


# 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>	

23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary		READINGS	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Time		YEAR B	
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Isaiah 35: 4-7 James 2: 1-5 Mark 7: 31-37	
15 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Isaiah 50:5-9 James 2: 14-18 Mark 8: 27-35	

UPCOMING EVENTS		
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2:00 pm	Women's Circle of Friendship Pettit Centre
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.30 am	Leaders and Proclaimers workshop SFX
	11.30 am	Workshop at OLOG
Thur 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	6:00 pm	Parent Meeting for Sac Prog Pettit Centre
	7.00 pm	Parish Finance Committee

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2025

In **really Limited** numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office for \$13 each (sorry the price has gone up) please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.



## LEADERS AND PROCLAIMER'S WORKSHOPS

The last couple of weeks there has been a notice of workshops for Leaders and Proclaimers. **Unfortunately, the date advertised has been incorrect.** The workshops will take place on **this Sunday 8th September** after the 8:30 am Mass at St. Francis Xavier and again after the 10:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Churches. These sessions will be about 20 minutes. Apologies for the mistaken date and the late notice of the training.

These workshops are intended for new and existing Leaders and Proclaimers of the Word. There will be an opportunity for new readers to practise at the end of the sessions.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Saturday 7 September at 2:00 pm, at the Pettit Centre.

This month our guest speaker will be Daniel Talbot who is the man behind the development of the big new weather station that has been erected in the grounds of St Joseph's school. This promises to be a fair weather event.

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



## 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



## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

### Season of Creation Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

"The reality is that a low, richer percentage of the planet contaminates more than the poorest 50% of the total world population, and that per capita emissions of the richer countries are much greater than those of the poorer ones."

(# 9 Laudate Deum)



## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

**Why do we have to ask God not to lead us into temptation? Surely God would never lead us into temptation or sin.**

That's correct. God would never lead us towards sin. Since God respects our freedom, temptation is permitted to happen.

In the Lord's Prayer we ask God to lead us in the use of our freedom to do what we ought, thereby delivering us from the evil spirit. It is a petition for the grace to discern the misleading tactics of the devil and for the strength to persevere in God's way. Temptation can be an occasion of spiritual victory when we cooperate with God's grace.



**Because of a physical disability I am in constant pain. I have been told to accept this as God's will and my vocation to suffer. Is it wrong if I ask God to take away the suffering?**

Jesus asked the Father to take away the cup of suffering, if possible. We also read of how Jesus answered the prayers of people for healing. So, the first Christian response to suffering is to seek healing from God and through medical remedies. However, if it happens that the suffering is unavoidable, then the Christian response is to accept the cup of suffering in union with Jesus. But it is never wrong to ask for healing.

## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

One of the most touching YouTube videos I've ever seen is one in which a deaf woman receives new technology to heal her hearing. She hears her husband's voice for the first time — and her own, too — and bursts into tears of overwhelming joy. It must have been like an immovable wall between her and her loved ones came tumbling down.



We are all like this woman, to some degree. We believe in the presence of God's love, but we can't hear Him. We can't speak well about Him. The deaf man who can't speak properly in the Gospel today is an image of what God wants us to experience again and again. Jesus takes the man aside to a private place away from the crowd, touches his ears and tongue, and says, "Ephphata!" The man's ears are opened, and he speaks clearly. Contact with Christ has this effect on us.

This experience happens to us in our baptism, almost exactly. It happens to us in the liturgy. It happens in our private prayer. It happens when we hear the voice of God in our conscience. The more we engage these privileged channels of Jesus' healing, the more we are empowered to hear and speak of the presence of God's perfect love.

— *Father John Muir*

## MAINTENANCE OF PARISH ASSETS



If you notice any issues in or around our church buildings and other assets, please let the Parish Office or any member of the Finance committee know. Arrangements can then be made as soon as possible to address the issue. With thanks from the Finance Committee

## KPF LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PROGRAMME (KLSP) 2024

Come and experience the joy of encountering Jesus & His life-changing love Saturdays at 1pm, 3rd August to 24th November, 2024 - St. Bernadette's Church/ Hall - 194 Naenae Road, Lower Hutt and St. Bernard's College Cafeteria - 183 Waterloo Road, Lower Hutt.

Please register at: <https://forms.gle/cBysnYz5i9a2PmZG8>

For more details, contact: Rey Cabauatan 027 571 2825 or Roy Cabauatan 022 569 2481.



## LONG TERM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AUSTRALIA-PACIFIC REGION - THE CAGLIERO PROJECT, SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Send us an enquiry - [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)



## NET RECRUITING

Young people deserve to know the hope that Jesus brings. God has a plan for their lives!

NET are accepting applications from 18-35 year olds for ten months of life-changing mission in Australia and New Zealand for next year. Are you good at running camps? Are you interested in building up youth groups? Will you step out and share your story of how Jesus has impacted your life?

NET ministries in Australia and New Zealand do this in teams, fostering authentic relationships, being peer with peer on this journey of life together – sharing that faith ‘fully alive’ is possible.

If you want to take up the call with mission NET, express your interest at [www.netaus.org](http://www.netaus.org). NET will be excited to hear from you!

OR – if someone you know comes to mind – encourage them to check NET out.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN

Fashion Parade in aid of Save the Children on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September at the Wesley Centre – corner of Fergusson Drive and Benzie Avenue at 10 am.

Entry fee \$10.

This is our main fundraiser of the year and we would love to see you there.



**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 Rae Cameron, John O’Sullivan, Pat Pihema, Joyce

Owen, and Catherine Richardson. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

23rd 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.



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Mark 7:31-37

## PUZZLE FOR YOU

### Playing Favorites

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. James 2:1 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on James 2:1-10



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

RICH  
CLOTHES  
EXPLOIT

FAVORITE  
BROTHERS  
CHOSEN

FILTHY  
NEIGHBOR  
SISTERS

DISCRIMINATE  
JUDGE  
GUILTY

GOLD  
POOR  
RING