

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)
 Tuesday / Thursday 9:00 am (Stokes Valley)
 Weekday Eucharist: 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 Tel (04) 972 4282
 Heretaunga
 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: 56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909
 Newsletter: [24 March, Term 1 2026 Newsletter](#)

Easter Sunday READINGS YEAR A 5th April 2026

5 th April	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 10: 34, 37-43 Colossians 3: 1-4 John 20: 1-9	
12 th April	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 2:42-47 Peter 1: 3-9 John 20: 19-31	

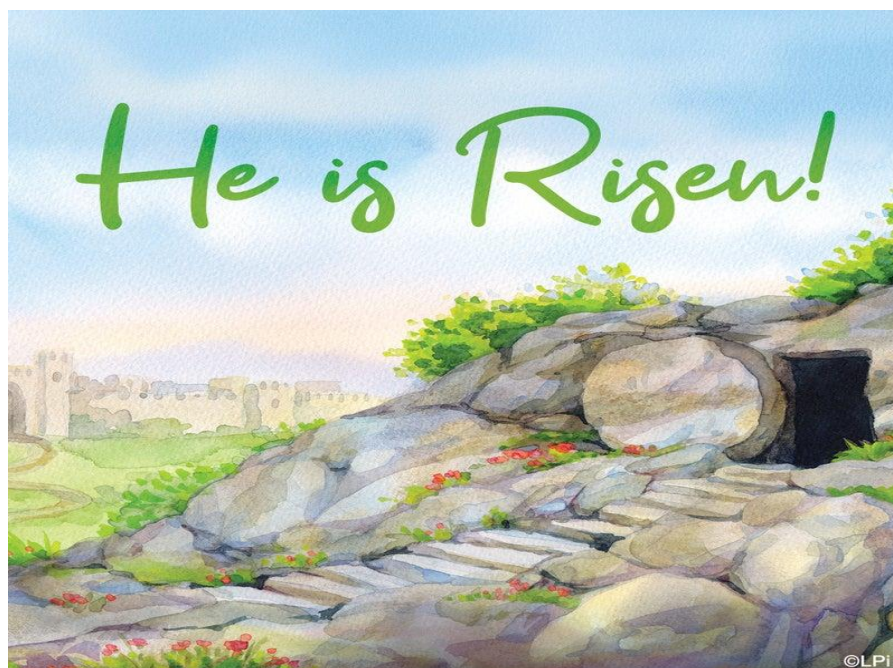
UPCOMING EVENT

Tue 7 th Apr	05.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club
Thur 9 th Apr	07.30 pm	Parish Finance Committee



EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

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



PASCHAL CANDLE DESIGN

Once again students from St Brendan's have designed a logo of 2026 Paschal Candle. The designs chosen for this year is

Sky T - Room 4:



I wanted it to look like a stained-glass window so the light from the candle will make it look nice. It has palm leaves to represent Palm Sunday. The hands at the base represent surrender, gratitude and openness to receiving God's blessing. The dove represents peace, purity and innocence. The olive branch in the dove's beak represents peace and hope. The light behind

the cross is like God's light shining over the world.

Lucy L - Room 4:

When I created this, I made the middle a heart to represent that God is the Light of the World. I chose the stained-glass window because it reminds me of the Church. Then I chose the thorns to represent the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he sacrificed himself for us.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 4 April 2026, 2pm, at the Pettit Centre. The speaker will be Paula Lardelli from NevaALone Medic Alarms who will speak about Medical alarms. She will also cover health, wellbeing and peace of mind for people living alone.

Paula will also talk about Government funded options.

Please feel free to bring along a friend who may be interested in joining us. As usual, donations are always gratefully accepted. These donations go towards our funds for expenses such as tea and coffee supplies etc. Don't forget our book swap. We will end the afternoon with our usual chat and cuppa.



MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday the 7th of April 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.

MEN'S GROUP

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'An awareness of the gravity of today's cultural and ecological crisis must be translated into new habits.' *Laudato Si'* 209



Action: In this Eastertide season of new life and hope, what new habits can I begin living out in the way I travel, in the food I eat, the clothing I wear, the words I speak and the witness I show in my family?

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL



While the catechumenate in the early Church was a period of preparation for adult candidates, it also served as a time of renewal for the whole Christian community. This was heightened during the season of Lent as a period when the whole Church engaged in a time of intense prayer, fasting, and almsgiving with the candidates in preparation for their Easter baptism.



Secondly, through the series of scrutinies, tests, and exorcisms that the catechumens underwent, the community was eager to evaluate and encourage their spiritual and moral growth as they prepared to be members of the Church. The decision to become a Christian in a hostile world was not to be taken lightly. The fruits of faith and love should be manifest in the candidates.

Thirdly, the celebration of baptism during the Easter Vigil accentuated its association with the paschal mystery and with the triumph of the Lord Jesus over sin and death. Today, the placement of the paschal candle beside the baptismal font and the passing of its light to the parents or godparents recalls this aspect.

Tertullian wrote: 'Christians are made not born.' The ceremonies that the candidates underwent gave expression and shape to the lives of faith, hope and love that they desired to embrace.



PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Please support this collection
on Good Friday
A special collection will be
taken at the end of the service
Please place your donation
into the baskets at the door of
the church

To sustain the "living stones" (local Christians) and maintain holy
places amid economic hardship, war, and reduced pilgrim
numbers.

DIAMOND JUBILEE

The Catholic Parish of Wellington South is inviting former and current parishioners to a celebration of several historical milestones on **Sunday, 19 April 2026**. The first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on 17 April 1966, 60 years ago. The weekend will also acknowledge 100 years since the opening of the St Madeleine Sophie primary school; the forerunner of the current primary school of St Francis de Sales. A special Mass of remembrance and thanks featuring past and present priests will be followed by a lunch at the Pines Cabaret, Houghton Bay. Registrations of interest are welcomed by providing contact details at: office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? OR HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED?

WELCOME
to our
PARISH

WELCOME

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, **OR TO CORRECT YOUR DETAILS** please contact Jovena in the Parish Office 972 4282 or email office@olov.org.nz



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 Margaret Carson, Fr. Denis Collins and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



JOSHUA

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on Thursday 16th April 2026 from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral).

Speaker: Lislie Pietersz, Current of Grace Wellington leader, on "Seek and witness Jesus' love" Ring David Monastra 027-4477 280

EASTER



©LPI

FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Easter Sunday • John 20:1-9

PUZZLE FOR YOU

