



Stories of Hope

News from Our Lady of Hope Catholic Parish in Titahi Bay and Tawa

May 2015



Msg. Gerard Burns, Fr John van der Kaa & John Cardinal Dew concelebrate the inauguration mass for Our Lady of Hope Parish. (not in photo but also concelebrating, Fr Des Moosman) Sunday 15th March 2015

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Michelle Anthony, Bernie Griffin, Fr John van der Kaa, Jane Langham

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Michelle Anthony, Chantelle Anthony, Jane Bourke, Bernie Griffin, Dominique Harwinkels, Jane Langham, Jane Lee, Paul & Hannah McCardle Bernadette Murfitt, Andrew Oliver, Teresa Rayner, Jane Reddish, Fr John van der Kaa . All photographs of Our Lady of Hope inauguration Mass: andrewtierneyphotography.co.nz (P. 1,9,11)

Welcome to the first edition of *Stories of Hope*



This magazine is replacing *Tawa Catholic News*, now that we have a new enlarged parish with two worshipping congregations in the one parish of Our Lady of Hope.

Our aim is that this magazine will represent and feature news from all corners of our parish.

In this first edition you will see continuity of some features: births, deaths and marriages; (p. 29) a note from the editor, (P. 4) the parish council (P. 5) the parish priest, (P. 8) and a keynote report from Bernie Griffin. (P. 10)

In the last edition of *Tawa Catholic News*, Fr Paul wrote about planning your Catholic Funeral. In this edition, there is a wonderful guide to Catholic Marriage contained in the report of the wedding of Jane Norman and Gregory Bourke (P. 12)

There are also news reports, an interview, parish groups and activities, a faith-filled report about the Jesus 4 Real Camps (P. 14) and many other interesting features.

We'd love to see news from your group/activity/faith story!

Letter from the Editor

by Michelle Anthony



Our Lady of Hope Parish!

Does that not have a fantastic ring to it? **Hope**. The word has more than one meaning. To many, 'hope' would mean '*wishful thinking*'. It may mean hoping to win the lottery, or hoping for a pay rise.

The word 'hope' that we, the people of this new parish have, is the belief in the promise that God is here for us.

We are sure of his death and resurrection.

We are sure of his ascension,

and we are sure that he will come again.

When we have Christian hope, we are sure that God will look after us. We can then let go of our self-pity or wants, and we will focus on helping others. All because we have hope that God has us in the palms of his hands.

This is our first magazine issue as a new amalgamated parish. We hope that as a larger parish, we will start getting increased literary contributions from parishioners of both Our Lady of Fatima, Tawa and St Pius X, Titahi Bay. We also welcome more helping hands with the production and distribution of the magazine. Please contact us should you wish to get involved.

As we head towards cooler months, we wish you warmth in your homes, warmth in your hearts and may the love of Christ bless you and your family.

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God guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, Hebrews 6:18-19

Introducing our New Parish Pastoral Council

by Andrew Oliver

The Pastoral Council for the newly formed Our Lady of Hope Parish was appointed only days before the inauguration mass and was commissioned by Cardinal Dew during the mass. During the blessing, the Cardinal called council members to be sensitive to the vision and ideas of others so that we may be truly representative of the parish community.

What is the vision of the community that we serve?

This vision was outlined when calling for nominations for the pastoral council:

During the parish merger process, we held a combined parish meeting to share our dreams for what the new parish could be. The resulting vision and inspiration for Our Lady of Hope Parish includes a strong emphasis on working with youth, young adults & young families – the future of our parish. Fostering their relationship with Jesus, engaging with them, encouraging leadership and participation.

Following the call for nominations it was very pleasing to find we had 17 enthusiastic volunteers who were keen to help lead our new parish and implement the shared vision. We are lucky to have nearly equal representation from the Titahi Bay and Tawa areas of our community and there is also strong Young Adult representation. The council has now met twice and we are currently working hard on preparing the Pastoral Plan for the parish, guided by the vision outlined above. Building a strong community together is one of our top priorities, so if you are involved in a parish group that was based on one side of the parish, consider now how you can reach out to prospective participants from the other side of the parish.

Members of the New Council *(in alphabetical order)*

Kamelali Aiono Telesia Alaimoana

These four women are all members of Samoan alotu in Titahi Bay



Litia Meli



Lagi Anamani



Hello, My name is Chantelle Anthony. I've been a parishioner of Our Lady of Fatima from birth. I lead the *Our Lady of Hope Girls' Group* and am a minister of the Eucharistic. I am a Registered Nurse and am currently pursuing my postgrad specialty in Mental Health. I am passionate about youth and sharing the love of Christ .God Bless.

Chantelle Anthony

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Stories of Hope



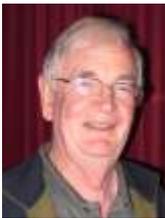
Gerard Bone

Gerard lives in Titahi Bay and was previously on the Titahi Bay pastoral council. He is also chair of the Porirua Pastoral Area Council.

I have been a parishioner of St Pius X for over 50 years. A retired nurse with a passion for the community, I come from a welfare family as my father was killed in WW2, so my mother reared my sister and I on a pension. A volunteer for Citizens Advice Bureau since 1999. Family and grandchildren very important. Love golf, sport and the garden. A belief that social justice, housing, and the care of children and mothers are the cornerstone of society.



Denise Dorman



Ted Gallen

Ted is one more from Titahi Bay and for very many years has managed parish finances.

John has been a stalwart of the Samoan alotu for many years. He is also a leader for the young people and the Samoan choir.



John Lafaele

Ray lives in Tawa, with Trish and daughter and is a keen photographer. He was on the previous Our Lady of Fatima council and assists with various ministries in the parish.



Ray Lindsay

I'm Hannah McCardle (née Aitken), I grew up in Plimmerton and moved back to the area a couple of years ago after getting married. It has been a real blessing to be able to join such a friendly and vibrant parish and now I hope to be able to contribute to and serve our faith community as a member



Hannah McCardle

of the parish council. Paul & I have been involved in Jesus 4 Real ministries for a number of years and are passionate

about enabling our younger parishioners build their faith and become actively involved in parish life.



Paul McCardle

Hello, I'm Paul McCardle, originally from Paraparaumu.

In 2013 I married my lovely wife Hannah and moved to Tawa, we are settled here now and are keen to be involved in the community and Our Lady of Hope parish.

I work as an architectural graduate. I am a member of the 'Elisha' team for Jesus 4 Real, and I enjoy design and cycling.

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Rupi has been involved with many aspects of parish life and ministry in Tawa, serving both the Samoan community and coordinating sacramental programmes for the whole parish.

Joseph Mijares

I am of Filipino decent, and was born in San Francisco. I moved with my family to Tawa in 2007. I am currently in my first year of a Bachelor's Degree in Building Science specialising in Project Management at Victoria University. Outside of University,

Rupi Mapusua

I am also part of the Youth for Christ youth group in Wellington, NZ Cadet Forces, and a worker at Reading Cinemas in Porirua.

I have lived in Tawa for the last 15 years with my wife and two teenage children. I have been chair of Our Lady of Fatima Pastoral Council for the last three years and served on the Pastoral Area Council. I am also a member of the parish committee planning the earthquake strengthening for the Tawa church.



Andrew Oliver

- chair



I am the mother of 9 wonderful adult children and have 18 beautiful grandchildren. I was involved with School Board of Trustees, both primary and secondary for over 20 years, stepping down at the last elections. I am a qualified pharmacist and have worked for the Ministry of Health for the past 16 years. I have been involved with the Liturgy Committee for a number of years. I am looking forward to the development of Our Lady of Hope Parish.

Marie Prescott

Tena koutou katoa, ko Rebekah Siave tōku ingoa. Married to Dan, we have three wonderful tamariki. Whānau/community are central for me – I'm the fourth of nine children, I'm a full time stay-at-home mum, Treasurer at Play Centre & a member of the Marian Mother's group. I have been involved in pastoral ministry for more than twenty years trying to live out my faith in Jesus Christ. No reira tena



Rebekah Siave
koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.



I arrived in NZ in 1968. After teaching at Bishop Viard College for many years, I have been with the Assumptionist community in Tawa for 22 years.

Fr John van der Kaa
parish priest

Viva! Viva! Viva!

by Fr John van der Kaa



I have just finished an article for Wel-com ending with these other-world exclamations by our Vicar General wishing the new Parish long life and prosperity.

You might notice in the photograph a controlled liturgical smile on the face of John Cardinal Dew, who celebrated the inaugural Mass with over 500 parishioners, new and old.

It occurred to me only later that this fourth Sunday of Lent always used to be called *Laetare Sunday* and the vestment colour for that day would be red or pink, because the Latin “laetare” means “rejoice”. There was a lot of rejoicing that morning, the 15th March. Much of it was due to the amount of preparation that had gone into this day. I am thinking of the meetings of TTT (Tawa-Titahi Bay-Transition), special gatherings of the Parish Councils and Finance Committees, but especially the efforts made by the Liturgy Group which succeeded in bringing together various music groups, organising the impressive presentation of the Gospel Book, the presentation of the Parish Registers, the lighting of the new Parish Candle by Andrew and Denise, (chairs of the respective previous Parish Councils of Tawa and Titahi Bay) the prayers in multiple languages etc.

I was glad that the members of the new Parish Council were blessed by the Cardinal giving me the support that I need in my new role. I was a bit daunted by the job description that came with the Cardinal’s friendly words. It’s more than a month ago now. We have already gone through some subtle changes in the timetable. Holy Thursday Mass and the Easter Vigil were celebrated in only one of our churches. We owe a great deal of gratitude to Fr Moosman who provided the Good Friday and Easter Morning liturgies in St Pius X church.

With Fr Paul lecturing in Auckland till the end of July, the time will come when we will have to find the assistance of another priest in order to provide the Holy Eucharist to all corners of the Parish.

When the name “*Our Lady of Hope*” was chosen, the motivation behind the name was clearly pointing towards the younger members of our parish family. Hope, inspiration, looking eagerly towards the future ... those are the virtues beaming from the faces of our youth.



Vicar General Fr Gerry Burns leads us all in 'Viva'!

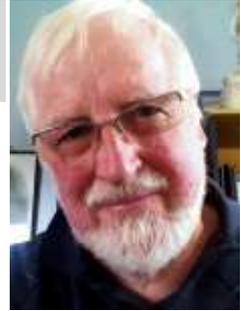
If I am allowed to dream a little, it would be my dream not only to bring the children into God's family, but to keep them and to see them committed to their faith, walking with Christ, together with Our Lady of Hope.

If I am allowed to dream a little, it would be my dream not only to bring the children into God's family, but to keep them and to see them committed to their faith, walking with Christ, together with Our Lady of Hope. Looking forward to Pentecost Sunday, let us pray that the Holy Spirit may bring ever -growing unity and peace into our new parish. [Back](#)

Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord:
that he looked down from his holy height;
from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
...
that they may declare in Zion the name of the Lord, Psalm 102:18-21

So now we are one

by Bernie Griffin



We are one you and I. We are like the earth and sky.

One family under the sun

Two parishes brought together. Merged but not under a so-called merger. A 'merger' often has the connotation of one taking over the other. This isn't what has happened. Two parishes have become one new parish under a new name --

Our Lady of Hope. This intriguing and somewhat romantic title was the clear choice from a list approved by parishioners of both former parishes. Unity from the very beginning. A good omen in many ways.

The new name has come at a time when the world is greatly troubled. Our Lady of Hope sprung to notice in 1871 during the Franco-Prussian war. Legend has it that a beautiful vision appeared to village children of Pontmain just as the nearby city of Laval was about to be over-run. Miraculously, hostilities stopped abruptly. The war ended for no apparent reason.

We have been remembering with a deep mixture of emotions the massive sacrifices our small country has made in times of war. Gallipoli of a 100 years ago is forever etched in our national psyche. We pray with gratitude for all those who served. We pray with reverence for all those who were wounded or lost ... and their families. We will never forget. We are proud of our heritage. But we also know war must never be glorified. We hope the issues ravaging the world at this time can be resolved. Peace is possible. We have been taught that. The miracle of Pontmain showed us that.

The word *hope* slips through our lips often without us realising it. We tend to use it unconsciously. We hope even without saying it. Hope springs eternal, we are told.

The new name for the new parish was approved by Archbishop John Dew while he was in Rome, shortly before being named by Pope Francis as one of 20 new Cardinals. Back in New Zealand, at the beautiful inauguration Mass at Bishop Viard College, the new Cardinal spoke with warmth, humility and inspiration. The hall was full, the prayers were heartfelt and the music and singing must have echoed with fervour and sweetness through the surrounding hills.

Our Lady of Hope had arrived!

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*To love means loving the unlovable
To forgive means pardoning the unpardonable
Faith means believing the unbelievable
Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless.* GK Chesterton.



Significant moments during the inauguration Mass. Above: Denise Dorman (Titahi Bay) and Andrew Oliver (Tawa) light the new candle for Our Lady of Hope parish from the candles for St Pius X and Our Lady of Fatima. **Below:** Members of the Samoan community carry in the Book of the Word



Our Wedding

by Jane Bourke

Over the past year the sacrament of marriage has been foremost on our minds. The public mind of the Church, through the Synod on the family in Rome, and in my private mind as my, now husband, and I discerned our call to marriage.



After much prayer and discussion, and the odd novena, Gregory Bourke proposed to me on Oriental Parade, a place that had become quite special to us, in mid-May.

For us, the period of engagement was neither a stop-gap, nor a next step because we 'should'; it was a time of prayer to strengthen our relationship for marriage and to prepare for the beautiful Sacrament.

As mentioned above, during the period of our engagement the Synod on the Family was taking part in Rome and was something that took our interest. We noted many common themes from the more Western and secularised nations around issues of co-habiting couples or the issues that arise through divorce

and remarriage. Hearing these commentaries made us determined to make sure we were following the Catholic teaching.

For us, the period of engagement was neither a stop-gap, nor a next step because we 'should'; it was a time of prayer to strengthen our relationship for marriage and to prepare for the beautiful Sacrament.

This meant not living together before marriage, practicing chastity and abstinence and ensuring that we were prepared to follow Catholic teaching regarding contraception after our Nuptial Mass.

The first step for us was to ensure that we had a celebrant that would give us clear guidance on these issues. While there were several options we asked a dear friend, a young Marist Priest, Fr Matthew Crawford.

The next things for us in the lead-up to our wedding was to make sure that we were well prepared; this meant good, solid, Catholic marriage preparation. One compulsory part of marriage in the Catholic Church in New Zealand is to take part in the Archdiocese's two-session course *Commit*. After completing this, Fr Matt encouraged us to find a more in-depth course to cater to our Catholic faith and preparation for Sacramental life. After exploring the options available to us, we travelled to Christchurch to do the course *Theology of the Body for Engaged Couples* presented there by the Pope John Paul II Centre.

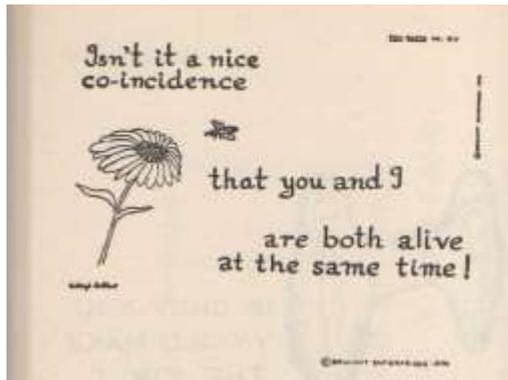
Theology of the Body for Engaged Couples ... course was very clear that marriage is a sacrament, the visible sign of a divine grace.

This course took place over a weekend and took us through eight sessions that were facilitated by John and Cecelia Kennedy. The course was very clear that marriage is a sacrament, the visible sign of a divine grace. It took us through the Catholic teaching around marriage; the permanency of marriage, the Church's teaching on fidelity and contraception, with an extremely good section on Natural Family Planning (NFP) – a beautiful wisdom passed down to the laity.

I am personally extremely grateful that I had a solid foundation on the teachings around NFP prior to our engagement. I had begun following NFP over a year before and this made the transition from single life to married life far less complicated, allowing us to remain faithful to Church teaching from the very beginning.

To close, our Nuptial Mass was celebrated at St Patrick's Church in Masterton on Saturday 15th November.

We were blessed with a wonderful congregation and surrounded by so many people who had loved and supported us individually and together in our journey. These people we know will continue to pray for us in our married life. [Back](#)



Jesus 4 Real Camps

by *Paul and Hannah McCardle*



The Elisha team: From left: *Paul McCardle, Hannah McCardle, Rain Forest, Ciaran Byrne, Mark Currie, Anne Lovell, Carl Berryman, Renee O'Sullivan, Shane Morgan.*
Absent: Fr Kevin Connors, Andy Lovell, Andrew Aitken and Pravin Vaz.

Jesus 4 Real Ministries has been running in the Kapiti area for over 25 years. Each year approximately 160 teenagers sacrifice a week of their school holidays to attend either the junior or senior camp. Campers come from all over the country, including many from Tawa and Porirua.

The aim of Jesus 4 Real is to provide Catholic teenagers with an opportunity to learn about and make a personal decision to follow Jesus. The camp programme includes plenty of opportunities for teens to experience the reality of Jesus through daily mass, evening prayer sessions, the sacrament of Reconciliation, testimonies and fellowship with other campers.

Paul and I have been involved in Jesus 4 Real since we first attended as campers in 2001 and 2006. It was at these camps that we both made a personal decision to follow and believe in Jesus. Although it was by no means the beginning of our faith journeys, having both grown up in Catholic families and schools, it was a very significant step. It is also one of the reasons we continue to support and be involved in Jesus 4 Real a decade after first attending.

As well as providing teenagers with the opportunity to get to know Jesus and participate in the Catholic faith, Jesus 4 Real also provides leadership opportunities and training. Many campers come back to camp as a cabin leader, an important role in which they spend the week serving a cabin group of 5-7 teens and witnessing to the reality of Jesus.

We ourselves were fortunate to have had our leadership skills fostered at these

camps as cabin leaders and now as part of the Elisha (senior leadership) team. Currently our roles on the team include the training and supporting of cabin leaders and administration. We also meet with the rest of the Elisha team once a week to pray and plan for the camps.



Cabin leaders at Jesus 4 Real junior camp 2014

Back Row: Liam O'Shanassy, Daniel McLaughlin, Samuel Wyatt, Simon Holden

Middle: Akenese Brown, Tia Finlay, Lisa-Marie Imray, John Frengley, Nicole Davies, Ryan O'Sullivan, Jazz Wilson

Front Row: Te Ahu Mallon, Serena Finlay, Anya MacDonald, Matthew Clark, Helen Goulden, Teresa Rayner

This year's senior Jesus 4 Real camp was held on April 8-12th. The junior camp, for students in Years 9-10, will be held in the October holidays.

And just in case you need a little more than daily mass to convince you to come to Jesus 4 Real, I've asked some past campers what the five best things are about camp:

1. Great Food
2. Life-long friendships
3. Water slide
4. Good music
5. Faith

You can find out more about the camps and how to register at www.Jesus4Real.org.nz



Campers participating in group challenges.

April 2014 senior camp

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Altar Servers-Who are they and what do they do?

by *Dominique Hawinkels*

When we come to Mass, we come together as a community to worship God and to receive his grace. We celebrate through the sacrament of the Eucharist, the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made for us.

Altar servers are usually children or young adults who have received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion, and are looking to make an active and meaningful contribution to the celebration of the mass.



As the name suggests, Altar Servers serve at the altar, assisting the priest in administering the Mass. More importantly, they are there to help lead the worship. This they do this through the way they respect the solemnity of the Mass. As we often tell new servers, they set the tone of the Mass. The congregation draws from their lead.

Here at Our Lady of Hope, we are very fortunate in having a strong faith community, and have been blessed with a steady flow of committed boys and girls, who have come forward, accepted the challenge and made a valuable contribution to our celebration of the Mass.

Along the way, not only have they have grown in their understanding of their faith and the importance that the Mass has in nurturing it. But also, they develop an inner strength that helps them face life with more confidence.

Along the way, not only have they have grown in their understanding of their faith and the importance that the Mass has in nurturing it. But also, they develop an inner strength that helps them face life with more confidence.

Through a mentoring approach to serving, their more experienced peers gently guide new servers into their roles - explaining the importance of their presence in the Mass and the various duties performed.

If you, someone you know, or one of your children, would like to know more or take part in this valuable ministry, do not hesitate to contact me -
Dominique Hawinkels Phone: 232 5806 /027 231 0409
Email: jeandom@xtra.co.nz or contact the parish office 232 5611

Altar Servers' Prayer

Open my mouth, O Lord, to bless your Holy Name.
Cleanse my heart from all evil and distracting thoughts.
Enlighten my understanding and inflame my will
That I may serve more worthily at your holy altar.

O Mary, Mother of Christ the High Priest, obtain for me
The most important grace of knowing my vocation in life.
Grant me a true spirit of faith and humble obedience
So that I may ever behold the priest as a representative of God
And willingly follow him in the Way, the Truth, and the Life of Christ.
Amen.



Sunday Prayer Ministry

by Jane Langham

You may have seen the heading '**Prayer Ministry**' in the 8:30am mass roster each week and wondered what it is all about.

Our shared celebration of the Eucharist is the greatest source of healing for all our ills of mind, body and spirit - remember the prayer we say just before receiving communion "*say but the word and my soul shall be healed*".

Sometimes it helps to have someone to 'be with us' in asking for that healing or help. Jesus himself told us "*Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.*" Matt. 18:19 In this we are encouraged to pray with and for each other.

The Prayer Ministry offered on Sundays is simply this - the opportunity to share your need or intention with other believing Catholics so that together it is put before God to call on the graces of the Mass just celebrated.



So do come forward at the end of Mass with your request to the team of two on duty: - it could be before exams or an operation; for health, job or any other worries. This is *not* a counselling service, just presenting needs to God and asking for his grace and presence. [Back](#)

Our Lady of Hope Girls' Group

by *Chantelle Anthony*

What used to be *Tawa Girls 4 Christ* is now *Our Lady of Hope Girls' Group*. Has much changed? No. We are still the same group of girls who gather on Fridays after school to share in Christian sisterhood and fellowship. We have grown in numbers, and we've grown in faith. Jacinta Woodnutt started the group in 2011 as *Our Lady of the Southern Cross Girls Group*, with Anastasia Micallef and myself as co-leaders. Anastasia has now left us as she has moved away from Tawa, and we are lucky to have two new leaders 'in training'. Teresa Rayner and Rachel Holden will be assisting me in leading the group sessions. I have had the honour of watching them grow from young girls to prayerful young ladies to be proud of.



The girls with John Cardinal Dew

We began this year with a trip to Wellington Zoo on Sunday February 29th. We left for the zoo after the 8.30 am Mass. We were joined by some eager parents and siblings. The weather was glorious, and our spirits were high. We enjoyed seeing God's creation-lions, tigers, monkeys, meerkats etc, All in all, we had a wonderful time together.



Photos from trip to Wellington Zoo

May 2015

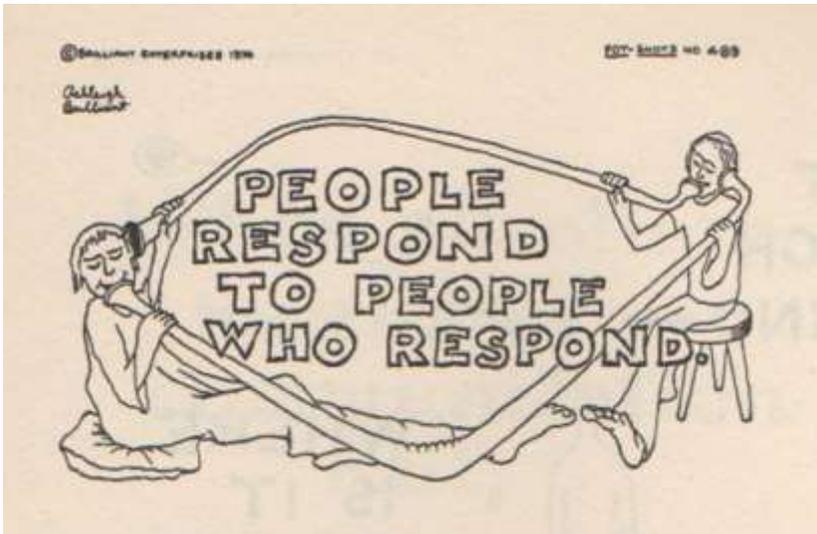
Teresa, Rachel and I welcome all girls aged 7-14 from our newly amalgamated parish of Our Lady of Hope to come and join us.

We meet on **Fridays 4.30 pm-5.30 pm** at the foyer of Our Lady of Fatima, Tawa.

We pray, we play and we joyfully learn about our faith in a safe and accepting environment. We have lots more planned, so don't be shy. **Come along, bring a friend** and be part of Our Lady of Hope Girls Group. Please contact me on 0212174960 or email me misscanthony@hotmail.co.nz.



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An Interview with Mrs Sawaya, the new principal of Bishop Viard College

by Teresa Rayner

Before you took up the role of principal at Bishop Viard College, where were you and what were you doing?

I was principal at Sacred Heart Girls College, an all-girls school in New Plymouth. New Plymouth is probably a similar size to Porirua, but a different city in the fact that it is more out of the way - here you're [near] Wellington and kind of a big city, whereas New Plymouth is a little city, but a beautiful city.



Mrs Sawaya and Teresa Rayner

What did you teach previously and why did you teach these subjects?

I am a primary trained teacher but I have taught at secondary level as well, so I have taught English up to year 13, I have taught Science and Biology up to year 11, and I am a qualified Digital Technology teacher up to year 13. I also teach Religious Studies. I have a passion for English and Literacy, and I got into English more because there was a need in the school. Technology is my passion and I really love Digital Technology - I've done media studies as well and often when I'm in a school it's where they have the gap and I fill the gap with what I teach.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I came to teaching late in my career, and I really love the passion and the enthusiasm of young people, and their energy. I love learning, and I like to be on a learning journey with my students so that we learn together and with their passion to learn it drives me to learn alongside them.

Why did you decide to take up the role of principal at Bishop Viard College?

I came across Bishop Viard students at O'Shea last year [O'Shea Shield Catholic Schools debating competition] and I saw in them a wonderful spirit. They were supportive of each other and they had a lovely joy about them. So when I heard

there was a vacancy I came down and looked at the college, and there's just a wonderful spirit in the college and I wanted to be a part of that. Since being here I have found that amongst the students there's an enthusiasm, there's creativity and there is a great community supportive spirit amongst the students and I just wanted to be part of that.

I saw in them (the students of BVC) a wonderful spirit. They were supportive of each other and they had a lovely joy about them.

What experience and skills do you have to bring to this College?

I've been principal for seven years, I have taught at a variety of schools in New Zealand and overseas, I pride myself on the fact that I am firm but fair, and I am a good listener and I think that's one of my skills that's important in the job. I have a passion for young people to succeed to their potential and to be the best people that they can be.

By the end of this year, what do you hope to have achieved at Viard?

I would like to see that more people know about Viard, that we have a presence in our wider community; that within the community of the school we have students who enjoy their learning and are working to their potential. That they [the students] have successes and that they are spiritually fulfilled and ready to take on whatever life has to offer.

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“Miss Smith”, said Johnny to his teacher, “do you think that people should be punished for things they haven't done?”

“Of course not Johnny.”

“Good. Because I haven't done my homework.”



Forgiveness

by *Michelle Anthony*

How many reasons, good reasons, do we need to forgive others?

How many times do we have to forgive others despite repeatedly being hurt? Forgiveness is an essential element in holding family and friends together. Without it, even the strongest familial bonds can be easily severed. We've all been on the receiving end of perceived persecution. We've been wounded, insulted, condemned, criticised, beaten and bruised. People have wronged us and hurt us. Will we get over it? Perhaps. Should we get over it? Yes. Why?

"For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins" Matt 6:14-15

In everyday reasoning, according to many health experts, angry and negative people suffer from illnesses such as depression and high blood pressure. Holding on to past anger, hate and resentment has a detrimental effect on one's mental and physical health. By letting go of the past, you'll free your mind and improve your health. There is a saying that states 'what's good for the body is good for the soul'.

Another good reason to forgive is so that we can set a good example for the children entrusted in our care. Should our children emulate our unforgiving nature, it will be a never-ending cycle of hate and resentment. It may cause difficulties with their relationships with peers, friends, spouse and colleagues. Forgiveness will build their character. It is better for them to be known as peacemakers than deal breakers. They will grow up with integrity and good character.

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"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you" Eph 4:31-32

When we've had a falling-out with a family member or friend, chances are we feel as if it is the other person's fault. Realistically, they must have been going through some sort of difficulty in their own lives for them to have treated you badly. There are always two sides to the story. People perceive situations and actions differently, so while you think you're in the right, the other may be right too. Maybe it is time



to go beyond analysing the right and wrong of the situation and make the first move towards forgiveness.

In his book *'The Purpose Driven Life'*, Pastor Rick Warren says that people rarely understand that forgiveness and trust are two different things. Forgiveness deals with past wrong-doings. Trust deals with future behaviour. So, for people who think that forgiving someone will leave them open to being repeatedly hurt, it is important to know that forgiving is necessary but that doesn't mean you allow yourself to be in the same position to be hurt again unless trust in that person is regained and earned. Forgiveness should be given freely and in generosity.

"Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times? "Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." Matt 18:21-22

As someone who feels that I have had much wrong done to me, as a child, as a student, as a family member and as an employee, I long to seek vengeance. That is the honest truth. I am human. As a child, I found it hard to forgive my parents for giving my brother the bigger piece of chocolate. As a student, I found it hard to forgive my teachers who used physical discipline for not doing my homework. As a friend, I found it hard to forgive when my friend chose to have lunch with someone else. As a wife I found it hard to forgive an abusive husband. As a family member, I found it hard to forgive relatives who were disrespectful or aloof. As a social media user, I find it hard to forgive someone who did not like my profile picture on Facebook. When I feel unforgiving and unchristian, and I need the motivation to be kind, I think of Romans 12:20. it makes me feel better.

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Rom 12:20

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St Pius X School - 'Strong and Gentle

by Jane Reddish (Principal)



Term 1 News School started with a BANG on 2nd February and didn't let up all Term!

Our main unit was "**FABULOUS WHANAU**" – tracing our family heritage. This unit dovetailed into our annual Marae Sleepover at Takapuwahia Marae – the highlight of the term.



Our school community get-togethers included **MARDIS GRAS / PANCAKE TUESDAY** evening. Also our annual **TWILIGHT GALA** where \$2686 was raised to go towards music tuition for all our students.

"FABULOUS WHANAU" – tracing our family heritage - dovetailed into our annual Marae Sleepover

Parent Information Nights included:

WAKA homework challenge (information), Parent-Teacher-Child Conferences (goal setting) ; Hui x 2 for parents of Maori students.

Parish activities included:

Farewell to Father Des Moosman, our retiring Parish Priest; Mass at Bishop Viard College – amalgamation of St Pius X and Our Lady of Fatima parishes

Baptisms of 6 of our students

Our senior students had an exciting week at **Raukawa Camp in Wanganui**. In the middle of all this we had an ERO review. Our Easter holidays, when they finally came, were well celebrated!



St Francis Xavier School-‘Strength & Gentleness’

by *Bernadette Murfit (Principal)*

Term 1 News

School life at St Francis Xavier School is very busy and Term 1



Pancake Races on Shrove Tuesday

has been particularly so. ***Our swimming programme*** was underway in the first few weeks of school, using Easyswim and the Tawa Pool.

Pancakes were made on Shrove Tuesday, then a Liturgy was held on Ash Wednesday.

One of the highlights of the term was an Andrew Chinn Concert, commencing with a Sausage Sizzle provided by our Parents and Friends fundraising Committee.

Andrew Chinn is an Australian song writer and we use his songs for our school Liturgies and Mass.

One of the highlights of the term was an Andrew Chinn Concert

A Cricket World Cup Quiz was held to raise funds to purchase portable IT devices and approximately \$1,000.00 was raised which was a wonderful effort. We had the ***“Crazy Scientist” from Nexus Arts*** visit our school teaching children how science can be fun with his practical Science Show. The children also attended two shows at ***Capital E*** as part of the National Arts Festival. During ***“Moving March week”*** the children were encouraged to bike, cycle, scoot or walk to school to promote the benefits of active travel to and from school. Some of our students participated in a Rippa Rugby tournament. We have had a “green” ***Mufti Day*** for St Patrick’s Day and a Mufti Day to raise funds for Vanuatu with \$411.00 raised which we were able to pass on to Caritas. Goal setting interviews have been held during which a Maths Kiosk was set up.

Learning is well underway at St Francis Xavier School! Lots to look forward to next term with a Year 5 & 6 ***Camp to El Rancho and a Marae visit*** for the rest of the school.

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Good Manners at Mass

by *Michelle Anthony*

"The Lord disciplines those he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." Hebrews 12:6

Sometime after Christmas, I received a letter from an anonymous parishioner requesting that I bring to attention the need for [some] parishioners to improve their 'Mass manners'.

I have had a difficult time trying to figure out how to highlight this [perceived] problem without causing offense, and so I hope I will not ruffle feathers. There are general

do's and do not's which I have gathered from Christian web sites that can prove useful in helping us, as a faith family, celebrate Holy Mass appropriately.



Before Mass:

Prepare. Historically, men wore suits, and ladies wore their best to Mass. Now-a-days, a suit is optional, but there is no reason why one cannot come appropriately and neatly clothed. There are items of clothing that are more suited for the beach, or for sporting activities. Items of clothing that show off your undergarments or are revealing have their time and place. We dress with care when going out to a fancy restaurant, a wedding or to a concert, so why not to Mass where we are in the presence of Christ our King?

Cell phones: Yes God is calling you but definitely not on your cell phone. Turn it on *silent* or better still, turn it off.

Punctuality: Leave home allowing time to arrive at church about five or ten minutes before Mass begins, This will give you the time to say a short prayer before Mass, not to mention getting the best seats in the house. Arriving late may disrupt the service and distract other parishioners. There are times when being late is unavoidable - that is understandable. But if you are perpetually late, perhaps there are things that you can do to remedy this.

Entrance: When arriving at church, make sure, if you are in the habit of chewing gum, that you dispose of it hygienically and do not stick it under the pew. There is a waste bin in the church foyer near the library books. If you are a man, please remove your hat. **Bless yourself with holy water** and make your way to the inside of the church quietly. There is always room inside, so come in and worship as one body. The foyer should only be used when there is a full house.

During Mass:

Participate: Sing! Praise! Worship! Listen! We are celebrating Our Lord's life and sacrifice. Be joyful with reverence.

Children: Yes Jesus loves the little children! But they do need our help. The little ones tend to get bored or tired, thus they start fussing. It is acceptable for kids to talk and chatter now and then during mass, but if they start crying in earnest, parents should take them out of the main church until they calm down. Children should not be allowed to loudly rattle keys or have other noisy toys or kick the pews in front of them. There is a quiet room for use at the back of the church. Children should be accompanied with one parent so that there is space for other parishioners with children. The room itself is not totally soundproof, and it is not a playroom nor a crèche to use all the time. It is a temporary place to go to if your child cries or for mothers to breastfeed should they need privacy. Do not allow older children to slam the doors as they go in and out of church during Mass, and keep their entries and exits to a necessary minimum. There is a collection of children's religious books in the church foyer. Children are welcome to borrow these to read during mass.

Communion: Take communion reverently, with your hands. Be conscious that we are receiving his Real Presence. It is a true encounter with Our Lord. Return to your seat and thank the Lord for his sacrifice. There are times when one has no option but to leave church immediately after communion. God understands. But if done so habitually for no good reason, the true meaning of the Mass is lost. I once read something hilarious on the internet about the first person to leave Mass early. He was Judas Iscariot.

Finally:

Once the final hymn is sung and the procession has ended, go out and spread the Good News. Meet and mingle with your fellow parishioners. Get to know them.

"The joy of the Lord is your Strength" Nehemiah 8:10

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Prayer and Adoration

We know that the Eucharist is the “*source and summit of all Christian Worship*”. (Lumen Gentium para 11; Constitution on the Church, Vatican 2 documents)

We also know that prayer is the foundation of our own personal faith life and the sustaining force for our community life as a parish.

Those who are temporarily or long term unable to join community prayer and worship at Mass can receive the blessings of the Eucharist with communion at home.

If this is you, please contact the parish office to arrange home visits on Sundays after Mass. This ministry is available in Tawa and Titahi Bay.



Those of us who are still getting out and about may like to think about committing to a regular time to spend one hour a week at ***Wednesday Adoration (10am to 9pm)*** in Tawa.

Anyone can drop in for as long or short a time as you wish: on the way home from school or work, when out shopping, or a stop-off during your exercise walk. It is also helpful to have as many as possible regularly rostered for each hour of the day.

Please prayerfully consider whether you might be able to commit one hour a week to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Contact Eileen Mackey on 232 5473 to join the roster.

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” John 6:35,40

Parish Notices

Deaths

Bernard Leigh	2 December 14
Sulu'o Leafine Alosio-Logotuli	22 December 14
Andrea Gillian D'Souza	6 January 15
Harry Craig	28 January 15
Sa Mafuta Ulu	4 February 15
Irene Patricia Morgan	10 March 15
John Nelson	1 May 15

Baptisms

Name of child	Parents	Date
Nirvana-Jas Merenia Rene Hadfield-Samuela	Wayne Samuela & Shardee Hadfield	10.1.2015
Shian Ruhunage Sebastian Withanage	Sumith Withanage & Ruhunage Dayaratne	18.1.15
Evie-Mae Johnson-Hunt	Cliff Hunt & Laura Johnson	25.1.15
Peter Kieran Newell	Kieran & Rebecca Newell	28.2.15
Lucia Valerie Gibson	Stephen & Belinda Gibson	8.3.15
Carmel Freya Rose Stallard	Regan & Megan Stallard	22.3.15
Naylan Murray-Leaupepe	Eni Leaupepe & Leonte Murray	31.3.15
Georgia Kate Collins	Blake & Jessica Collins	31.3.15
Madison Anita Patricia Norman	Dean Norman & Anita Bradshaw	31.3.15
Lily Elias	Jeff Elias & Ana Coffey	31.3.15
Maggie Elias	Jeff Elias & Ana Coffey	31.3.15
Ellie Jane Detoito Briggs	Daniel Briggs & Elizabeth Detoito-Briggs	25.4.15

Adult Baptism

Mal Fyfe	28.3.15
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New Parishioners

If you are new to the parish, Welcome!

Please introduce yourself to the celebrant, another parishioner,
or call the parish office 9am-12noon weekdays . 04 232 5611

Email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz Web site: www.tawacatholic.org.nz

Current Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr John van der Kaa - parish priest Andrew Oliver - chair

Kamelie Aiono, Telesia Alaimoana, Lagi Anamani, Chantelle Anthony,
Gerard Bone, Denise Dorman, Ted Gallen, John Lafaele,
Ray Lindsay, Hannah McCardle, Paul McCardle, Rupi Mapusua,
Litia Meli, Joseph Mijares, Marie Prescott, Rebekah Siave.

Coming events

- Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women, Third Sat. 1:30 pm, at Connolly Hall,
Next to Cathedral, Wellington.
- Monthly luncheons in Tawa church foyer, First Tuesday of each month.
- Time together, weekly games, Tawa church meeting room, Thurs 1:30 pm,
- Youth Group, College Years 9 to 13, Fridays, 8:00 - 9:30pm
Leo Connor Hall, **during school term;**
- Girls' Group Year 3 - 9 students, Fridays, 4:30 - 5:30 pm,
Tawa church meeting room **during term time.**
- * Other events, check web site calendar: www.tawacatholic.org.nz

Please let us know if you have a regular or one-off event you would like to advertise here

Notice to contributors

Deadline date for contributions for our next issue of *Stories of Hope* will be advertised in the weekly newsletter. We always like to hear about your group or parish organization. We generally prefer content relating to specific events and persons - as a guideline, 400 words will fill one page of this magazine. Short newsy articles, anecdotes, reflections, poems, and page fillers are also needed. E copy is preferred but hard copy can be submitted. Photos are welcome - high resolution please.

Send copy to either of the following or leave for collection at the parish office.

Michelle Anthony
16 Rembrandt Street
232 3373
m.anthony@xtra.co.nz

Bernie Griffin
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232 9292
scoobydo741@gmail.com

Disclaimer

Any views or opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily represent those of the Editorial Committee or the administrators of Our Lady of Hope parish. The editor exercises sole discretion as to the acceptance of items for publication, insofar as they reflect Catholic life in the parish and do not tend to give offence. All items submitted may be subject to editorial amendment, revision or rejection and all items published are without prejudice.

Regular worship:

Titahi Bay Mass times: Sun. 9:30 am, Tues - Fri 9am

Tawa Mass times: Sat 6:00 pm, Sun 8:30 am & 10:30 am, Mon, Wed-Fri. 9 am;

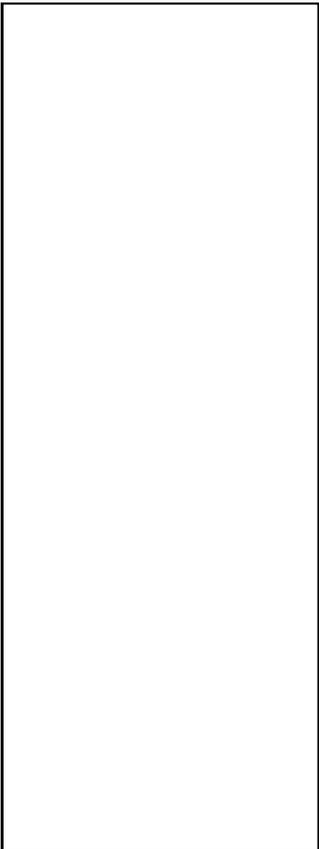
Tues. liturgy of the Word with communion 9 am

- Children's worship during 8:30 am Sun mass **during term time**,
- Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, chapel Weds 9:30 am - 9:00 pm;
- Monthly rosary & benediction, 2:00 pm third Sunday
- Prayer ministry teams, after 8:30 am mass, Sunday

.Other English language masses in our pastoral area

- St Teresa, Plimmerton, Sat 6:00 pm, Sun 9:30 am
- Holy Family, Porirua E. Sat 6:00 pm, Sun 9:30 am (*incl Pacific content*)
- Te Ngakau Tapu, Porirua, Sun 5:15 pm (*may include Te Reo Maori*)

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**We hope you enjoyed reading this issue of *Stories of Hope* .
When you've finished reading it, why not pass it on to a friend?
We need your input. Keep those contributions coming!!**

Stories of Hope - Mission Statement

Our mission - To promote a sense of community in the Catholic parish of Our Lady of Hope, Tawa & Titahi Bay, by publishing the full variety of Catholic life in our parish.

Principal source of written contributions is the people in our parish.

Our objective: Every edition to every Catholic home in the parish.

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With Thanks to:

all those whose efforts have made this issue possible