

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

3rd Sunday of Advent

**READINGS
YEAR C**

15th December 2024

15 th Dec	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Zephaniah 3: 14-18 Phiippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 10-18	
22 nd Dec	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Micah 5: 1-4 Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-44	

UPCOMING EVENTS

18 th Dec Wed	11.00 am	Anointing Mass at the Pettit Centre
19 th Dec Thur	1:30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting



EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

What is happening around our Diocese? Stay up to date with Archdiocesan events - <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/events/>

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT 9.30 AM ON 18TH DECEMBER AT OLOG NOR AT 9.30 AM ON 19TH DECEMBER AT SFX

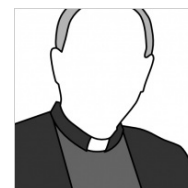


COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2025

Limited (3) numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office and the church foyers for \$13 each please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.

CLERGY SHIFTS FOR 2025

On Friday 6th December Archbishop Paul announced the Archdiocesan Clergy Shifts for 2025 were announced on December 6th. This year they directly affect Our Lady of the Valleys as Fr Tony has been appointed Parish Priest of St Joseph's Parish in Upper Hutt. Fr Maleko Api-Tufuga (currently Parish Priest of Upper Hutt) has been appointed as the new Parish Priest of OLOV. The change takes effect from 1st February 2025.



MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

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

CALLING ALL ANGELS AND SHEPHERDS of all ages, please dress appropriately for the occasion, to gather at the Christmas Eve, 5:30pm, Mass at Our Lady of Grace and join Father on the Altar.



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.

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

www.olv.org.nz/sacraments/. Paper enrolment forms are available in the foyer of both churches and the School.

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.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

'What should we do?' The common thread in John's answers was to encourage his questioners to be other-centred rather than self-centred, each in the context of their own circumstances. In your experience what difference has it made for you when you changed your attitude in this way?

John told the people in a direct and honest way what they should do. Perhaps you have had friends who did not beat about the bush but have told you honestly what they thought about your behaviour when you asked them? In gratitude recall such friends.

The humility of John comes out in this passage, happy to acknowledge that he only had a minor role to play in relation to the Messiah. At the same time, he was enthused by his mission to 'proclaim the good news to the people'. What difference has it made for you when you were able to see the good in yourself, and use your gifts without having to score by portraying yourself as greater than someone else?

PARISH RESPONSE TO *LAUDATE DEUM* (04-10-2023) AND *AD THEOLOGIAM PROMOVENDAM* (01-11-2023) FROM THE HOLY FATHER



The Parish Pastoral Council has made available the recycling of bottle tops and lids at the church foyers. You could add all plastic tops and lids to the white plastic container with black handle. All tops and lids regardless of the numeral in the triangle can be recycled. You can recycle metal tops and lids, and ring tabs via the same container.

PARISH TO PARISH FOR BED AND BREAKFAST

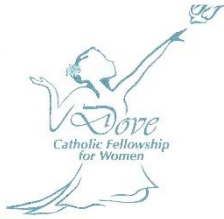
Catholics throughout New Zealand, and a few in Australia, host Catholics in their homes. It's a wonderful way for Catholics to meet and enjoy the company of other Catholics.

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 marie.ian@xtra.co.nz

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'What then shall we do?'... The Gospel reminds us of something important: life has a task for us. Life is not meaningless; it is not left to chance. It is a gift the Lord grants us, saying to us: discover who you are, and work hard to make the dream that is your life come true! Each of us — let us not forget this — *has a mission to accomplish*. Let us ask ourselves as well: what would be good for me to do for myself and for my brothers and sisters? How can I contribute to the good of the Church, to the good of society?

Pope Francis, [Angelus](#), 12 December 2021.



DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

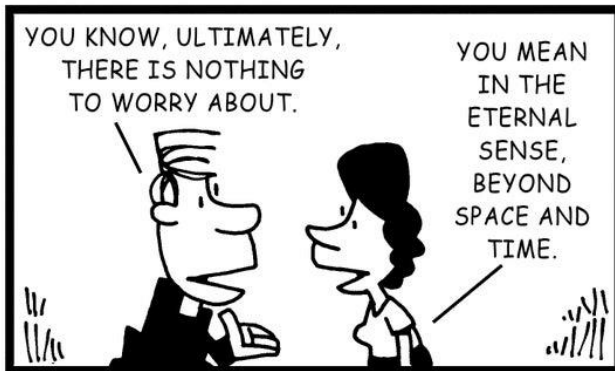
Is excited to be launching a new initiative called Dovecotes. We invite you to prayerfully consider joining us by forming a Dovecote in your parish. All it needs is for two or more women, to support each other to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ, through regular shared prayer.

Our leaflet called 'Welcome to Dovecotes' available from your parish, contains all the relevant information. It's also on our website: www.dove.org.nz or email Gloria Stafford: dovenational.leader@gmail.com

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, and Mary Powlesland. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time especially John Carson.



3RD 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

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



3rd Sunday of Advent • Luke 3:10-18

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Christmas Joy

John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." Luke 3:11 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 3:7-11



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

FIRE	CROWD	TREE	FOOD	CHILDREN
ROOT	SHARE	STONES	SHIRTS	BAPTIZED
VIPERS	NONE	TWO	FRUIT	BROOD