



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 9:00 am (Stokes Valley) Wednesday/Saturday 9:00 am (Heretaunga) Friday 9:30 am (Heretaunga)
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament	Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)
Reconciliation	Every Saturday at 9.30 am (Heretaunga)
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	
	Tel (04) 972 4282
	E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
	Tel (04) 939 1909

5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		READINGS YEAR A	8 th February 2026
8 th Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 58: 7-10 Cor 2: 1-5 Matthew 5: 13-16	
15 th Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Esuc 15: 15-20 Cor 2: 6-10 Matthew 5: 17-37	
UPCOMING EVENT			
Sat 07 th Feb	02.00 pm	Circle of Friendship at the Pettit Centre	
Thur 12 th Feb	07.30 pm	Parish Finance Committee	
<div></div> <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>			

ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY



Parishioners are invited to bring their Palms from previous year's Palm Sunday service (if you have them) to leave in the basket in the foyer of the Church ready for Ash Wednesday. These will be burnt to provide the Ashes used to mark the beginning of Lent on 18th February. Thank you.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

A very happy New year to you all. Our first Circle of Friendship will be held on Saturday 7th February, 2pm start at the Pettit Centre. We will start the year off with a general chat and sharing of stories from Christmas - did you go away, did you visit family or did family descend upon you?



As usual we will share a cuppa and light afternoon tea. Please feel free to bring along a friend who may be interested in joining this very friendly Circle. Just a reminder - a gold coin donation towards our running costs is always very welcome.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

International Day of Prayer & Awareness against Human Trafficking

'Baptism is the foundation of Christian life. This is because it introduces everyone to the greatest gift, which is to be children of God, that is, to share in Jesus' relationship to the Father in the Spirit. There is nothing higher than this baptismal dignity, equally bestowed upon each person, through which we are invited to clothe ourselves with Christ and be grafted onto Him like branches of the one vine.'

These words from the Final Document of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (2023) reaffirm the centrality of baptism in the life and mission of the Church as proposed by Vatican II.

The Final Document also notes: 'The identity of the People of God flows from Baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. This identity is lived out as a call to holiness and a sending out in mission, inviting all peoples to accept the gift of salvation (cf. Mt 28:18-19). The missionary synodal Church springs from Baptism, in which Christ clothes us with Himself (cf. Gal 3:27) and enables us to be reborn of the Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5-6) as children of God'.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



'These Beatitudes remain a paradox only for those who believe that God is other than how Christ reveals him. Those who expect the arrogant to always rule the earth are surprised by the Lord's words. Those who are accustomed to thinking that happiness belongs to the rich may believe that Jesus is deluded. However, the delusion lies precisely in the lack of faith in Christ. He is the poor man who shares his life with everyone, the meek man who perseveres in suffering, the peacemaker persecuted to death on the cross.'

- Pope Leo XIV, [Angelus](#), 1 Feb 2026.

PARISH PICNIC AND FAMILY MASS



Our annual tradition of Parish Picnic will be held on the 22nd of February 2026. The picnic will be right after the 10.30 am Family mass in Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga. There will be a simple program for everyone to enjoy and games for the kids and the kids at heart. Bring a picnic to share. All are invited to join.

LATE NIGHT MASS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Friday, 13th February at 8.00pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street - Come join us for the first Late Night Mass of the year with other young people! We hope to see you all there and don't forget to bring a plate.



MASS TIMES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY

The following Masses will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be imposed at them all.

6:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga

9:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Grace Heretaunga

7:30 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Church, Stokes Valley



QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT October – December 2025

Operating Income	83,424
Less Expenditures	
• Pastoral Costs	(44,959)
• Property Costs*	(13,540)
• Administration Costs	(11,883)
Total Operating Expenditure	(70,382)
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	13,042
Balance Sheet Flows	
• Balance Sheet Inflows	6,788
• Balance Sheet Outflows	(5,524)
Excess/(Deficit) for the Qtr	14,307



ST VALENTINE'S DAY MASS

The Archbishop invites you to the annual celebration of married love. All engaged and married couple's welcome. Mass celebrated by Archbishop Paul Martin SM, 5.30pm on Saturday 14 February, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon. Light refreshments to follow.

Come along to this joyful Mass before your dinner reservation!

SEASONS FOR GROWTH COMPANION

Help children and young people navigate change, loss, and grief. Seasons for Growth is a peer-support programme for ages 6 -18, designed to assist with life events such as separation, bereavement, or moving schools.

Upcoming Training Dates: 23–24 March 2026 (Online)

Jess Ferroni at 021 374 405 or visit [Seasons for Growth](#) to register.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Blessed New Year to everyone. Our Parish Youth Group has a regular meeting every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at the Pettit Centre in Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga. We start with praying the rosary at 12.30 and then meeting proper and activities at 1.00 pm. The activities are open to all our parish youth members (13-25 years old).





WEDNESDAYS OF LENT FROM 18TH FEBRUARY

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

FILIPINO MASS

12.30 pm, 1 February 2026 (Sunday) Sacred Heart Cathedral, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011 All are welcome



THE ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION



Love is a Decision & Commit - online registration available on the Archdiocesan website. Next course, consecutive Sundays 1 & 8 March 10.00am - 4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Register early (couples attend both Sundays together in person).

See the Archdiocese's website for information about getting married overseas and the papers required. Any queries contact: marriage@cadw.nz

YOUTH MINISTER NETWORK EVENING

Come join us on 19th March at 6.30pm at the Archdiocesan office (204 Thorndon Quay) to learn more about youth ministry and how to serve the young people in our communities. This evening is an opportunity to meet other youth leaders within Wellington, share ideas and discuss what our young people need.



THINKING ABOUT PRIESTHOOD?

Join us for a Vocations Discernment Retreat - 27 - 29 March 2026 @ Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston. A discernment retreat for young men exploring a call to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Wellington. Closing date for registrations: Friday, 27 February 2026. Contact Lucienne @ l.hensel@cadw.nz for more

information.



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 Denzil Karam, Xeth Corum and Cecelia Rohloff, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 5:13-16

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Plugged In and Turned On

"You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)



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

LAMP	LIGHT	BOWL	GOOD	DEEDS
WORLD	CITY	MEN	HIDDEN	SHINE
PRAISE	HOUSE	FATHER	HILL	STAND