


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 28 April, Term 2 2026 Newsletter

6th Sunday of Easter READINGS YEAR A 10th May 2026

10 th May	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17 Peter 3: 15-18 John 14: 15-21	
17 th May	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Acts 1: 1-11 Ephesians 1: 17-23 Matthew 28: 16-20	

UPCOMING EVENT

Sun 10 th May	10.30pm	Confirmation Mass at OLOG
Thurs 14 th May	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/>

CONFIRMATION MASS 10:30AM SUNDAY 10th MAY AT OLOG
 We offer a warm welcome to Archbishop Paul Martin who is joining us this weekend for the conferring on the young candidates the gift of the Holy Spirit
 Please keep them in your prayers. We congratulate them on the step they take on their journey of faith.



IRD CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS – PLEASE HELP
 Those of you who have recently joined too have their new envelopes in the foyer.
 Please help with distributing these envelopes. If you know of someone living in your street who has not picked it up please help by dropping it in their letter box.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Belonging and inclusion appeared in nearly every conversation. The Church is perceived as struggling to welcome those on the margins, those who have experienced relationship breakdown, those in second unions, those who feel judged or hurt, and those estranged from faith communities.



There is a deep desire for a listening Church that makes space for the wounded, those who are doubting, and those who feel on the margins. 'Belonging brings caring, mercy, compassion and love.

It is at the heart of who we are and builds community that belongs to Christ and is mutually beneficial to us all.' Participants stressed that 'a sense of belonging is fundamental for individuals within the Church community, linking it to family, education, and participation in faith.'

Some highlighted isolation, loneliness, and anxiety, and the marginalisation of many individuals and groups. Others insisted that welcome and inclusion must be more than an ideal, 'embracing everyone, especially those who may feel disconnected from the Church.'

Belonging was described as an emotional need and a Gospel imperative linked to mission and evangelisation: 'it helps people to take responsibility, links to engagement and active membership, and is key to people being open to a journey of faith.'



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Last Saturday we gathered to listen to a very interesting speaker, Trish Hill. She volunteered for Operation Mobilisation, a Charity organisation, in the late 1980's, and sailed on MV Doulos to ports around the world to deliver books, including Bibles. Trish shared with us the challenges of getting Bibles into China and the way God was with them in these challenges. A cuppa and eats followed with lots of lively conversation.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'It is wonderful to think that, when we consider our individual calling, the situations we encounter and the people entrusted to our care, our commitments and responsibilities, and our service in the Church, each of us can say with confidence: "Despite my weakness, the Lord is not ashamed of my humanity. Instead, he comes to dwell within me. He accompanies me with his Spirit; he enlightens me and makes me an instrument of his love for others, for society and for the world."'

Pope Leo

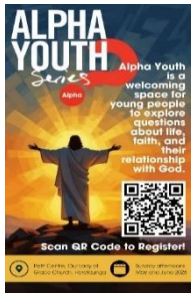


AN AFRICAN EXPERIENCE OF PARISH LIFE IN NEW ZEALAND

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 or 021 134 8476. See the poster for details.

Alpha Youth Session



Sundays, 1pm-3pm, from 24th May to 28th June 2026, Our Lady of Grace Church (Pettit Centre).



Alpha Youth is a welcoming space for young people to explore questions about life, faith, and their relationship with God. Through short videos, meaningful conversations, and time spent together, we journey through topics such as purpose, prayer, Scripture, and what it means to follow Jesus. Whether you're curious, searching, or wanting to grow deeper in your faith, Alpha Youth offers a safe place to learn, share, and encounter God in a real and personal way. This is open to all our youth (13 - 25 years of age). Come, let's learn more about life, faith, and our relationship with God. Registration is now open. Scan the QR Code to register

FORMER SCOUT GROUPS IN OUR PARISH.

A Catholic scout leader is wanting help to obtain a scarf and name badge of two former scout groups in our parish: St Brendan's in Heretaunga and St Francis Xavier in Stokes Valley. This is part of a project to record the history of Catholic-sponsored scout groups in NZ. Sewn on the scarves would have been the badge used by Catholic scout groups – see image alongside. If you can help, please contact Edmund le Grelle, Ph 021 2619369 or edmund@legrelle.co.nz



WINTER CLOTHING AND SHOES NEEDED.

The Naenae Chapter of St Vincent de Paul Society are trying to collect some winter clothing and shoes, clean and in good condition (new or used), to make available to our families in need. You can either drop them directly to the Naenae Church Hall in Naenae Road each Thursday morning between 10 and 11am or they can be collected on request. Call Monica on 021 2991138



CALLED BY NAME

Next weekend is **Called By Name Sunday**, an initiative to invite and encourage young men to consider a vocation to the priesthood. Archbishop Paul has written a special message which we encourage you to listen to or read. Next Sunday, our young men will be invited to consider whether God may be calling them to something more. Parishioners will be asked to notice, approach and encourage young men, particularly those who exhibit faith, leadership and a heart for service. Please take a look around you this weekend.

Could that young man become tomorrow's priest?

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.



MARIAN MONTH CELEBRATION

The Filipino Chaplaincy community has organised Marian Celebration for the Month of May. It will be launched on the First Sunday Filipino Mass for May, (3 May) in Sacred Heart Cathedral:

9 May (Saturday), 7.00 pm - Our Lady of Immaculate Conception visits Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa

16 May (Saturday), 6.30 pm - Our Lady of Immaculate Conception visits Sacred Heart Church, Petone

23 May (Saturday), 6.30 pm - Our Lady of Immaculate Conception visits St. Teresa Church, Karori

The Marian Month culminating activity will be:

30 May (Saturday), 10.00 am - Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon Santacruzán and Flores de Mayo with a mass presided by Archbishop Paul Martin. Join us as we celebrate Mama Mary on this Month of May

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell, and those who are lonely. We pray also for those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



6th Sunday of Easter • John 14:15-21

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever." John 14:16 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 14:15-21 (NIV).



John 14:16

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

FATHER
ASK
FOREVER

WORLD
COMMAND
ORPHANS

OBEY
LIVE
MYSELF

COUNSELOR
SPIRIT
TRUTH

SHOW
LOVE
ACCEPT

