


# 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>	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>	

2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent		READINGS YEAR C	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
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	
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Exo 3: 1-8, 13-15 1Cor 10: 1-6, 10-12 John 13: 1-9	

UPCOMING EVENT		
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	11.00 am	Anointing Mass at the Pettit Centre
Thur 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	09.30 am	<b>Mass at St. Francis Xaviers, SV</b>
	01.30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV
	07.30 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 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH AT OLOG**

## Lent



### WEDNESDAYS OF LENT

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.

### CLEANLINESS IN CHURCH

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



## 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

Florence Chadwick was the first woman to swim across the English Channel both ways. Back in 1952, she set out to become the first woman to swim from Catalina Island to the mainland of California, a swim of over 20 miles. She stepped into the waters of the Pacific Ocean on a foggy, chilly day, determined to accomplish her goal. She swam for more than fifteen hours, in a fog so dense she could hardly see the boats accompanying her. But after fifteen hours, she was ready to quit. She asked to be taken out of the water. Her mother, in a boat alongside her, told her she was close, and assured her that she could make it. But Florence was physically and emotionally exhausted. She stopped swimming and was pulled out. It wasn't until she was on the boat that she realized that the shore was less than half a mile away. At a news conference the next day, Florence said, *'All I could see was the fog ... I think if I could have seen the shore, I would have made it.'*



It's amazing what we can endure when we know it will end, when we know for sure how much longer it will be. Seeing the shore can be the difference between swimming on and giving up.

Jesus' Transfiguration shows us the shore. It reminds us of the day when we will all be transfigured into heavenly glory. At this point of Lent, we are offered a glimpse of Easter. And it can give us the courage to face our sins and to face the cross, just as it did for Jesus and his closest disciples.



## DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE NZ WELLINGTON UNIT

The Divine Retreat Centre Wellington Unit is thrilled to announce that Fr. Sunil Nagothu SVD will be leading a midday Lenten retreat at St. Martin De Porres Church in Avalon on Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 2.00 PM. We'll conclude this special gathering with a Holy Mass. We warmly invite you to join us for this significant event to celebrate and worship the Lord as we spiritually prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 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**



This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs. Let us ask ourselves whether we cooperate with others. Whether we show ourselves welcoming, with concrete gestures, to those both near and far. Whether we make others feel a part of the community or keep them at a distance.

*Pope Francis, [Message for Lent 2025](#).*

### **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.

### **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).

## XLT YOUTH WORSHIP 2025

JOIN US for our first XLT in 2025! An evening of relevant worship, adoration, reconciliation and fellowship for college students and young adults.  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm at St Anne's Hall, Emmett Street, Newtown.

## JOSHUA

Reminder about the Joshua Men's meeting this coming Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March in Connolly Hall (next to Sacred Heart Cathedral). Join us from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start followed by supper. Speaker: Fr Alfred Tong on "The need for generosity" David Monastra  
027-4477-280 email: [joshua.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wgtn@gmail.com)



**Holy Hour for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life**  
Tuesday 25 March 7.30pm – 8.30pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral Thorndon. You are invited to a Holy Hour which will include prayers, Scripture, singing, times of silence and conclude with Benediction. All are welcome.

## FOOD FOR FAITH for Lent.

Fr. John O'Connor offers brief daily encouragements for those seeking greater maturity in relationship with Jesus Christ. Sign up to receive daily emails at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)

## JUBILEE OF THE SICK AND HEALTH WORKERS - Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

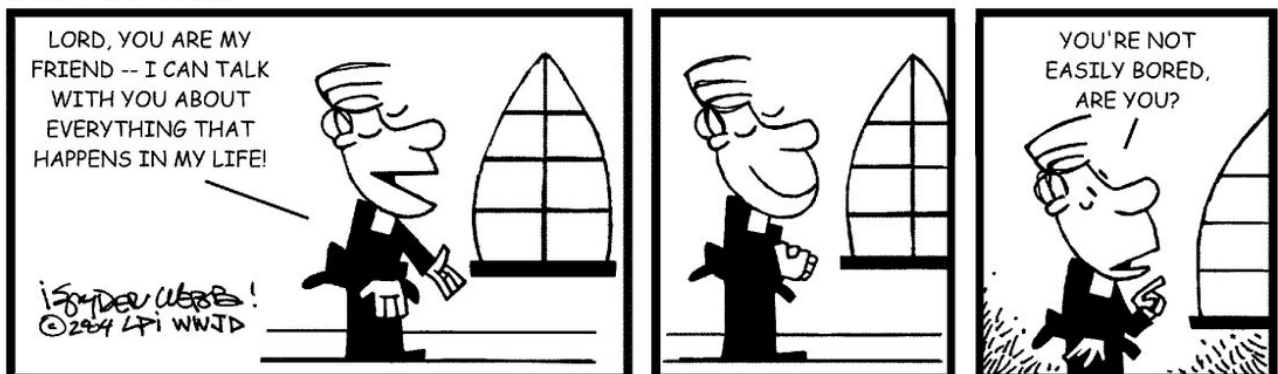
A special Mass will be celebrated at 5pm on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at St Anne's Church, Newtown to pray for the sick and those entrusted with their care. All care-givers, nurses and doctors at our hospitals and care facilities are especially welcome.



**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 Helen Wilson and Bernard Wilson, and for those whose anniversaries occur

around this time.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT





FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent • Luke 9:28b-36

## PUZZLE FOR YOU

# The Transfiguration

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 17:1-9



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

SIX	PETER	CLOTHES	VOICE	JOHN
LOVE	MOSES	GOOD	WHITE	ELIJAH
JAMES	DAYS	APPEARED	MOUNTAIN	HIGH