

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 22 September, Term 3 2026 Newsletter

26th Sunday in Ordinary READINGS 27th September 2026 Time YEAR A

27 th Sept	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Exekiel 18: 25-28 Phillippians 2: 1-11 Matthew 21: 28-32	
4 th Oct	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 5: 1-7 Phillippians 4: 6-9 Matthew 21: 33-43	

UPCOMING EVENT

Wed 30 th Sept	10.00 am	Coffee morning at the Royal Wellington Golf Club
Sat 03 rd Oct	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/>

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), programme of instruction in the Roman Catholic Faith and the preparation to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist, begins on Wednesday, 28th October 2026 starting at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room at the back of Our Lady of Grace Church. For further information, please contact: Liz McCaul: 527 3211 or 021 1028 297, or Father Maleko



THANK YOU ROSEMARY DHLAKAMA

Our gratitude goes out to Rosemary for the new Altar cloths at SFX which she took time from her busy schedule to sew. God's blessings on Rosemary and thank you once again.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

The Centrality of Baptism

The grace of the sacrament and the calling of all the baptised is an enduring source of unity within which the tensions and divergences reported in the submissions can be faced and lived. Because Baptism is the root and inspiration for a synodal culture, it is the key resource for sustaining engagement, respect and dialogue.

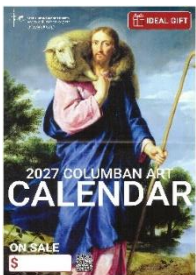


Baptism provides inspiration for the framing of authentic consensus and the exercise of authority through respectful processes of decision-making and decision-taking. It is key to reconciling the tension between invitation and expectation. Deepening appreciation of the dignity of all the baptised and of the responsibility of the baptised to grow in faith, provide a basis for moving forward in renewal of discipleship and mission, even as the destination of the journey ahead remains uncertain and obscure.

This perspective on the radical nature of Baptism places the next stage of the synodal pathway firmly within 'the priority concern to offer the people of God new opportunities to walk together and reflect on these experiences in order to reap their fruits for the mission' (*Pathways for the Implementation Phase of the Synod*).

Baptism provides the most effective lens for the journey ahead.

From *Baptised and Sent*



COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR 2027

In **LIMITED** numbers are out now and available at the Parish Office for \$13 each please hurry and secure a copy for yourself or a loved one.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

Our next Gathering is on Saturday, 3 October 2026, at the Pettit Centre at 2pm. This month our guest speaker is Stephen Quinn who has worked for 33 years as a lawyer and 18 months as a Barrister. He has worked for many councils and Government entities in that time, and will outline some of his cases of interest. We extend a welcome to any menfolk who would like to join us and hear Stephen's talk.

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.



MISSION SUNDAY 100th ANNIVERSARY

Please find a copy of the Letter to Catholic Schools and Parishes for Mission Sunday 100th Anniversary from the NZ Catholic Bishops for collection in the foyer. The letter can also be accessed here:

<https://bit.ly/MissionSundayNZ2026>

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE AND PEACE



‘Jesus’ parables describe the newness of what God has in store for us; yet they also reveal the resistance we generally offer to a more generous justice and greater love... God has different ways and fresh ideas even for those who consider themselves to be first and believe they have earned what they have, ... we all gain joy, wisdom and a better future when the law of love interrupts that of calculation, when the experience of mercy broadens that of merit, and when the gift of peace suspends rivalries and brings us closer together in gratitude.’

Pope Leo



CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE MEDIA ASSISTANCE

The Catholic Enquiry Centre is looking for young Catholics keen to get involved with sharing the faith through media. If you or someone you know is creative and wants to volunteer their time to the Church in a unique way, contact the email in the post or email Regina at: r.fernandes@cadw.nz

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS

October 5th 12 noon to 1.15 pm and October 27th 7 pm to 8.15 pm. 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. 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.

LATE NIGHT MASS

Come join us on Friday, 2nd October for the Late Night Mass for Young People at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street at 8.00pm! We invite all young people from across Wellington join us during Holy Mass. Please bring a plate to share for fellowship after and we are excited to see you there!



BISHOPS’ ELECTION STATEMENT The New Zealand bishops have published their statement for the 2026 General Election. Titled Discerning our nation’s future through a Gospel lens, the document encourages Catholics and people of good will to consider voting as a moral and civic responsibility, not just a matter of personal preference. The bishops invite people to consider how they will cast their votes by reviewing candidates’ and parties’ positions across a range of key issues, and they also encourage people to pray for the country. Access the election statement at: <https://bit.ly/NZCBCElection26>

THE ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION – LOVE IS A DECISION & COMMIT



Online registration available on the Archdiocesan website: [Marriage - Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington](#). Next available course, consecutive **Sundays, 1st & 8th November 2026** from 10.00am - 4.00pm. Couples attend both Sundays together in person. Please note: the November course is the last course for the year and is very popular ahead of the peak wedding season. The first course of 2027 will be in early March. Please register early.

ADW YOUNG CHURCH NETWORK GATHERING

Calling all youth leaders, coordinators and all those involved with Catholic youth from across Wellington! Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship, discussion and reflection surrounding our young people on **Saturday 31st October** from 12noon – 4.00pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria. We will provide afternoon tea and refreshments throughout the afternoon, but please bring your own lunch for the start. See you there!



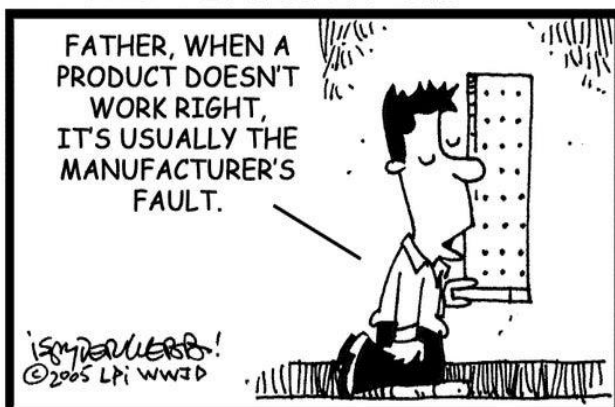
JOSHUA WELLINGTON

All men are welcome to this Retreat on Saturday 10 October 2026, Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington between 8:30am and 5pm. Theme: 'I am ready for anything anywhere' (Philippians 4:12) led by Murray Adams, Ignatian Spiritual Director. Morning tea, afternoon tea and lunch provided. Suggested koha \$25 to help with costs. Want to know more? Contact Steve 027 356 9555 or Joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

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 Carole Hoult, Colleen McKay, Martin Howley, Ricarte Bonita and Sr. Ruth Pickering, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



26TH 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.



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 21:28-32

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Parable of the Two Sons

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Matthew 21:31 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 20:28-32 (NIV)



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

MAN THINK SONS	GOD TODAY FATHER	JOHN WAY TWO	KINGDOM WORK TRUTH	BELIEVE VINEYARD SHOW
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