


Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



Parish Priest	Father Maleko Api-Tufuga
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 Heretaunga
Parish Administrator	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Website	www.olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School	56 Palmer Cres
Newsletter	www.stbrendans.school.nz
	Tel (04) 972 4282
	E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
	Tel (04) 939 1909

Easter Sunday		READINGS YEAR C	20th April 2024
20 th April	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 10 34.37-43 Colo 3: 1-4 John 20: 1-9	
27 th Apr	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 5: 12-16 Apocalypse 1: 9-13, 17-19 John 20: 19-31	
UPCOMING EVENT			
Thur 24 th Apr	7.30 pm	Parish Liturgy Meeting	
<div>EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE What is happening around our Diocese? Stay up to date with Archdiocesan events - https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/events/</div>			

EASTER GREETINGS

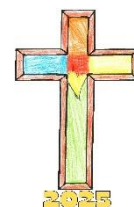
May the Risen Lord be a living experience to you, pervading every area of your life, blessing you, strengthening you, inspiring you, guiding you and supporting you and your family in your every walk of life.

Happy Easter to you all.
Fr Maleko A Tufuga

PASCHAL CANDLE DESIGN

Each year Our Lady of the Valleys Parish blesses a new Paschal Candle at Easter to represent Jesus as the Light of the World. Thank you to the many students who submitted entries, lots of thought and creativity went into these designs.

Molly shared her inspiration of hearts and favourite colours, connecting the heart to Jesus' love. Sky drew inspiration from a Lamb of God stained glass window, aiming to incorporate the symbol of Jesus' sacrifice and purity. Iza's flowers represent each person's spiritual growth and journey closer to God.





PARISH MORNING TEA

You're all invited to the Car Museum Cafe on George Daniels Drive, off Alexander Road, at 10am on Wednesday 30th April. Feel free to bring a friend.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

It is the 'first day of the week'. Mary Magdalene is the first witness of an event which marks not just the beginning of a new week but the transformation of human history. But 'it is still dark' and she does not yet understand what has happened. I ponder the mystery.



Wherever we share compassion, justice, reconciliation, faith, and encourage each other to be people of hope, we are people of the resurrection and ministers of the resurrection. Jesus is raised from death each time we live his way of life. We do this in our various ways of showing care and concern for the lives and troubles of others. Easter prayer can be an asking in prayer to be ministers of the resurrection, as we discern how best to serve the risen Lord.

The tomb was empty and, for the faithful ones, this was a sign of new life. Some would remember Jesus saying he would rise from death. Others would feel down, cheated or just lost. It is the same with ourselves: the tough times of life can bring us close to God, or distance us; suffering can make us better people, or make us bitter and isolated. We may feel a bit of both at times. The empty tomb is the message that nothing is final in this life, not even death. God's love is stronger than any human power, violence or cruelty. Love conquers all.



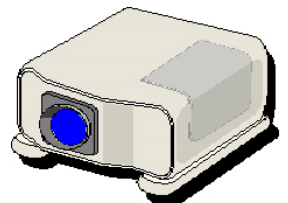
PLANNED GIVING – IRD CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The New Tax year began on the 1st of April. The Parish Office is preparing and checking the Inland Revenue Charitable Donation receipts for 2024-25 year. These will be available by end of April /early May along with the envelopes for the year 2025-26.

Your contributions are much appreciated and support the life and ministry of your Parish. We do encourage parishioners to contribute by Automatic Payment.

DATA PROJECTIONIST VOLUNTEERS

We are needing volunteers to operate the projector on a Sunday at Our Lady of Grace Church. The songs are all pre-prepared and we just need someone to do the clicking to bring the songs onto the screen. There is one person doing three Sundays and we need more volunteers to come and share the load. You will receive help to begin with. Young people very welcome. Contact Josephine on 04 5284777 or Noeline from the Music Group if you are able to help.



ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



'Let us think for a while, each of us, think about the daily problems, the illnesses we have been through or of one that a relative has; let us think about wars, human tragedies and with simplicity, with a humble voice, without flowers, alone, before God, before us, let us say, "I do not know how this is, but I am certain that Christ is Risen and I have put a wager on it". Brothers and sisters, this is what I wanted to say to you. Go home today repeating in your hearts: "Christ is Risen".'

Pope Francis Easter Sunday Mass, 16 April 2017



RECYCLING

The Catholic Church encourages its members and parishes to embrace waste reduction and recycling as part of caring for God's creation. A new national industry-funded recycling initiative was launched in September 2024. Given this, our parish recycling of tops and lids will stop on Sunday 4th May. Nevertheless, we encourage the continued recycling of plastic and metal, tops, lids, and ring tabs at these locations: Maidstone recycling depot (for metal tops only), Earthlink Lower Hutt, Sustainability Trust Wellington, Pak 'N Save Lower Hutt & Upper Hutt, New World Hutt City

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Why do we have so many ceremonies at Easter?

The Easter Triduum refers to three key days in the Church's calendar which together express the central mystery of our Christian faith: the death and resurrection of Christ. It begins on Holy Thursday as we focus on Jesus' farewell words and deeds at the Last Supper. It moves to Good Friday when we ponder the events of his suffering and death. It climaxes with the Easter Vigil when we celebrate the liberation of humankind through Christ's resurrection.

This three-stage sequence of worship allows us to take in an enormous mystery in small, digestible chunks and to relate it to the various facets of our own lives - the sorrows, joys, successes and failures. Of all the Church's celebrations throughout the year, the Easter Triduum is considered the highpoint.



EASTER

Over the Easter weekend, parishioners are invited to take home an Easter bookmark and/or card which have been made by students at St Brendan's School. Wishing you a joyful Easter filled with blessings!

ANZAC

This Anzac, wreaths are on display at Our Lady of Grace. These wreaths were made by each class at St Brendan's School for our Anzac service held at the end of the term. Our students also created individual poppies, and we invite you to take one as a symbol of remembrance.



ANZAC DAY MASS – FRIDAY 25th APRIL 9:30am OLOG

An invitation is extended to all parishioners to attend the ANZAC DAY Mass celebrated on Thursday 25th April at 9:30 am IN Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga. We remember those who have given their lives for our country and especially pray for the conflict currently being played out in Ukraine and Gaza.

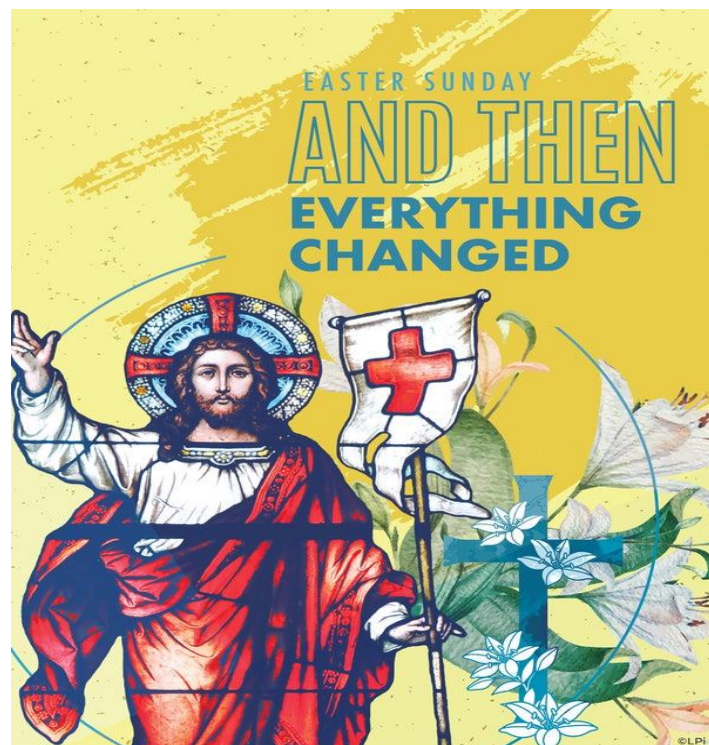
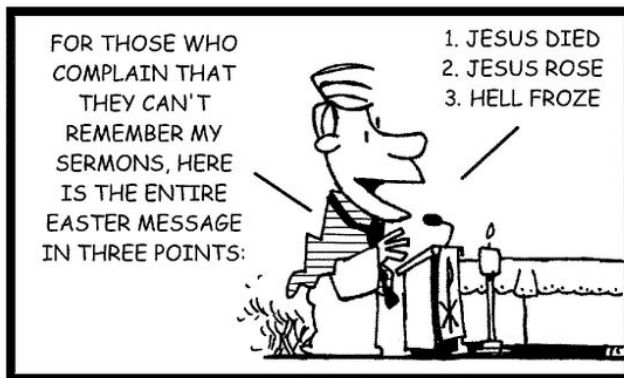
JOSHUA

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on Thursday 24th April 2025 from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral). Speaker: Michael Powell on "Power to do good in Jesus' name" Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280



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.

EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Easter Sunday • John 20:1-9

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).



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

living	tomb	rolled	risen	dead
women	first	spices	away	bowed
faces	stone	entered	ground	remember
morning	week	body	fright	day