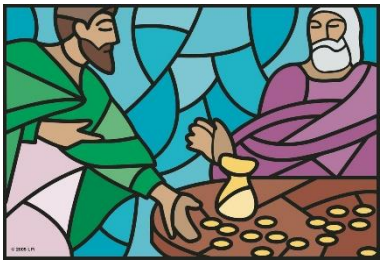
Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

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 Wednesday/Saturday Friday	9:00 am (Stokes Valley) 9:00 am (Heretaunga) 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.olov.org.nz	E-mail office@olov.org.nz pp@olov.org.nz
St Brendan's School Newsletter	56 Palmer Cres 3 November, Term 4 2026 Newsletter	Tel (04) 939 1909

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time — READINGS YEAR A — 15th November 2026

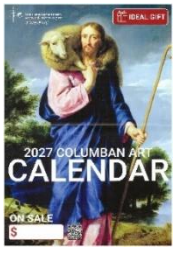
15th Nov	1st Reading 2nd Reading Gospel	Proverbs31:10-13,19-20,30-31 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Matthew 25: 14-30
22nd Nov	1st Reading 2nd Reading Gospel	Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28 Matthew 25: 31-46



UPCOMING EVENT

Tue 17th Nov	11.00 am	Anointing Mass at Summerset Care Centre
Wed 18th Nov	11.00 am	Anointing Mass in the Pettit Centre
Thur 19th Nov	01.30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV
	07.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting

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
Just 20 are out now and available at the Parish Office and the church foyers 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 and the church foyers. A pack of 8 cards is $6 each.

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL
Exploring the Introductory Rites 2



GLORIA: On Sundays outside of Lent and Advent, on solemnities and feasts, the Gloria is sung or recited. In this joyful hymn of praise the gathered assembly unites with the heavenly choirs. Within this hymn we recall the five actions of the Mass we are each called to: we are here to praise, bless, adore, glorify and thank our God.
OPENING PRAYER/COLLECT: The Introductory Rites conclude with an opening prayer, called the Collect. This prayer gathers (or collects) all our prayers into one prayer of the day. It has a four-fold pattern of
1) an invitation from the priest celebrant to the assembly to pray,
2) a brief silence to gather the prayers of our hearts into one,
3) the prayer itself proclaimed by the priest celebrant and
4) our assent to the prayer in our 'Amen'.
The silence within this prayer can help create a sense of unity among the assembly. Like all our prayers in the liturgy, we make our prayer to God the Father, through Christ and in the Holy Spirit. This can be a timely reminder to us that the celebration of the Mass is the action of Christ and of the people of God, united in common worship.
catholicbishops.ie



PARISH WEBSITE REDESIGN
We are planning to redesign our parish website and invite expressions of interest from parishioners who have professional experience in website design and development. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has prepared a specification detailing what we are looking for, and we are currently seeking three quotations for the project. If you are interested in submitting a quote, please contact olov.ppc@gmail.com and we will provide further details.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP



Last Saturday our guest speaker was Sister Kathleen Ruck, a missionary Sister of the Society of Mary.
She spoke of her life dedicated to missionary work first as a teacher in Fiji, then as a missionary, when she answered Gods call to serve and help the under-privileged and poor people in remote areas in Lima Peru.
This dedicated and intrepid Sister often reached where she was needed by riding long distances in hilly areas on a donkey!
She told of her experiences in a practical and humble way and impressed us all with her long, practical, fearless and cheerful service to the poor.
There was much conversation and chatting afterwards as Sister Kathleen reacquainted herself with former schoolmates and friends, particularly Tony Packer who was instrumental in setting up a charity we supported when she worked with prisoners needing sewing machines for employment to support their families, and kitchens that fed the needy.
We bless, admire and thank Sister Kathleen for her inspirational amazing service.

PARISH SURVEY
The Parish Council is looking at the ways information is being communicated to you, our parishioners. Survey forms will be on the pews for all three services the week of 14 and 15 November. Please complete this anonymous short survey – it takes about 5 minutes to do. Please do it before going home. The results will help your Parish

Council decide if we need to make changes to our current methods of communication, and if so, how it should be done. Thank you

ALPHA YOUTH 2026: A GOOD NEWS STORY

Congratulations to the nine young people from our parish who completed Alpha Youth 2026. Over ten weeks at the Pettit Centre, they explored faith, asked big questions, made friends and grew closer to God. The highlight was a weekend retreat of prayer, games and fun. Recently, all nine served at 10.30 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Grace. Pick up a copy of the full story from the church foyer.



RITE II RECONCILIATION

Advent is a time for preparing our hearts and lives to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ into human history. To help parishioners with this preparation the Parish is once again offering Rite II Reconciliation.
This year we are having a joint Reconciliation service with parishioners from Our Lady of Grace Parish in Heretaunga/Stokes Valley and St Joseph's Parish in Upper Hutt. The ceremony will be celebrated on Sunday 22nd November at 4:00pm in St Joseph's Church in Upper Hutt.
All are invited to come and experience the healing and forgiving presence of the God at this time.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR ECOLOGY, JUSTICE & PEACE

'In Christ, we are called to become poor and to be a refuge for the poor. The Christian community cannot remain indifferent to the many who today stand at the door but remain invisible to those who are shut within their own walls. The Church, by its very nature, is called to be poor and a refuge for the poor.' *Pope Leo XIV*

ST PATRICKS COLLEGE

Support Our Local School Students Participating in the Awa Run!
Students and staff from St Patricks College Silversteam are participating in the upcoming Awa Run to raise funds for the Manawa Rahi Trust which helps tackle educational inequality in Aotearoa. We invite our parish community to get behind our runners and support their efforts. Every contribution, big or small, makes a significant difference. To learn more and make an online donation, please visit our Givealittle page at:
https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/spcstreamawarun2026
Thank you for your generous support and encouragement!

EXALT: CHRIST THE KING 2026.

You are warmly invited to EXALT: Christ the King, a National Worship Event to be held in Wellington on Saturday, 21 November 2026, from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm at Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. This special day will bring together people from across New Zealand for worship, Holy Mass, prayer, and fellowship as we honour Christ our King and pray for our nation. Please keep the date free and join us for this special national gathering of worship and prayer for New Zealand. The Mass Presider will be Archbishop Paul Martin. Registration is not required.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL APPEAL:
Help us help people feel belonging! This is why the Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal is so important. Running from 1-30 November 2026, the Annual Appeal asks for community support so Catholic Social Services can continue supporting people and their whānau who need help. Donations can be made online at cadw.nz/our-work/catholic-social-services/donate

INVITATION TO SHARE STORIES OF SYNODALITY: We invite parishioners, parish groups, leadership teams, religious congregations and faith communities throughout the Archdiocese to reflect on the fruits of a synodal Church emerging in their local communities, and to share their stories with the wider Church. Your contributions will help give shape to a diocesan report, which in turn will provide reflection material for diocesan and national Evaluation Assemblies in 2027. Submit your story by Monday, 7 December 2026. Visit www.cadw.nz or email Lucienne Hensel at: l.hensel@cadw.nz for more details.

GRECCIO THE SONG
A musical inspired by the life of St Francis of Assisi brought to the stage by volunteers across parishes in the Wellington Archdiocese. Featuring music by NZ composers Douglas Mews and Dr Robert Loretz and Franciscan friars from the Philippines - will be performed on December 5 at 7:30 pm at the Allan Gibbs Centre, Wellington College. Parents, grandparents and heads of children's ministries - bring your children to witness the musical. Family concessions and group discounts are available. Children under 7 years go free. Tickets are available through Humanitix. Contact vineyardhouse.nz@gmail.com for enquiries.



FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF MIRACULOUS MEDAL
In celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, there will be novena and rosary prayers on the following dates:
Day 1 – 4 of the Novena and Rosary, SFX 7pm, 19th–22nd November 2026
Day 5 – 8 of the Novena and Rosary OLOG 7pm, 23rd– 26th November 2026
Day 9 of the Novena and Living Rosary Feast Day OLOG 7pm, 27 November 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 especially Anne Jonnasen, Elima Wilson, George Fidow, Shirley Mahoney, and Carole Hoult, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING WITH THE Gospel
CYCLE A

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21 • 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Parable of the Talents



But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Matthew 25:18

Based on Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

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

JOURNEY	WORTHLESS	TALENT	MASTER
SERVANT	PROPERTY	SHARE	MONEY
ABILITY	WICKED	FAITHFUL	WEEPING
GAINED	HAPPINESS	LAZY	ENTRUSTED

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