

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 Tel (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	56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909
Newsletter	22 September, Term 3 2026 Newsletter

27th Sunday in Ordinary READINGS 04th October 2026

Time	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel	
4 th Oct	Isaiah 5: 1-7	Phillippians 4: 6-9	Matthew 21: 33-43	
11 th Oct	Isaiah 25: 6-10	Phillippians 4:12-14, 19-20	Matthew 22: 1-14	

UPCOMING EVENT

Tue 06 th Oct	05.30 pm	Men's Group at Silverstream Bowling Club
Wed 07 th Oct	01.30 pm	Catholic Women's League in the Pettit Centre
Thurs 08 th Oct	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/>



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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards are now available at the Parish Office. A pack of 8 cards is \$6 each.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Baptism 'enables all believers to possess an instinct for the truth of the Gospel'

The views and opinions of many different people and of interest groups are important to the Church in discerning 'the signs of the times', so that it can determine how best to proclaim the Gospel.

For instance, scientists, many of whom are non-Christians and perhaps even atheists, are often consulted on church policy documents when the subject matter relates to areas in which they have expertise.

Discerning the *sensus fidei*, however, it is quite different. It doesn't involve seeking out experts, at least not if by this we mean people with extensive knowledge, outstanding qualifications, or exceptional experience.

Rather, it involves seeking out those who, in their daily lives, try as faithfully as they can to live as disciples of Jesus within the community of the Church, nourished in this by the Word of God, personal prayer, regular celebration of the sacraments, and selfless acts of service.

It makes sense to understand the *sensus fidei* as residing with such people because it is the faithful living of one's faith within the church community and keeps alive the gift of being able to appreciate the Church's faith given at baptism.

Eamon Conway



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



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

All women are invited to join us in the Pettit Centre at 1.30pm on Wednesday, 7th October. You might like to bring along some garden produce or any good used saleable items to add to our sales table. As usual we will also have a raffle. Bring a friend and join us for afternoon tea and a chat.

NATIONAL CENTENNIAL MASS FOR MERI HÔHEPA SUZANNE AUBERT

Sunday 4th October at 2:00pm at St Mary of the Angels (17 Boulcott Street, Wellington.) Attendees should be seated by 1:45pm. Please note parking is not available on the church site. However, there are public parking buildings and street parking spaces nearby. We hope to see you there!





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



When people become self-centred and self-enclosed, their greed increases. The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs to buy, own and consume. It becomes almost impossible to accept the limits imposed by reality. In this horizon, a genuine sense of the common good also disappears. As these attitudes become more widespread, social norms are respected only to the extent that they do not clash with personal needs. So, our concern cannot be limited merely to the threat of extreme weather events but must also extend to the catastrophic consequences of social unrest. Obsession with a consumerist lifestyle, above all when few people are capable of maintaining it, can only lead to violence and mutual destruction.”

Pope Francis

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027



Launch Mass and Information Session - Join us for a special WYD 2027 Launch Mass with Archbishop Paul Martin on Wednesday, 7 October 2026, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Thorndon. Following the Mass, we invite you to an engaging Information Session next door at Connolly Hall, 10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon from 7.30pm to 8.30pm, where you can learn about the World Youth Day itinerary. Everyone is invited, and we can't wait to see you there! For more information, contact Susilo Kentjana at s.kentjana@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.

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!

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>



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

OLOV YOUTH GROUP

Youth **aged 12–18** are invited to join. Our sessions and activities are also **open to anyone in their late teens or 20s** who are keen to get involved!" Meeting schedule is every: 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month 1 - 3pm Pettit Centre, Our Lady of Grace Church Heretaunga



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 Shirley Mahoney, Carole Hoult, Colleen McKay, Martin Howley, and Ricarte Bonita and for those whose anniversaries occur

around this time.

27TH 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.



Matthew 21:33-43 • 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Parable of the Tenants

Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. Matthew 21:37 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 21:33-46 (NIV)



the stone that the builders
rejected has become the
corner stone...
Matthew 21:42

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

LISTEN	WATCHTOWER	PARABLE	SON	SERVANTS
SENT	WALL	HARVEST	KILLED	COLLECT
BUILT	LANDOWNER	LAST	TIME	FARMERS
DUG	FRUIT	REJECTED	VINEYARD	JOURNEY

