



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	20 May, Term 2 2025 Newsletter
	Tel (04) 972 4282
	E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
	Tel (04) 939 1909

Ascension of our Lord		READINGS YEAR C	1 st June 2025
1 st June	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 1: 1-11 Ephesians 1: 17-23 Luke 24: 46-53	
8 th June	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 2: 1-11 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13 John 20: 19-23	
UPCOMING EVENT			
Tue 3 rd June	05.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club	
Wed 4 th June	01.30 pm	Catholic Women's League at the Pettit Centre	
Sat 7 th June	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/		

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday 3rd June at the Silverstream Bowling Club at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to attend this social event as it is an opportunity to get to know other men in the parish. Any enquires please call Roger Wasson on 528 7847



MEN'S GROUP



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Birthday Invitation from Catholic Women's League We would like to invite all women to our birthday celebration at 1.30pm on Wednesday, 4th June in the Pettit Centre. We'd love you to join us for some entertainment and afternoon tea.

Could members please bring a sweet plate.

PENTECOST SUNDAY.

We are celebrating Pentecost on the Sunday Masses of 7th and 8th June.

All parishioners are invited to wear red clothing or your national dress.

You are also invited to bring a plate of your cultural food to share for morning tea.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 7 June, at the Pettit Centre at 2pm. This month we invite you all to share your thoughts on a book you have recently read and enjoyed. Perhaps you could read a paragraph which impressed you. Any good film can also be covered.

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.

PARKING AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER

We have allocated Two car parks closest to the front of the church as reserved for people with disability. **Please DO LEAVE these slots for disabled people.**



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

As I reflect on the Jubilee we are celebrating this year as a moment of grace in these troubled times, I would like in this Message to invite you to be 'communicators of hope' Too often today, communication generates not hope, but fear and despair, prejudice and resentment, fanaticism and even hatred All too often it simplifies reality in order to provoke instinctive reactions; it uses words like a razor; it even uses false or artfully distorted information to send messages designed to agitate, provoke or hurt I dream of a communication that does not peddle illusions or fears, but is able to give reasons for hope Martin Luther King once said: 'If I can help someone as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song... then my living will not be in vain'. To do this, though, we must be healed of our 'diseases' of self-promotion and self-absorption, and avoid the risk of shouting over others in order to make our voices heard A good communicator ensures that those who listen, read or watch can be involved, can draw close, can get in touch with the best part of themselves and enter with these attitudes into the stories told Communicating in this way helps us to become 'pilgrims of hope', which is the motto of the present Jubilee.

*From the message of Pope Francis
for 59th World Day of
Social Communications 2025*

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



"We see Jesus' love for us: his is a presence that does not want to limit our freedom. On the contrary, he leaves space to us, because true love always generates a closeness that does not stifle, is not possessive, is close but not possessive; on the contrary, true love which makes us protagonists. Let us ask ourselves if we really are; and also, if we are capable of loving others, leaving them free and making room for them." – Pope Francis, *Regina Caeli*, 29/5/22.

Reflect and Act: Do we care for others by leaving them enough resources and habitats which promote their growth?



THE ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE –

Love is a Decision – register for the next available course to be held on consecutive Sundays 8 & 15 June 10am-4pm, St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Spaces filling fast - please get in touch or register online through the website. Contact email

marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

LATE MASS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - ADW

During this Jubilee Year, the Archdiocese is planning monthly late-evening diocesan Mass for all Young People!! This month's mass will be held on Friday 6th June @8pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral. Please contact [Regina Fernandez \(r.fernandes@wn.catholic.org.nz\)](mailto:r.fernandes@wn.catholic.org.nz) if you have any questions.

MORNING TEA @8.30AM SFX MASS

Invitation to all to join us in a cuppa and some treats after mass - rain or shine! Feel free to bring a packet of biscuits or baking to share with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ~ If you have any questions or want to be part of the set-up/pack-down team, feel free to chat to any of the peeps after mass.



VACANCY – DIRECTOR, CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE:

For over 60 years, the Catholic Enquiry Centre has helped thousands of people explore the Catholic faith and, in many cases, become Catholic. An agency of the Bishops Conference, the Centre is the first point of contact for enquirers seeking information about the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand, and supports Church communities in their mission of evangelisation. The Centre is seeking a new Director to lead a small team in continuing this important work. A personal commitment to the Catholic Church along with a proven history of sharing the faith and of leading a team will be necessary. Please send expressions of interest to secretariat@nzcbc.org.nz by June 6. The role could be filled sooner for the right candidate, so please contact the Bishops Conference promptly.

MARIST ST PATS RFC

The Clubs Annual Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 8 June 2025 at 10.30am at St Patricks Church, Childers Tce, Kilbirnie. Mass will be celebrated followed by morning tea. All welcome.



WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Why do we celebrate the Ascension?

On Ascension Sunday we celebrate Christ's final appearance after the resurrection whereby he was taken up into heaven. To some ears this might sound like celestial theatrics! As Christians, we understand it to be a profound affirmation of the fact that Jesus is indeed the Son of God who lives on forever beyond the material confines of this world. We are led to reflect on our own humanity from the perspective of the promise of eternal life. Christ has shown us God's love, and God's love is forever - limited by nothing, not even death. As Christians, our belief in this 'tomorrow' allows us to live 'today' with hope and courage.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to our Parish then welcome. Please fill in one of the cards in the foyer: "New to our Parish?" so we can put you on the Parish roll.



We are a very vibrant and welcoming Parish and have lots of groups and ministries you might like to join. For more information, please contact Jovena in the Parish Office 972 4282 or email office@olov.org.nz



very much appreciated.

Thank you to the Catholic Women's League and the St Brendan's school children for the prayer cards and bookmarks they shared with all the mothers on Mother's Day. These small gifts were

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 Paul Jensen, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



7th SUNDAY OF EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE C



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



7th Sunday of Easter • John 17:20-26

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



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

RISE
SUFFER
HEAVEN
WORSHIPED

REPENT
PSALMS
SCRIPTURE
BLESSING

PROPHETS
OPENED
FULFILLED
UNDERSTAND

TAKEN
FORGIVE
MOSES
MINDS