


# 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 Heretaunga Tel (04) 972 4282  
 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: [24 March, Term 1 2026 Newsletter](#)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter READINGS YEAR A 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026

26 <sup>th</sup> April	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 2: 14.36-41 Peter 2: 20-25 John 10: 1-10	
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Gospel	Acts 6: 1-7 Peter 2: 4-9 John 14: 1-12	

### UPCOMING EVENT

Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Apr	10.00 am	Parish Morning Tea at Cars Museum
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	02.00pm	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/>



### ANZAC DAY

The 9:30 am Masson Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April will be marked as the day to remember and pray for peace in our world at this time. All are welcome to attend.

### PARISH MORNING TEA

Come and join us for some company and a coffee at 10am on the last Wednesday of the month at Cars Inc Museum Cafe in George Daniels Drive, off Alexander Road. Feel free to bring a friend.



## THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

“I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” John 10:11

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, “I just want you to know, I’m willing to die for these files.” She would have called a psychiatrist — or at least security.



There is something absurd in Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel: “I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep.” (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd. Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life.

And yet, Jesus insists: I will die for them. The crowd understandably responds: “He is out of his mind.”

C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John’s Gospel won’t let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic — a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death.

The Good Shepherd’s madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep — for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me.

Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

— *Father John Muir*



## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 2 May at 2pm at the Petit Centre. Our guest speaker will be **Trish Hill** who has spent time with Operation Mobilisation. She travelled on the boat MV Doulos, taking Bibles to China and will share with us how God was always with them.

If you want more information about this wonderful cause, you can search **Operation Mobilisation** - a Christian missionary organisation founded by George Verwer to mobilise young people to live and share the Gospel of Jesus. 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.

## VOCATION SUNDAY

This Sunday is Vocation Sunday. Please pray for our seminarians, and for all those discerning the call to priesthood.

Could someone you know become tomorrow’s priest? Pray for this person. Invite him to consider priesthood. Affirm his gifts and qualities. Encourage him to be open to the possibility of priesthood.





## 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

## AN AFRICAN EXPERIENCE OF PARISH LIFE IN NEW ZEALAND –

Calling all our African parishioners. There will be a fellowship and formation day on **Saturday, 23 May 2026 from 2.00 – 3.30pm** at the Connolly Hall of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Wellington. Fr Patrick Bridgman, ADW Liturgy Advisor, will give a formation session on Proclamation of the Word, followed by reflection and fellowship. Bring the family and bring a plate to share. Email [dr.bangure@gmail.com](mailto:dr.bangure@gmail.com) or 021 134 8476. See the poster for details.



## ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

‘The Rosary, like other ancient forms of prayer, has united us this evening in its steady rhythm built on repetition. Peace gains ground in the same way: word by word, deed by deed, just as a rock is hollowed out drop by drop, or fabric woven stitch by stitch. These are the slow rhythms of life, a sign of God’s patience. We must not allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by the pace of a world that does not know what it is chasing. Rather, we must return to serving the rhythm of life, the harmony of creation and healing its wounds.’

*Pope Leo XIV*



## LATE NIGHT MASS:

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Wellington 🕒8.00pm Friday, 1st May 2026 - We have our May Late Night Mass for Young People next week! It is a special Mass as the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Gábor Pintér, will be celebrating Mass for us. We cannot wait to see you all there, so spread the word and bring your friends and family as well as a plate to share.



## MARRIAGE PREPARATION –

Online registration available on the Archdiocesan website: [Marriage Ministries | Archdiocese of Wellington](#) Next course, consecutive Sundays 7 & 14 June from 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 email queries contact: [marriage@cadw.nz](mailto:marriage@cadw.nz)

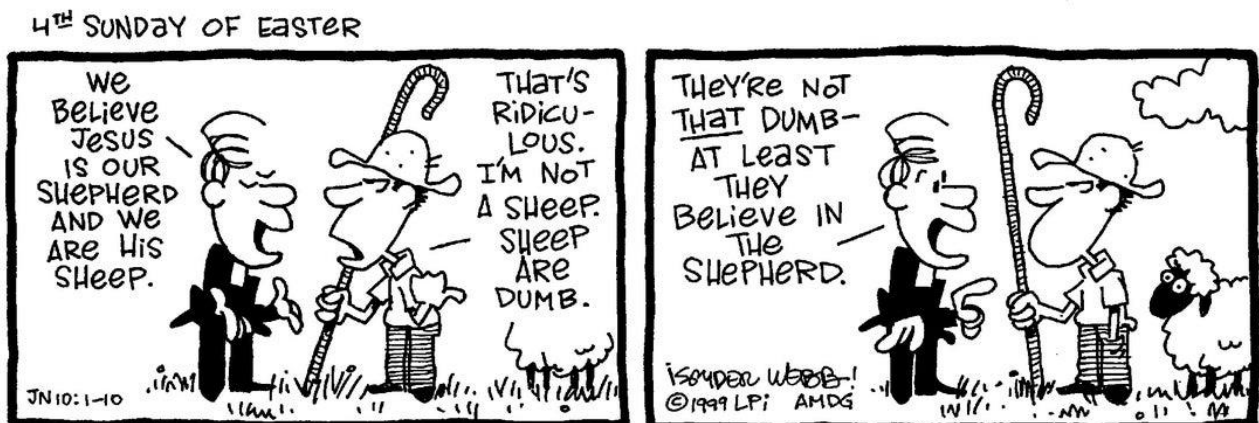
## ST PATRICK’S COLLEGE SILVERSTREAM

invites Year 8 boys and their parents/caregivers to attend their Open Day on Thursday 21 May 2026. Sessions will be held from 9:00–10:30am or 1:00–2:30pm, with no registration required. Visitors are asked to meet at the School Chapel. Enrolments for Year 9, 2027 open on 22 May 2026 and close on 26 June 2026. For further information, please see the Open Day poster in the Church Foyer. If you require any further information contact the College on 04 9394224 or visit [www.stream.school.nz](http://www.stream.school.nz).



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**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, 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.



4th Sunday of Easter • John 10:1-10

# PUZZLE FOR YOU

## The Shepherd's Voice

When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:4 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 10:1-10 (NIV)

*Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you locate a word, draw a circle around it.*

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



LIFE	LEADS	NAME	PEN	VOICE
KNOW	STRANGER	THIEF	LISTEN	FOLLOW
SHEEP	ROBBER	GATE	SHEPHERD	SAVED