

# 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**

5 Palmer Crescent

**Tel** (04) 972 4282

**Parish Office**

Heretaunga

**Parish Administrator**

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Website**

[www.olv.org.nz](http://www.olv.org.nz)

**E-mail**

[office@olv.org.nz](mailto:office@olv.org.nz) [pp@olv.org.nz](mailto:pp@olv.org.nz)

**St Brendan's School**

56 Palmer Cres

**Tel**

(04) 939 1909


**Newsletter**

[www.stbrendans.school.nz](http://www.stbrendans.school.nz)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**READINGS  
YEAR C**

**27th April 2024**

27 <sup>th</sup> April	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Acts 5: 12-16	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Apocalypse 1: 9-13, 17-19	
	Gospel	John 20: 19-31	
4 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Apocalypse 5: 11-14	
	Gospel	John 6: 22-29	

## UPCOMING EVENT

Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Apr	10.00 am	Parish Morning Tea
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	02.00 pm	Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre



## EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

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



MAY THE  
SOULS *of the*  
FAITHFUL  
DEPARTED,  

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THROUGH *the*  
MERCY *of* GOD,  
REST IN PEACE.



1936 – 2025

CLPI

## POPE FRANCIS BIOGRAPHY

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, was the first pope from the Americas and the first Jesuit to lead the Catholic Church. Before his election as pope on March 13, 2013, he served as Archbishop of Buenos Aires, where he was known for his humility, simple lifestyle, and dedication to the poor.

Raised in a family of Italian immigrants, he studied chemistry before entering the seminary and joining the Jesuits. Ordained a priest in 1969, he later became the Provincial of the Jesuits in Argentina and played a key role in guiding the Church during a period of economic and social crises in the country. When he was appointed bishop in 1992 and archbishop in 1998, he prioritized evangelization, social justice, and pastoral outreach.

As pope, Francis emphasized mercy, care for the marginalized, and environmental stewardship. His papacy was marked by a call for a "poor Church for the poor," interfaith dialogue, and reform within the Vatican. His teachings focused on compassion, the dignity of every person, and the need for a missionary Church.

On April 21, 2025, Pope Francis passed away, leaving behind a legacy of love, humility, and service.

## PLANNED GIVING – IRD CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The Tax receipts along with the new envelopes are now available in the foyer of both Churches. Kindly ensure that you pick up your receipts and the new envelopes. Those of you who have recently joined too have their new envelopes in the foyer. If your Donation Receipt/Envelopes are not in the foyer of the church please advise the Parish Office and it will be relocated for you.

If you would like to join the Planned Giving Programme or change to an Automatic Payment, please contact the Parish Office



## PARISH MORNING TEA

All parishioners are invited to the last Wednesday of the month coffee morning this coming Wednesday. Join us at 10am at the Car Museum Cafe on George Daniel's Drive, off Alexander Road.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next gathering is on Saturday, 3 May 2025, at the Pettit Centre at 2pm. This month our guest speaker is Norma Sawers and her topic is "My Return to Rome". Norma is always a very interesting speaker.

Please feel free to bring along a friend who may be interested in joining us. As usual, donations are always gratefully accepted. Don't forget our book swap. We will end the afternoon with our usual chat and cuppa.



## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Today's Gospel presents us with the one *disciple* who is named: Thomas. In his hesitation and his efforts to understand, this disciple, albeit somewhat stubborn, is a bit like us and we find him likeable. Without knowing it, he gives us a great gift: he brings us closer to God, because God does not hide from those who seek him. Jesus shows Thomas his glorious wounds; he makes him touch with his hand the infinite tenderness of God, the vivid signs of how much he suffered out of love for humanity.



For us who are disciples, it is important to put our humanity in contact with the flesh of the Lord, to bring to him, with complete trust and utter sincerity, our whole being. As Jesus told Saint Faustina, he is happy when we tell him everything: he is not bored with our lives, which he already knows; he waits for us to tell him even about the events of our day (cf. *Diary*, 6 September 1937). That is the way to seek God: through prayer that is transparent and unafraid to hand over to him our troubles, our struggles and our resistance. Jesus' heart is won over by sincere openness, by hearts capable of acknowledging and grieving over their weakness, yet trusting that precisely there God's mercy will be active.

What does Jesus ask of us? He desires hearts that are truly consecrated, hearts that draw life from his forgiveness in order to pour it out with compassion on our brothers and sisters. Jesus wants hearts that are open and tender towards the weak, never hearts that are hardened.

*Pope Francis*

## 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.



## CHARIS NZ

We warmly invite Parishioners (Clergy welcome) to a prayer Workshop: 'Come to the Mountain of the Lord' (Isaiah 2:3). This workshop will offer: Prayer Group Formation, Prayer Ministry: Teaching and Training & Prophetic Intercession: Teaching and

Training Some parishes are beginning to offer prayer ministry after Holy Mass, during Alpha programs, or similar gatherings. This workshop will provide a wonderful opportunity for all who are interested in these ministries to receive both teaching and practical training. Saturday, 10th May, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm at Connelly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Wellington. There is no cost to attend. However, an offering will be collected towards the end of the day to help cover costs. We also ask everyone to bring a plate for a shared lunch. To register:



Email: cog.wellington@charisnz.com or Phone: Lislie at 0273476327 Come and be equipped to serve more deeply in the life of the Church. We look forward to seeing you there! Current of Grace, Wellington initiative



### MARIST ST PATS RFC –

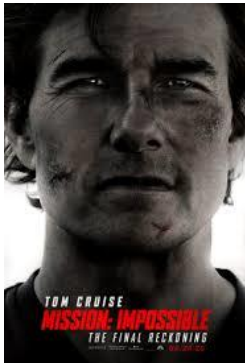
The Clubs Past Players and Supporters Weekend commences on Friday 2 May 2025 at the Clubs Hataitai Clubrooms at 6.00pm . All welcome.

### MUSIC GROUP

The Music Group is keen to increase its numbers. Any musicians - guitarists, flautists, pianists, singers - who are interested in joining us in this music ministry, please contact the office or Josephine 027 2045875.



### SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL FUNDRAISING INVITATION

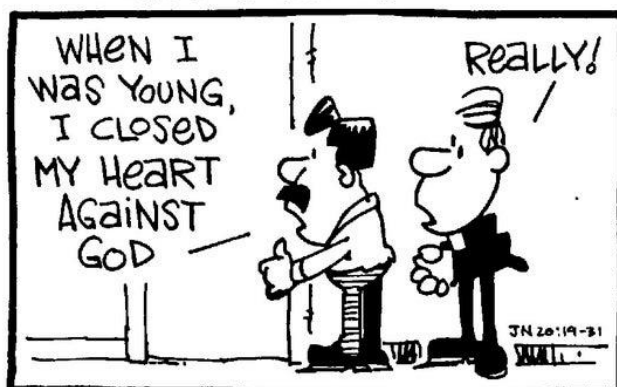


You are Invited!!! The Fundraising team continues to raise funds to support the final stage of restoration and refurbishment of our Cathedral with a movie fundraiser "Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning" Event Date: Sunday, May 25, 2025 : Event Address: Lighthouse Cinema, 52 Beach Street, Petone, Lower Hutt : Screening time: 5:00pm : Arrival time from: 4:30pm Ticket prices are as follows: Adult: \$25/ticket and Student: \$20/ticket. Purchase your tickets online by scanning the QR code or by accessing the link: <https://forms.gle/Wm7k5GiyBigHg5x27> We are seeking sponsors to help make this fundraiser event special. For more information please contact Joy on: 021 048 1216 or [mcsf.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:mcsf.fundraising@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, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

# GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE C



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2nd Sunday of Easter • John 20:19-31

## PUZZLE FOR YOU

### Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



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

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED