

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) 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga
Presbytery and Parish Office	Monday – Friday 9.00 am to 1.00pm Te (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator	Jovena Fernandez
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 July, Term 3 2026 Newsletter

22nd Sunday in Ordinary READINGS YEAR A 30th August 2026

30 th August	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Jeremiah 20: 7-9 Romans 12: 1-2 Matthew 16: 21-27	
6 th Sept	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Ezekiel 33: 7-9 Romans 13: 8-10 Matthew 18: 15-20	

UPCOMING EVENT

Sun 30th Aug	12.00 pm	Annual General Meeting at the Pettit Centre
Tue 01 st Sept	05.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club
Wed 02 nd Sept	01.30 pm	Catholic Women's League in the Pettit Centre
Sat 05 th Sept	02.00 pm	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/>

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The 2026 Annual General Meeting is scheduled this Sunday 30th August at 12:00 noon in the Pettit Centre.

The Annual Report for the Parish is now available. It is emailed out to those on the Newsletter Distribution, in printed form in the foyer of both Churches and is also available online <https://olv.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026-AGM-Annual-Report.pdf>.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday the 1st of September 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



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

The role of women continues to demand resolution, not merely for structural reform but as a matter of justice, belonging, and credibility. Exclusion of women from decision-making and visible leadership contradicts the baptismal dignity the Church proclaims. 'The gifts of women must be fully recognised and utilised at every level of Church life.' Others called for 'building and respecting the role of women, including their ordination to the diaconate.'

Youth engagement was repeatedly named as critical. Young participants stated they are 'not disinterested in faith; they are searching for authenticity, truth, and community.' There were calls for the empowerment of young leaders, the bridging of generational gaps, and the connection of spiritual formation with social and ecological justice.

Quieter yet persistent undercurrents suggest that the Holy Spirit is also stirring the Church to engage with themes that, while not dominant, carry prophetic weight for the future: communication, ecological and social justice, healing, unity, and outreach. 'Better communication is needed – language that is accessible, stories that connect, and outreach that builds bridges rather than walls.' 'The pain of abuse and exclusion continues to cast a long shadow over the Church's mission. The Church in Ireland must embody a renewed vision grounded in faith, inclusion, courage, and hope.'

From Baptised and Sent #34-37

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD WORKSHOP

This is an invitation for present Proclaimers of the Word and those parishioners who would like to take on this Ministry. This will be held after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday 30th August at OLOG. This is the workshop that was cancelled earlier. Projection of the voice is such an important consideration because you are Proclaiming God's message to His people. The congregation needs to hear this message. You will be given an opportunity to practise the projection of your voice. Contact Liz Mccaul for further information: 5273211



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

All women of the Parish are invited to our monthly gathering on Wednesday 2nd September at 1.30pm in the Pettit Centre. Feel free to bring a friend and join us for afternoon tea and a chat. Members a plate please



CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 5 September at the Pettit Centre at 2pm. Our speaker is to be Julie Lewis, one of our members, who will tell us about her years with Forest & Bird and who worked as a volunteer over that time on Somes/Matiu Island

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.



ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD - REVEREND DEACON EMILIO CAPIN

The Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington warmly invites you to Deacon Emilio's Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, 5th September 2026 at 11.00am at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington. Please join us in prayer and celebration as Emilio is ordained to the priesthood and begins this new chapter of ministry and service in the

Church. All are welcome

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE

'Although the challenges before us are enormous, God does not leave us without the means of healing and transformation. In place of the weapons of war, the God of peace grants us the strength to heal, to reconcile and to build a civilization of love... Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcoming poverty, protecting human dignity and reconciling divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom.'

Pope Leo XIV



PLANNED GIFTING IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

Remembering the Church and leaving a gift in your will is to make a commitment to future generations that they too may know God through His Church. With a will or bequest, we can make sure our treasures are put to good use to look after Christ's flock and to grow the kingdom here on earth. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen this mission, and supports your local parish and the Archdiocese. Leaving a will or bequest can support your local church in many ways. To find out more, go to <https://cadw.nz/wills-and-bequests>.

COME & SEE

Vocations Morning - for young men interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood. 9am - 12:30pm on Saturday 29th August 2026 at Our Lady of Grace Church, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga. The morning begins with Mass at 9.00am. Text 021 164 5800 or email: l.hensel@cadw.nz to register. Join us and bring a friend!

LIVING WAGE ELECTION FORUM

LIVING WAGE ELECTION FORUM

6pm for 6:30pm start, 2 September, Naenae College, Lower Hutt

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Living Wage Movement election forum to seek tangible commitments from politicians to ensure that thousands of workers across the public sector, schools, and hospitals are paid the Living Wage. 'The Living Wage is the income necessary to provide workers and their families with the basic necessities of life. A living wage enables workers to live with dignity and to participate as active citizens in society.' Join with Archdiocesan members, the Ecology Justice and Peace Commission, St Joseph's/ St Mary of the Angels, and the Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development Group. RSVP to Deirdre Meskill d.meskill@cadw.nz is appreciated

GREENSTONE DOORS We are looking for Greenstone Aunties. Greenstone Aunties are compassionate volunteers who walk alongside māmā and pēpi staying at Korowai House, our maternal mental health respite home in Naenae.

Through practical help, encouragement, and a caring presence, they help create a safe and supportive environment for whānau during their stay with us.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Jennie at office@greenstonedoors.co.nz or 022 039 5788.



JOSHUA WELLINGTON

Save this date – Saturday 10th October 2026, 9:00am to 4:45pm, Home of Compassion, Island Bay – for men's retreat organised by Joshua Wellington.

Theme: "I am ready for anything anywhere" Retreat leader: Murray Adams, a member of the 'Association of Christian Spiritual Directors in New Zealand; specialises in Ignatian spirituality. Text or call Steve Ready 027 356 9555

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 Fr. Pene Patelesio, Sr. Carmel Paul, David Carter, and John Burt, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



22nd 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.



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 16:21-27

PUZZLE FOR YOU

Take Up Your Cross

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Matthew 16:24 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:22-28 (NIV)



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

GIVE	EXCHANGE	GOOD	WHOLE
FIND	SAVE	CROSS	GAIN
SELF	SOUL	FOLLOW	LOSE
DENY	WORLD	FORFEIT	LIFE