


# Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



<b>Parish Priest</b>	Father Maleko Api-Tufuga	
<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>	Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
<b>Website</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>
<b>St Brendan's School Newsletter</b>	56 Palmer Cres	<b>Tel</b> (04) 939 1909
	<a href="http://www.stbrendans.school.nz">www.stbrendans.school.nz</a>	

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent		READINGS YEAR C	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Deut 26: 4-10 Romans 10: 8-13 Luke 4: 1-13	
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Gen 15: 5-12, 17-18 Philippians 3: 17-4:1 Luke 9: 28-36	

UPCOMING EVENT		
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	06.30 am	Morning Mass at OLOG
Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	07.30 pm	Parish Finance Committee 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/>



## WEDNESDAYS OF LENT FROM 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH

On each Wednesday in Lent there will be an additional Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church at 6:30 am for those who might like to choose this as a Lenten Observance.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be prayed each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm in St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley. ALL WELCOME



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PRAYER REQUESTS

In the foyer of both churches are cards that have the name of one of the candidates in this year's Sacramental Preparation Program. Parishioners are invited to take one of these cards and pray for the candidate as they move through the program this year towards First Holy Communion. This is a way we all can support these young members of our family on their journey of faith.



## **THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

Throughout the years, the Church has used the season of Lent as a time for Christian reflection and contemplation. Those same promises of comfort, power and privilege are offered to us every day. They can tempt us to stay put, instead of stepping out in faith to follow.

How was Jesus able to turn down bread when his stomach must have been churning with hunger? He relied on a more reliable promise from God. Jesus knew God would protect him and show him a better Way. It requires endurance, persistence and commitment to follow God.

Maybe the challenge for us isn't quickly to get to the place where 'we arrive,' but to find ways consistently to pick the Way of God over the comforts offered by the world. When we can be honest with ourselves about the allure of these things, we can be more open to allowing God to free us from their hold. We can also move further into the ministry to which we have been called and for which we have been equipped to live out in the world, without worrying about the danger lurking.

We are invited to look at ourselves, our practices of faith and our communities, so that we can attend to God's call in our lives. This may result in a shift of our perspective and possibly a letting go of things that no longer serve us in our commitment to follow Jesus. What might we find if we take a step out, in faith?

## **COMPASSION FAMILY GROUP**

We had a most enjoyable afternoon last Sunday at Days Bay. More outings and get togethers are being planned. Kindly watch out for the newsletters on updates with regard to what is being planned. We would love to see you so come join us. Contact Heather #027 642 7158 or Win #027 292 3680 for further information.

## **Forum on Housing workshop sponsored by the Ecology Justice and Peace Commission. 10am-3pm Saturday 29 March, St Bernadette's Church Hall, Naenae.**

Adequate housing, a place to call home, is fundamental to living a life of dignity. The Forum on Housing will build on last year's foundations with a workshop to identify actions to build awareness, foster collaboration, address system level issues, and provide practical community support. This workshop is for everyone concerned about housing issues. Community Housing Aotearoa will facilitate the day. For more information, please contact Deirdre Meskill, [d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz); phone: 04 385 8642. A contribution of finger food to share for lunch is appreciated.



## **SAMOAN MASS**

All are welcome to celebrate Samoan mass together at St Francis Xavier Church every 4th Sunday of the Month. Our First Samoan Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 23rd March

@10am.

## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

May this time of Lent also be a time of the desert for us. Let us take time for silence and prayer — just a little, it will do us good — in these spaces let us stop and look at what is stirring in our hearts, our inner truth, what we know cannot be justified. Let us find inner clarity, placing ourselves before the Word of God in prayer.

*Pope Francis [Angelus](#) 6 March 2022*



## SEEDS OF THE GOSPEL - CATHOLIC CITY PODCAST

'Seeds of the Gospel' is a Jubilee Year podcast brought to you by Catholic City, dedicated to exploring the timeless parables of Jesus Christ and their relevance in our modern lives. Hosted by Fr Dyson and co-hosted by one of our very own parishioners - Vinu! Available via You tube, Spotify, Apple Podcast - search 'Seeds of the Gospel'.

## JESUS YOUTH WELLINGTON

Welcome all Youth to our weekly gathering at Connolly Hall [10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon] every Friday from 6:45 - 8.45pm. Open event where we come together for Praise and Worship, followed by a short discussion on the Word of God with engaging games and activities for youth.

## 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD: FRIDAY 28TH MARCH - SATURDAY 29TH MARCH @SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

A Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation celebrated around the world on the eve of the 4th Sunday of Lent. Everyone is welcome to visit the Cathedral and spend some time in prayer for peace, healing and hope in our broken world. Parishes and communities are invited to take the lead for an hour or two during these 24 hours. It will begin with an Opening Liturgy at 5.30pm on Fri 28th March and to continue through the night and end with the Vigil Mass at 5.30pm on Sat 29th March. Please contact the Archdiocese office directly or Lagi (021 132 1952) for further information.



## GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY: PĀTAKA KAI FOR OUR LADY OF GRACE

In Term 4 a group of Adventurer students, worked with our caretaker, to build a Pātaka Kai, a community food bank. This was designed and painted with the help of a local artist, Amy Burrell. The project was blessed at our Opening School Mass and gifted to Our Lady of the Valleys Parish to sit outside Our Lady of Grace Church, facing Fergusson Drive. We hope it will be a lasting and helpful resource for our community.

## SIMPLICITY OF BEAUTY IN LITURGY YOUTH MASS

During this Jubilee Year, the Archdiocese is planning monthly late-evening diocesan Mass for all Young People!! This special Mass will be celebrated on the first Friday of each month, 9pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral starting from Friday 4th April. If you are interested in offering your service for ministry at these masses e.g, proclaimers of the word, Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist etc, please contact Lagi (021 132 1952).



### JOSHUA

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly

Hall (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral).

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: [joshua.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wgtn@gmail.com)

### DOVECOTES

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women is moving to small parish-based groups called Dovecotes, where women may experience the warmth of fellowship, the power of prayer and the joy of worship. If you feel a need for a Dovecote in your area, please contact Gloria:

[dovenational.leader@gmail.com](mailto:dovenational.leader@gmail.com) or Ph 0272456742. Or see our website: [www.dove.org.nz](http://www.dove.org.nz)



### CLEANLINESS IN CHURCH

Please do clean up if your child or you have eaten food or chewed gum in the church. You would clean up your home after a meal so please consider this your home too and pick up any droppings of food.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** all who are sick and unwell, and those who are lonely. We pray also for those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent • Luke 4:1-13

## PUZZLE FOR YOU

### The Temptation of Christ

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. Luke 4:13 (NIV)

Based on Luke 4:1-13



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

DESERT  
TEMPTED  
SPIRIT  
LIVE

ANGELS  
DEVIL  
JERUSALEM  
DAYS

WORSHIP  
JORDAN  
COMMAND  
WORLD

HUNGRY  
AUTHORITY  
FORTY  
TEMPLE

KINGDOMS  
BREAD  
STONE  
HOLY