter & St Pauls, 60 Knights Road, Lower Hutt. Please register with d.meskill@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz

VACANCY: DIGITAL CONTENT CREATOR, CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE

Are you a social media superstar? The Catholic Enquiry Centre is seeking applications for the role of **digital content creator**. This role requires an excellent knowledge of social media platforms, outstanding design skills, and the ability to write engaging content quickly and accurately.

This is a part-time (15 hours negotiable), fixed-term position (6 months) as we develop engagement across a range of social media platforms. There is space in our office in Wellington, however the role can be based remotely if necessary.

For a description of the role, email the Director of the Catholic Enquiry Centre, Rebecca Taylor-Hunt, via rebecca@catholicenquiry.nz. Deadline for applications: 1st August 2024.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Why do we shake hands?

Before receiving communion, the celebrant invites the congregation to 'offer one another a sign of peace', usually in the form of a handshake, smile or embrace. By this action we affirm our relationship as brothers and sisters in Christ. It is a genuine sign of reconciliation that prepares us for the profound act of intimacy which is signified when we share at the one Eucharistic table. So, you see, the sign of peace is more than a 'nice' thing to do. It is an expression of the bond that unites us as Christians. Think about it next time you offer this sign. Please. No 'dead-fish' handshakes! Extend your hand with warmth and conviction.



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 Alesana Launiuvao, Lepula Asovale, Tom Ryan, and Chris Gordon. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

16TH 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.



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Mark 6:30-34

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Getting Away from It All

Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. Mark 6:30-32

The puzzle is based on Mark 6:30-34



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

PEOPLE	TOWNS	SHEEP	BOAT	REST
APOSTLES	JESUS	CROWD	LARGE	TOWNS
SHEPHERD	SOLITARY	EAT	QUIET	TEACH