

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 Tel (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Website	www.olv.org.nz E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School Newsletter	56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909 10 February, Term 1 2026 Newsletter

6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		READINGS YEAR A	15 th February 2026
15 th Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Esuc 15: 15-20 Cor 2: 6-10 Matthew 5: 17-37	
22 nd Feb	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Gen 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 Romans 5: 12-19 Matthew 4: 1-11	

UPCOMING EVENT

Wed 18 th Feb	06.30 am 09.30 am 07.30 am	Mass at OLOG Mass at OLOG Mass at SFX
Thur 12 th Feb	01.30 pm 07.00 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Stokes Valley 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 THE CHANGE IN TIMINGS OF DAILY MASS
TUESDAY/THURSDAY STOKES VALLEY 9 AM
WEDNESDAY/SATURDAY HERETAUNGA 9 AM

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



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



OUR LADY OF GRACE



In the church of the Döbling Carmelite Monastery in Vienna, Austria, the miraculous image of Our Lady of Grace is displayed.

It is from this devotional picture that our Heretaunga Church derives its name of "Our Lady of Grace". (The picture is also sometimes known as "Our Lady of the bowed head of Grace").

There is a handout available to inform you of how this devotion came into being and the graces Our Blessed Mother promises to anyone who devoutly venerates her in this picture.

A photographed picture of this Marian devotion will be blessed and hung in the Heretaunga Church, St Joseph's Adoration Room after communion on Sunday.

John O'Malley was gifted this very special photograph by a Carmelite Priest in Vienna, as they both stood before this original print.

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.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Last Saturday, 7th, we held our first gathering for the year. We sang two verses and recited three verses of our National Anthem to celebrate Waitangi Day and pray for our country. Over a cup of tea and eats, we shared holiday stories and helpful hints and lots of conversation took place as we caught up with friends. A reminder that our Circle of Friendship gatherings are on the first Saturday of every month, the next gathering occurring on 7th March.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'In the face of these grave challenges, we turn to prayer and awareness. Prayer is the "small flame" that we must guard amidst the storm, as it gives us the strength to resist indifference to injustice. Awareness enables us to identify the hidden mechanisms of exploitation in our neighborhoods and in digital spaces. Ultimately, the violence of human trafficking can be overcome only through a renewed vision that beholds every individual as a beloved child of God.'

Pope Leo XIV





THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Day of Prayer for Temperance

All four gospels record that Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist in the River Jordan, making it one of the most historically certain events in the life of Jesus. John preached a baptism for the forgiveness of sins as he gathered a community to await the coming Messiah. In the fullness of time Jesus, the Sinless One, went down into the waters of the Jordan in solidarity with sinful men and women, 'to fulfil all righteousness' (Matt 3:15) and was baptised by John.

The Synoptic Gospels describe the descent of the Holy Spirit and the voice of the Father that declared 'You are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.' Emerging from the waters of the baptismal font, every Christian hears again that voice that was once heard on the banks of the Jordan. From this comes the reassurance that one has become a child of adoption (cf. Gal 4:4-7) and a brother or sister of Christ.

Baptism is not a rite of passage into a privileged club. It is the sacrament by which believers, bathed in living water, enter the Spirit-filled community that seeks to manifest the reign of God the Father as Jesus did.

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.

BR. DOUGLAS DAWICK FMS MEMORIAL MASS - Sadly, Br Douglas Dawick FMS was reunited with God on the 12th of January 2026. His funeral was held in Auckland on the 16th of January 2026. Br. Doug spent around 25 years in Lower Hutt in the service of God in the Archdiocese of Wellington. His ministry was predominantly amongst the youth and more specifically in our parish. All are welcome to attend a Memorial Mass for Br. Doug on **Saturday, 21st February** at 2.00pm in St Peter and Paul's Church, Knights Road, Lower Hutt. If possible, please bring a plate of finger food to share at a fellowship after the Mass.



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.



JOSHUA WELLINGTON

Extends an open invitation to everyone (not just the men!) to MASS followed by a light supper on Thursday

19th February 2026 at 7:30pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Thorndon. Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain

WALK THROUGH OF KOROWAI HOUSE

The Parish of Te Awakairangi and supporters of Greenstone Doors are invited to have a walk through of 194 Naenae Rd from 11am-3pm, Sunday 22 February 2026 as renovations of the building and property are now complete. This is an opportunity to view the former Presbytery of St Bernadettes Parish in Naenae before Greenstone Doors prepare to open Korowai House -a Maternal Mental Health facility at Easter.



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.



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, Br. Douglas Dawick, Xeth Corum and Cecelia Rohloff, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE A



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

PUZZLE FOR YOU



PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

OBEY
BETTER
MURDER

ANGRY
FAITHFUL
THOUGHTS

PROMISE
KEEP
SWEAR

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



MISSION

Ask your parents to list three ways you can honor them.



BECAUSE VIBRANT
CHURCHES MATTER