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 / Thursday9:30 am (Stokes Valley)Wednesday/Friday9:30 am (Heretaunga)Saturday9:00 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		Heretaunga Tel (04) 972 4282		
Parish Administrator		Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm		
Website St Brendan's School		www.olov.org.nz E-mail office@olov.org.nz pp@olov.org.nz 56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909		
Newsletter		56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909 www.stbrendans.school.nz		
2 nd Sunday of Advent		READINGS 8th Decer	mber 2024	
2 ^m Sunday of Advent		YEAR C S Decer		
8 th Dec	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Baruch 5: 1-9 Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11 Luke 3: 1-6	∇_{∇}	
8 th Dec 15 th Dec	2 nd Reading	Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11		
	2 nd Reading Gospel 1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11 Luke 3: 1-6 Zephaniah 3: 14-18 Philippians 4: 4-7		
15 th Dec UPCOMING I Sat 7 th Dec Sun 8 th Dec Thur 12 th Dec Fri 13 th Dec	2 nd Reading Gospel 1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel EVENTS 2.00 pm 4.00 pm 7.30 pm 9.30 am	Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11 Luke 3: 1-6 Zephaniah 3: 14-18 Phiippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 10-18 Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre Rite II Reconciliation at St. Joseph's Up Parish Finance Committee End of Year Mass St. Brendan's at OLO	pper Hutt	
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COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2025

Limited (4) numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office and the church foyers for \$13 each (sorry the price has gone up) please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.

MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

Sat 21 st Dec	5:30 pm	Mass 4 th Sunday of Advent St Francis Xavier Church		
Sun 22 nd Dec	8:30 am	Mass 4 th Sunday of Advent St Francis Xavier Church		
	10:30 am	Mass 4 th Sunday of Advent Our Lady of Grace Church		
Tues 24 th Dec	5:30 pm	Family Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church, preceded		
		by carols from 5:00 pm		
	12:00 am	Christmas Mass at St Francis Xavier Church,		
		preceded by carols from 11:30 pm		
Wed 25 th Dec	09:30 am	Christmas Day Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church		



MINISTRY VOLUNTEER'S FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

In the upcoming week members of the Liturgy Committee will be looking for people to assist in the celebration of the various Masses at Christmas. To try to make it easier for these people (and to save

some of the ringing around that happens to cover all the events/ministries) lists of the ways that parishioners can assist have been placed in the foyer of both Churches. If you are a minister and know that you will be at a certain ceremony, please indicate your willingness to assist.

FOUND

A Silver bracelet outside OLOG in October. Owner can contact Cath with a description of it on 027 407 6590

RITE II RECONCILIATION 4:00pm 8th December Upper Hutt

This year Our Lady of the Valleys Parish is joining with St Joseph's Parish in Upper Hutt to offer a Communal Rite II Reconciliation Service at St Joeph's Church 1 Pine Avenue Upper Hutt at 4:00pm on this Sunday 8th December



If you would like Rite I Reconciliation please contact Fr Tony for an appointment 04 972 4282

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2025

Enrolments for the 2025 Sacramental Preparation Program are now open for those candidates who would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Enrolments can also be submitted on-line at



<u>www.olov.org.nz/sacraments/</u>. Paper enrolment forms are available in the foyer of both churches and the School.

Though enrolments close on 14th February 2025 **please endeavour to enrol before the 13th December** as this allows time over the January period to undertake preparation work. The Programme starts on March 2nd as the Reconciliation portion happens over Lent. Any enquiries please contact Fr Tony or Debby Morgan, the Sacramental Programme Co-ordinator.



PARKING AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER

Parishioners attending services at Stokes Valley will notice that the carparking lines have been refurbished. We have allocated two parks closest to the front of the church as reserved for people with disability. This restriction applies particularly for all Saturday

evening/Sunday morning Masses and other major liturgical events such as Christmas, Easter etc when parking close to the church entrance is at a premium.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Saturday 7th December. Join people from all over NZ in a celebration of life while also peacefully protesting the practice and legality of abortion. Gather at Parliament Grounds from 1 pm. March goes out from the grounds at 2 pm.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next gathering will be Christmas High Tea, on Saturday 7 December at 2pm, at the Petit Centre behind Our Lady of Grace Church. Could you please bring a pretty cup, saucer and plate to use. Also, a small plate of Christmas food to share.

Come along and enjoy our Christmas celebration. There will be a Christmas quiz, some Christmas music from the Dahlias, and friendly fellowship.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL



The manner in which Luke identifies in detail the time when John the Baptist started his preaching shows that Luke regarded this as a historic moment. Perhaps you can recall particularly a significant

moment in your life, an occasion when you felt called to a change of work, status, or lifestyle?

John called people to give expression to their desire for a change of heart by a symbolic baptism in the Jordan. When have you found it helpful to symbolise your desire to change for the better by some symbolic gesture, e.g., burning a packet of cigarettes, sending a card, making a phone call, etc.

'A voice crying in the wilderness' is sometimes taken to refer to a voice that is ignored. Pope Francis has issued a call to all of us to take part in the consultation process preparing for the recent Synod. What can you, and your faith community, do to make sure his call is answered.

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE NZ WELLINGTON UNIT

The Divine Retreat Centre Wellington Unit is thrilled to announce that Fr. Marlon Maylon SVD will be leading a midday Advent retreat at Sacred Heart Church in Petone on Saturday, December 7, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. We'll conclude this special gathering with a Holy Mass as we get ready for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We warmly invite you to join us for this significant event to celebrate and worship the Lord as we spiritually prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PARISH TO PARISH FOR BED AND BREAKFAST

Catholics throughout New Zealand, and a few in Australia, host Catholics in their homes. It's a wonderful way for Catholics to meet and enjoy the company of other Catholics.

There is a contribution made of \$50 for one person, and \$30 for each additional guest, per night, that is, two people would pay \$80 per night. If you wish to purchase a book with the details of the hosts, the cost is \$15. This includes postage. To order please contact or order from Marie Anderson, 2 Brent Place, Christchurch 8053, phone 027 2800 611, email <u>marie.ian@xtra.co.nz</u>

FOOD FOR FAITH for Advent.

Sign up at <u>www.foodforfaith.org.nz</u> to prepare for Christmas receiving daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor's Food For Faith website.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'The witness of John the Baptist helps us to go forward in our witness of life. The purity of his proclamation, his courage in proclaiming the truth were able to reawaken the expectation and hope in the Messiah that had long been dormant... Jesus' disciples are called to be his humble but courageous witnesses in order to rekindle hope, to make it understood that, despite everything, the Kingdom of God continues to be built day by day.'

Pope Francis, Angelus, 9 December 2018



CUSHION CONCERT - ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL

On Thursday 12th December from 5pm for 5.30pm start. We welcome you to bring a picnic and blanket to sit in the guad where our students will perform on the stage. Our

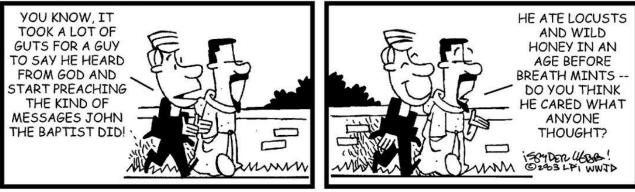
Explorers, Adventurers, Navigators, Choir, Kapa Haka and Pasifika Group will perform. We'll then sing some Christmas carols together. The PTF will be selling raffles and Juices, and the Board will run a \$2 sausage sizzle.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell, and those who

are lonely. We pray also for those who have died recently, especially Nelson Harrison, K J Alias, Mary Powlesland, and Geraldine Sims. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time especially John Carson.



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent Novena Mass

15 – 23 December 2024

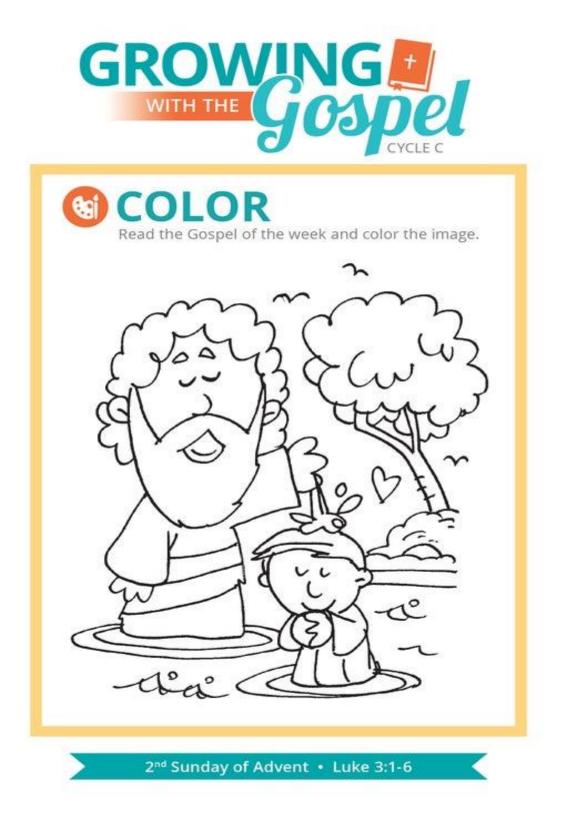
All are invited to the Advent Novena Masses in the Northern Hutt Parishes. Let us prepare ourselves for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, Our Lord, through this 9-day series of Night Masses.



15 – 18 December 2024, 7pm Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga

19, 20, 22, 23 December 2024, 7pm 21 December 2024, 6pm (Vigil mass) **St. Joseph Church, Upper Hutt**

FOR THE YOUNG ONES

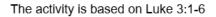


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PUZZLE FOR YOU

Prepare the Way

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him." Luke 3:4 (NIV)





CALLING	STRAIGHT	DESERT	REPENT
VOICE	VALLEY	PREPARE	FORGIVE
CROOKED	ROUGH	SMOOTH	PREACHING

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