

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	56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909
Newsletter	23 June, Term 2 2026 Newsletter

14 th Sunday in Ordinary		READINGS	05 th July 2026
Time		YEAR A	
5 th July	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Zech 9: 9-10 Romans 8:9, 11-13 Matthew 11: 25-30	
12 th July	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 55: 10-11 Romans 8: 18-23 Matthew 13: 1-23	
UPCOMING EVENT			
Tue 7 th July	15.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club	
Thurs 9 th July	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/			



MEN'S GROUP

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

WORKSHOP FOR PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD.

This will be held on Sunday July 19th at OLOG after the 10:30am Mass (11:30am).

Parishioners from Our Lady of the Valleys Parish are invited to take part, whether you are already rostered or would like to be involved in this Ministry.

For further information contact Liz McCaul: 021 1028297





THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Day for Life

Hopes, concerns, and priorities on the Synodal Pathway In the listening process, some themes were less dominant: abuse, care of creation, social justice, clergy, evangelisation, and mission. The theme of abuse was named as an ongoing wound, with participants calling for continued accountability and transparency, urging that *'healing must remain a priority for those affected by abuse.'*

Care for creation and social justice were mentioned, with some expressing disappointment that Laudato Si and the call to ecological conversion were rarely mentioned, urging the Church to integrate these concerns more fully into parish life.

There was concern about the declining numbers of clergy and the need for pastoral support, with one comment noting, *'The bumper of priests is falling and many are overworked; they need support and encouragement from the laity,'* while another observed, *'we need to care for the wellbeing of our clergy as they carry heavy burdens.'*

Evangelisation and mission were also discussed, with a desire for renewed outreach to seekers and the religiously unaffiliated. As one group put it, *'We need to go out to the peripheries not just wait for people to come to us,'* while another stated, *'Mission means meeting people where they are and sharing the joy of the Gospel.'*

From Baptised and Sent



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 4 July 2026, at the Pettit Centre at 2pm. This month our guest speaker is fellow parishioner Roger Wasson who will speak to us about his life and the lead up to his career as a police officer. Accordingly, we extend a welcome to any men who may like to join us

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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Soup and Rolls Fundraiser

It was lovely to see so many at our lunch on Wednesday. With your generosity we raised \$200 for Dementia New Zealand. Thank you all. We are always grateful for the support from the Parish





CATHOLIC FOUNDATION GOD BLESS

We are deeply grateful to the Lord for the Catholic Foundation of the Archdiocese of Wellington through their generous support of our Parish programme, particularly Alpha Youth. Their investment in the faith formation of young people is helping to strengthen the Church's mission of evangelisation, creating opportunities for young people to encounter Christ, grow in discipleship, and build meaningful connections within the Catholic community. We sincerely thank the Catholic Foundation for their partnership in this important mission.

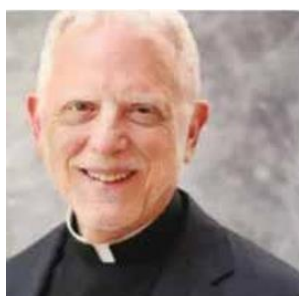
ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



'God's presence offers light and life for all. The city is a new Eden, with its living water offered to the thirsty and its tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of nations. (Rev 22:2). As we await its fulfilment, this vision is set before us as an encouragement – a call to overcome our divisions and to work together – for this is the way of Jesus Christ, yesterday, today and forever.'

Pope XIV Magnifica Humanitas #242

Action: In what ways is this vision encouraging you to overcome divisions and work with others for healing our common home?



LITURGY WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

US liturgist and parish priest, Fr Paul Turner, will lead a liturgy seminar on **Saturday, 1 August 2026** (9.30am - 2.00pm), in Connolly Hall, Hill Street, Wellington. Clergy, liturgy teams, school staff, and all involved in Eucharistic preparation are encouraged to join us for *Ars Celebrandi: The Art of Celebrating Mass*. Inspired by Pope Francis', *Desiderio Desideravi*, the day will explore how we can celebrate liturgy with reverence and fidelity. Fr Turner will offer practical guidance to deepen understanding of the Eucharist and strengthen parish and school celebrations.

THE ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION –

Love is a Decision & Commit - online registration available on the Archdiocesan website: [Marriage - Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington](https://www.catholic.org.nz/marriage) Next course, consecutive Sundays, 6 & 13 September 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



ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH, WILTON

The church is to close permanently on Sunday, 30th August 2026. The organising Committee have some events planned for that weekend to mark this farewell and would like to invite any ex parishioners or people associated with the Church to join them. The events are on Saturday, 29th August and the Farewell Mass on Sunday, 30th August.



ONLINE SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS:

Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. Whether you are involved directly in Parish Ministry or not, enroll to attend an Online Safeguarding Workshop to learn about the actions we, as a Church, are taking to keep each other safe.

Monday July 20th 7.00 pm to 8.15 pm

Tuesday July 28th 7.00pm to 8.15 pm

Register with Kevin Plant by emailing: k.plant@cadw.nz The Microsoft Teams link to join the workshop will be sent out two days prior to the Workshop. See church noticeboard for full list of workshop dates for July - September.

DELARGEY AWARDS 2026

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Delargey Awards, which recognise significant and outstanding ministry with young people. In addition to identifying key contributors to youth ministry, the awards provide a chance to highlight the Church's outreach to teens and young adults. The awards are named for Cardinal Reginald Delargey, former Archbishop of Wellington and Bishop of Auckland. Nominations close on 31 July. Find out more at: Delargey 2026



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.

14TH 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.



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 11:25-30

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Rest for the Weary

"For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)



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

HUMBLE
SOULS
COME

ALL
WEARY
GIVE

LEARN
GENTLE
EASY

LIGHT
TAKE
BURDEN

YOKE
HEART
REST

