

# WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF THE VALLEYS PARISH AND ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL.

St Brendan's School falls with the area of and is part of the Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Valleys.

The parish of Our Lady of the Valleys was established through the amalgamation of Our Lady of Grace Parish based in Heretaunga and St Francis Xavier Parish based in Stokes Valley. This amalgamation occurred on 1st February 2015.

As a Catholic community, we look forward to working together to help one another grow in faith and help our children, in particular, to become the best people that God calls them to be.

The School's vision is to be an inspirational Catholic school that challenges students to be the best that they can be, whilst walking hand in hand with Christ.

We hope the following information will be useful to you as you join the Parish Community. It is not a complete directory of all the activities and groups of the Parish, More information about the Parish can be gained from the parish website or by requesting a Parish Directory from the Parish Office.

We hope this brief brochure gives you a sense of some of the activities the Parish has to offer to its parishioners.

*Fr Joy*

## Our Lady of the Valleys Parish

### Sunday Eucharist Timetable

#### St Francis Xavier Church

152 Stokes Valley Rd, Stokes Valley

Sat Vigil 5:30 pm

Sun 8:30 am

#### Our Lady of Grace Church

5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga

Sun 10:30 am



August 18

## Parish and School



## Our Lady of the Valleys Heretaunga/Stokes Valley

Parish Priest  
Father Tony Kearns

Presbytery and Office  
5 Palmer Crescent  
Heretaunga

Contact Details  
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## MASSES AND THE SACRAMENTS

Sacraments in the Catholic Church are a real encounter between individuals, coming together as a community of faith, and the God revealed by Jesus Christ. The most well known and celebrated Sacrament in the Church is Eucharist (more commonly known as Mass). This is celebrated daily in the Parish at either Our Lady of Grace Church in Palmer Crescent or St Francis Xavier Church on Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley. All are welcome to attend any or all of these Masses.

### WEEKEND MASSES

**St Francis Xavier Church** 5:30pm Sat Eve  
8:30am Sun morn  
**Our Lady of Grace Church** 10:00am Sun morn

The 8:30 and 10:30 am Mass are attended by large numbers of families. They have music to accompanying hymns and sung responses. During term time Children’s Liturgy is offered for youngsters during the Liturgy of the Word. Hospitality is offered regularly after these Masses and is an opportunity to socialize with other families in the Church and from School.

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Day	Heretaunga (9:00/9:30am)	Stokes Valley (9:30am)
Mon	-	Liturgy of the Word
Tues	-	Mass
Wed	Mass 9:00	Liturgy of the Word
Thur	-	Mass
Fri	Mass 9:30	Liturgy of the Word
Sat	Mass 9:00	Liturgy of the Word

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available as required by contacting the Presbytery and speaking to the Parish Priest.



### CHILDREN’S LITURGY

A separate Liturgy of the Word for school-age children is run at the 8:30 and 10:00 am Masses during term time. The children are invited at the beginning of these Masses to come forward so they can hear the Word of God in a way appropriate to their age and understanding.



### JUNIOR SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME

This programme is run in the Parish to prepare young members (aged 8 and over) for the reception of the Catholic sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

The programme is home based, school supported and parish presented. Sessions are held either in the family home or in the Parish meeting room for group sessions.

Enrolments are opened in Term 4 of the School year to begin the programme during Term 1 of the next year.

### BECOMING A CATHOLIC

In our wider School community we know there are people who are not of the Catholic faith, perhaps in your own family. While respecting their faith choices, some through involvement with School and Parish may want to find out more about the Catholicism. Programmes are available through the Parish to assist people, of any age, with this discernment process. Different programmes are offered for different age groups to address their individual needs.



## FAITH IN ACTION

A number of groups operate in the School and Parish to make the faith we hold real and active

### ST BRENDAN’S ROSARY CLUB

This meets on Friday lunchtime in the Library at St Brendan’s. We pray a decade of the Rosary together, for special intentions – the children can take it in turns to say the prayers on the prayer cards. We also like to celebrate Saints’ Days and Feast Days with cakes and lollies. Occasionally we go to the Church for quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament.



### SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

This worldwide movement is involved in serving others with practical support and help. They can provide resources, food, clothing, furniture etc to those in need, visit the sick and housebound. The St Vincent de Paul Society in the Parish runs foodbanks that assists those in need.



### CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE

This group of Catholic Women is involved in practical ways supporting one another in the faith and outreaching to others. Their motto is “Faith and Service”. They are involved in various works of the Parish and at national level. They raise money for the mission in Tokelau and other charitable work.



### SAMOAN COMMUNITY

The Parish is fortunate to have two Samoan communities operating in the area, one based in Heretaunga and the other in Stokes Valley.



The groups meet regularly to celebrate and share their faith and culture. Both groups hold regular Masses in the Samoan language in their respective churches.

**TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THESE GROUPS  
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

**04 972 4282**