



# Stories of HOPE

August 2016

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



THE WORKS OF MERCY ✠ ✠ FEED THE HUNGRY ✠  
 CLOTHE THE NAKED ✠ GIVE DRINK TO THE  
 THIRSTY ✠ VISIT THE IMPRISONED ✠ CARE FOR  
 THE SICK ✠ BURY THE DEAD ✠ COUNSEL THE  
 DOUBTFUL ✠ INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT ✠  
 CORRECT SINNERS ✠ COMFORT THE SORROWFUL  
 ✠ FORGIVE ALL INJURIES ✠ BEAR WRONGS WITH  
 PATIENCE ✠ PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD



Jubilee of Mercy  
8 December 2015 -  
20 November 2016

*The Year of Mercy is almost over.  
Will 'Mercy' remain at the heart of my life?*

## 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, 500 words will fill one page of this magazine. Short newsy articles, anecdotes, reflections, poems, family events and page fillers are also welcome.

E-copy is preferred but hard copy can be submitted. Photos enhance all content - high resolution please.

Send copy to the editor or leave for collection at the parish office.

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

## 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.

---

## 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.

### Copyright:

All items published in *Stories of Hope* are copyright and may not be otherwise published for general distribution without the prior approval of the editor. Items may only be copied for the use of private individuals or circulated for the use of small discussion groups, providing that the source is acknowledged.

### With Thanks to:

Our sponsor to all volunteers who help distribute copies, and to all others whose efforts have made this issue possible.

## Contents for August Issue 2016

<a href="#">Magazine Policy Statements .....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Editorial column .....</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">Watch This Space! .....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Sr Joy Marie .....</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">Religious Art .....</a>	<a href="#">10</a>
<a href="#">Laudato Si (part 2) .....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Body Language and Prayer .....</a>	<a href="#">16</a>
<a href="#">Church Emergency Procedures .....</a>	<a href="#">18</a>
<a href="#">St Francis Xavier School Report .....</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">St Pius X School Report .....</a>	<a href="#">22</a>
<a href="#">Passionist Family Groups .....</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">Parish records: Baptisms, Deaths, Marriages .....</a>	<a href="#">25</a>
<a href="#">Notices, Coming Events .....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Message from Ninness .....</a>	<a href="#">27</a>

### **Editorial committee:**

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

### **Contributors this issue:**

Michelle Anthony, Bernie Griffin, Wendy & Allan Holden, Jane Langham, Jane Lee, Anton Rayner, Jane Reddish, Fr John van der Kaa, Joan Woods, Parish Finance Committee

## Letter from the Editor

by Michelle Anthony



### We are not alone

Records tell us the first Catholic Mass was celebrated in New Zealand on January 13, 1838 in Hokianga.



This momentous time in history was born of Bishop Pompallier's desire to evangelise. He was amongst the first Marists answering the request of Pope Gregory XVI to evangelise Oceania. Three Marist missionaries left what they knew, and the creature comforts of home to set sail across the world. Twenty years later Bishop Pompallier returned to his home town of Lyon and put out a call, speaking of the tiny country in Oceania. A chain reaction began – the call was heard by many, especially closely by one Suzanne Aubert who arrived in New Zealand in December 1860. The New Zealand Catholic Church and its mission came to be embraced by many of the Māori people. Bishop Pompallier won their hearts by learning their culture and language. He accepted their diversity and was inclusive.

***“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news!” (Romans 10:13-15).***

Mother Suzanne Aubert went on to do the work of God, one of which was the revival of the then dormant Marist mission in Wellington. This July, we celebrated 200 years since the start of the Society of Mary, 180 of those in New Zealand. The questions are, ‘What if Bishop Pompallier did not reach out? What if he felt that evangelisation was not a Catholic core mission? What if he had left the evangelisation to his Protestant brothers?’ Would we be part of a strong Catholic faith community today?



What if you were asked about the ways in which you evangelize? One might profess to evangelising by example, others by advice and some may just brush it off saying that evangelisation is a Protestant phenomenon, a non-Catholic notion. But the plain simple fact is that evangelisation is as old as Pentecost. In that little room upstairs where the disciples gathered they were told to go forth and spread the gospel. It is an essential mission of the Catholic Church.

***“Just before he ascended into heaven, Jesus told the apostles: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).***

Recently, Pope Francis pushed open the doors of our Church, welcoming and accepting people of varied lifestyles without changing Church doctrine. He urged tolerance and acceptance, making the Church more inclusive than exclusive. Some Catholics stop coming to church for fear of being judged. They have been hurt by fellow parishioners, Christians who acted in an un-Christian way. But we need to realise that our Church comprises imperfect people. Our Church is ‘a hospital for sinners, not a hotel for saints’. (*Pope Francis*) Rather than distancing ourselves from the true presence of Christ through the Eucharist, we are urged to cling on to Jesus even more because, though we are imperfect, He is perfect in his love for you and me, and his Church contains the fullness of Truth. People can disappoint but our Lord will never let go of us. He is saying softly and tenderly “Come home, come home. Those who are weary come home ...



**In this edition** we have news of one of today’s missionaries, Sr Joy Marie , (daughter of Wendy & Allan Holden (page 8); thoughts about potentially meeting and evangelising ‘aliens’ (page 6); sharing faith through art (page 10) or in many other ways and Fr John’s conclusion to his summary of Laudato Si (page 11)

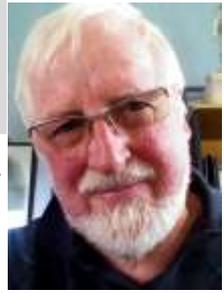
[Back](#)

### Ways to Evangelise

- 1) Be proud of being a Catholic. Live your life with holy boldness.
- 2) Focus on what is truly important. Relationships are important. Christian values are important.
- 3) **Set time apart daily for God. Don’t be afraid to tell others you do that.**
- 4) **Smile a lot. It makes you happy. It also makes others happy. It’s a great witness to your Christian joy. Smiling is a one word Christian philosophy on living.**

## Watch This Space

by *Bernie Griffin*



Extra-terrestrial activity, aliens, and creepy-crawlies from outer space all make good fodder for the Hollywood scriptwriters and other story tellers. Throw the Catholic Church into the mix and they figure there's a blockbuster in the making. Spice it up with rumours that the Vatican has secret plans to deal with invaders from galaxies 'far away' and you can live off the royalties forever.



How disappointing for the fiction writers that the word from the Vatican is that any discovery of aliens wouldn't change anything as far as Catholic doctrine is concerned. Any presence of life in outer space would not be a contradiction to the Christian faith.

Pope Francis has already said that if Martians turned up at the Vatican asking to be baptised they would get a welcome:

*"If, for example, tomorrow an expedition of Martians came to us here and one said 'I want to be baptised!', what would happen? Who are we to close doors to anyone -- even Martians,"* he has said in a homily on acceptance and inclusion.

He recalled the conversion of the first pagans to Christianity and said Catholicism is a church of "open doors", and that it was up to Christians to accept the Holy Spirit however "unthinkable" and "unimaginable" it appeared.

Pope Francis wasn't debating the issue. His point was about acceptance and inclusion. He recounted the Bible story about Peter being criticised by the Christians of Jerusalem for making contact with a community of 'unclean' pagans. At the time, that too was 'unthinkable'.

Human beings have always been fascinated by the possibility of life on other planets. As far as we know, space explorers haven't yet come across any monsters or little green men.

But what some space travellers have discovered is a confirmation of their faith and their belief in God. It could be said they 'found' God and communed with God in space – up there in the solar system.

John Glenn, the first American to orbit the earth who went on to become a United States senator, said this about the spectacular view of earth from space:



***“To look out at this kind of creation and not believe in God is to me impossible.”***

Presbyterian elder and astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second person to walk on the moon, received Holy Communion minutes before his own ‘big leap’ for mankind. Before Aldrin and Neil Armstrong, his fellow astronaut, emerged from their spaceship, Aldrin pulled out a Bible, a silver chalice, and sacramental bread and wine. There on the moon, his first act was to celebrate the Presbyterian communion rite.

***But what some space travellers have discovered is a confirmation of their faith and their belief in God. It could be said they ‘found’ God and communed with God in space – up there in the solar system.***

Frank Borman, commander of the first space crew to travel beyond the Earth's orbit, looked back at the earth 250,000 miles away, and quoted Genesis 1:

*“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”* As he later explained, *“I had an enormous feeling that there had to be a power greater than any of us -- that there was a God, that there was indeed a beginning.”*

So the awesomeness of creation has been witnessed from space. God has been acknowledged. Christianity has arrived on the moon. Big moments in history.

Questions about life of sorts among the galaxies remain. What about aliens? Are they out there somewhere? Pope Francis – unfazed by such a prospect -- has asked what would happen if an expedition of Martians did arrive at the Vatican?

We can be confident he wouldn't turn them away.

[Back](#)

### **He then ate and drank the elements.**

The surreal ceremony is described in an article by Aldrin in a 1970 copy of *Guideposts* magazine:

***“I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon the wine curled slowly and gracefully up the side of the cup. It was interesting to think that the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the first food eaten there, were communion elements.”***

## Sister Joy Marie MC

by Wendy & Allan Holden

Sister Joy Marie is the daughter of Allan and Wendy Holden of Our Lady of Hope Parish. She has joined the Missionaries of Charity (the order established by Mother Teresa), making first vows in Rome in December 2012. After that she was posted to Macau and in mid 2015 was transferred to Taiwan.

She is in a house in Tainan with five other sisters. Their main ministry is running a small rest home for some elderly ladies. Some of them are bedridden and need to be fed. They would have nowhere else to go if the sisters were not looking after them.



*The Holdens in the parish church in Tainan. The icon behind the altar is a copy of one from a church in Italy and represents the Assumption.*

***They would have nowhere else to go  
if the sisters were not looking after them.***

Allan, Wendy, Simon and Rachel recently visited Sr Joy Marie in Tainan. The sisters' house is right next to the parish church so the parish and the sisters are actively involved in each other's activities. We were able to help the sisters with looking after their ladies and with some minor repairs.

We met two families who are part of the neo-catechumenal way:

<http://www.camminoneocatecumenale.it/new/default.asp?lang=en>

They are Mission families, living in Tainan as a witness to the gospel. One family is from Mexico and the other from Nicaragua.

One part of their witness is being larger families; Taiwan has one of the lowest birth rates in the world so a family with more than 1 child is a rare thing. The Christmas season had been busy for the families: they took the lead in building the Christmas crib outside the church and produced a play depicting the story from Creation to Christmas. They took it to a neighbouring parish where we saw it performed outside, complete with very good costumes, sound track and lighting. After that we shared a meal of roast pork.

We had several days away from Tainan. Taiwan is a very spectacular country with more than 100 mountains over 3,000m high. We travelled to a couple of National Parks and did a few short walks.

Although it was winter the weather was comfortable, however a few days after we left the temperature dropped to near zero.

The sisters survived the earthquake on 6 February but were without water supply for some time. They had to carry water for themselves and to look after their ladies either from water tankers or their well.



[Back](#)

## The Fountain by Artur Kleman

Each day the old fountain quietly pours out its water, steady as it goes.

I wish I were like this fountain, and could always pass on what is in me.

But, giving, giving, every single day, tell me, fountain, doesn't it get to be a bother?

Then the fountain says to me (his fellow-toiler):  
"I am only fountain, not a wellspring.

It flows to me – I pass it on, that makes my nature glad and gay."

Thus I live in the fountain's way, I daily draw strength for life's journey, and will always - happily - pass on what the wellspring gives me to live.



## Focusing on our young talent -

**ART** by Anton Rayner

My name is Anton Rayner. I am 14 years in old. My hobbies are playing the guitar, soccer and drawing.

The first time I drew pictures worth keeping, and realised I enjoyed drawing, was when my brother Richard was born. He is now six years old.



Every Easter since then, I have drawn pictures of Jesus' passion. I don't really draw for the fun of it. I draw because I like that you can look at your old drawings and see how much you've improved. I enjoy having completed art work to look at.



**Note from editor-** *Last Easter I had the opportunity to look at some of Anton's Christian art, and was impressed by his God-given talent. We look forward to showcasing more of our young talent in future issues of Stories of Hope to celebrate our blessings-Michelle*

[Back](#)

## Part 2 of 'Laudato Si' summary

by Fr John van der Kaa



### Pope Francis wants us to....

**Be informed.** The encyclical is teaching us about the ecological crisis, its obvious symptoms, its causes and the action needed to remedy the situation.

Pope Francis makes it clear that we are dealing with a problem that is connected with all aspects of life on our planet.

Advances of science and technology over the past 200 years may have brought lots of good things to be grateful for, but they also gave us great power without the necessary discipline to handle it.

***If we think we have absolute dominion over the world,  
the foundations of life begin to crumble.***

### **Realise that we are part of the problem and we need to be part of the solution.**

In trying to find a solution all fields of knowledge must work together, including philosophy and social ethics. There are good people calling for a new approach. *They are like a mist seeping gently beneath a closed door.* Pope Francis tells us to slow down and look at reality in a different way, aiming for sustainable progress and recovering the values of the past. He asks for responsible stewardship. *"When we fail to see the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities – to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself."* If we think we have absolute dominion over the world, the foundations of life begin to crumble.

**Protect employment.** The monks have taught us the importance of "Ora et Labora" (Pray and Work). Work brings creativity, planning for the future, developing our talents, living out our values, relating to others, giving glory to God. Everyone should have access to steady employment. We are all aware of the closure of factories, small and large, losing hundreds of jobs. Business is a noble vocation directed to producing wealth and improving our world. It can be a fruitful source of prosperity, especially if it sees the creation of jobs as an essential part of its service to the common good.

**Pay attention to ecosystems.** We depend on and live in certain ecosystems. These interact in dispersing CO<sub>2</sub>, purifying water, controlling illnesses and epidemics, forming soil, breaking down waste etc.

If we want sustainable use, we must consider the ability of our ecosystem to regenerate.

**Stick to the laws to protect the environment.**

Take the countries with forests: they keep silent as they watch laws repeatedly being broken. Drug use creates a growing demand for products imported from poorer regions, where behaviour is corrupted, lives are destroyed and the environment continues to deteriorate.

**Look at the plight of the indigenous people.**

When they remain on their land, they care for it best. Sometimes they get forced to leave their homeland to make room for agricultural and mining projects, undertaken without regard for the degradation of nature and culture.



**Take care of our environment.** In our rooms, our homes, our workplaces and neighbourhoods we use our environment as a way of expressing our identity. When it is disorderly, chaotic or saturated with noise and ugliness, we find it hard to be integrated and happy. Planners need to make sure people can feel at home within a city, form a community, no strangers, but all part of a “we” created by all.

***The Common Good implies respect for the human person, the overall welfare of society and the development of various groups ...  
(with the family as the basic cell of society), social peace.***

**Help people to have their own home.** Having a home affects personal dignity and the growth of families.

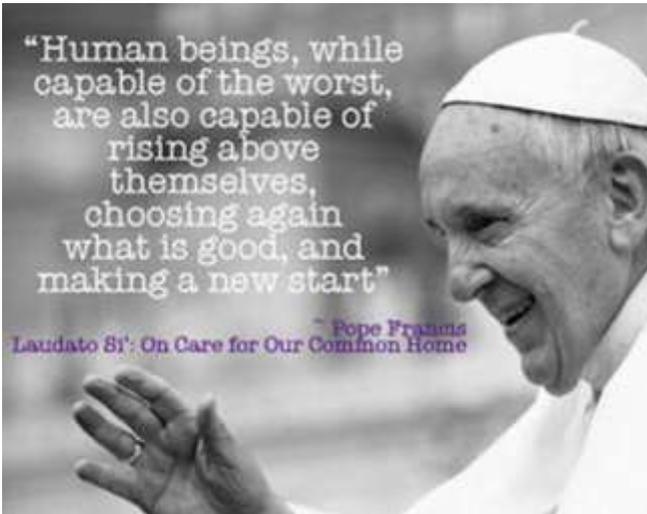
**Use public transport.** Cars cause congestion and pollution, using lots of non-renewable energy.

**Accept our body.** The acceptance of our body as God’s gift is vital for welcoming and accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home. Learning to accept our body, to care for it and to respect its fullest meaning is an essential element of any true human ecology.

**Strive for the common good.** The Common Good implies respect for the human person, the overall welfare of society and the development of various groups applying the principle of subsidiarity (with the family as the basic cell of society), social peace. Society and the State must defend and promote the Common Good.

This principle asks for solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters. Never forget the immense dignity of the poor in the light of our faith.

**Make sure we leave a better world to the next generation.** What is the purpose of our life in this world? Why are we here? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us? It's about our own dignity. Our present lifestyle is heading for disaster. The effects of the present imbalance can only be reduced by our decisive actions, here and now.



All this against the background of the ethical and cultural decline that goes with the ecological crisis. Many problems come from today's self-centred culture of instant gratification. Parents can be prone to impulsive and wasteful consumption.

We must also think of the poor of the future and of today's poor whose life on earth is brief and who cannot keep on waiting.

**Escape the spiral of self-destruction.** The world is our common home. Solutions need to come from a global perspective. A global consensus is needed to see the deeper problems. Such a consensus could lead to planning a sustainable and diversified agriculture, find renewable and less polluting forms of energy, more efficient use of energy, better management of marine and forest resources and access to drinking water for everyone.

**Abide by internationally agreed rules.** In chapter 4 Pope Francis lists a number of ways to combat the deterioration of the planet. Some of those we can apply ourselves, locally as individuals and as families. Individuals and groups can make a difference. They are able to instil a greater sense of responsibility, a strong sense of community, a readiness to protect others, a spirit of creativity and a deep love for the land. They are also concerned about what they will eventually leave to their

children and grandchildren. These values are deeply rooted in indigenous peoples.

Proposers of new projects must demonstrate that the proposed activity will not cause serious harm to the environment or to those living in it.

Market forces alone are not enough to safeguard the environment. Where profits alone count, there can be no thinking about the rhythms of nature, its phases of decay and regeneration or the complexity of ecosystems which may be upset by human intervention.

A path of productive development – more creative and better directed – could solve a few problems; it could generate intelligent and profitable ways of reusing, revamping and recycling, improve the energy efficiency of cities. Improve employment opportunities. We would promote a sustainable and equitable development within the context of a broader concept of quality of life. We need to take on more sober lifestyles, reducing energy consumption and improving its efficiency.

**To change as human beings.** All is not lost. We can take an honest look at ourselves, see our deep dissatisfaction, and find new paths to real freedom. A person who could afford to spend and consume more but regularly uses less heating and wears warmer clothes, shows the kind of convictions and attitudes which help to protect the environment. There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, when done for the right reasons, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity.

***All is not lost. We can take an honest look at ourselves, see our deep dissatisfaction, and find new paths to real freedom.***

**Pope Francis stresses the importance of the family.** In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life; we are taught the proper use of things, order and cleanliness, respect for the local ecosystem and care for all creatures. In the family we learn to ask without demanding, to say “thank you” as an expression of genuine gratitude for what we have been given, to control our anger and greed, and to ask

forgiveness when we have caused harm. These simple gestures of heartfelt courtesy help to create a culture of shared life and respect for our surroundings.

**Have a passionate concern for the protection of our world... inspired by our faith.**



*Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. Pope Francis talks about an ecological conversion. We should nurture that sublime fraternity with all creation*

which St Francis of Assisi so radiantly embodied. *We should learn to be happy with little, appreciate small things, be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us. Happiness means knowing how to limit some needs which only diminish us, and being open to the many different possibilities which life can offer*

**Give thanks to God before and after meals.** That moment of blessing reminds us of our dependence on God for life, it strengthens our gratitude for the gifts of creation.

**Conclusion.** At this point there are still another 18 paragraphs. I can see them as one long meditation, where Pope Francis brings in all the teachings of the Church which encourage us to extend our love of God and neighbour to the physical world we live in. He mentions the example of the saints, like Thérèse of Lisieux, St Bonaventure, St John of the Cross, Our Lady, Mother and Queen of all creation and St Joseph who can inspire us to work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us.

Pope Francis ends with two prayers.

*If you wish to use these prayers or read the whole of 'Laudato Si', it is on the Vatican web site, or just put '[Laudato Si](#)' in your search engine.*

[Back](#)

## Body Language and Prayer

by Jane Langham

I am sure you are familiar with picking up signals from the body language of those you meet in daily life. I've also heard (and experienced) that we can change our emotions by the body language we use: smiling, even when we don't feel happy, can lift our spirits; standing and walking upright, rather than hunched and bowed head, will improve our confidence and ability to face the day.

Can body language be part of our prayer life? I have memories from childhood of my grandmother's regular visits to stay with us, sharing the bedroom with me and my sister. In her full-length white flannel nightgown, she would kneel at her bedside each night to pray. I have a lasting image of her, not long before she died, apologizing to us teenage girls, for the "bad example" she was giving that she now had to kneel on the bed because of her arthritis. I think of her and her devotion to the Lord as I lie warm in my bed reviewing my day ... if I can complete it before going to sleep. Not an example to pass on to my grandchildren!



Giving full attention with our mind can be helped by what we do with our body. The ancient posture of prayer was standing with arms raised. This is still used by the priest at Mass for many of the prayers and at various times the congregation are invited to stand when the priest says "*let us pray*" – try looking out for this on Sundays. You may also notice an increasing number of parishioners who pray the '*Our Father*' either with hands raised in praise or outstretched in petition.



***The ancient posture of prayer was standing with arms raised.***

The priest and theologian Origen (c.185-253) taught Christians in this way:

*“And although there are a great many different positions for the body, he should not doubt that the position with the hands outstretched and the eyes lifted up is to be preferred before all others, because it bears in prayer the image of characteristics befitting the soul and applies it to the body. I mean that this position must be preferred barring any chance circumstance. For under certain circumstances it is allowed to pray properly sometimes sitting... or even lying down... And kneeling is necessary when someone is going to speak against his own sins before God, since he is making supplication for their healing and their forgiveness.”*

Recently I have tried to begin each day, the moment I get out of bed, by raising my hands and saying my morning offering. It could be very simple: *“Lord I give to you today all I think and do and say.”* I encourage you to try it! If you find this helpful, you may then like to add an ‘Our Father’. Another related prayer aid is to recite prayers or read from Scripture out loud. Try it one day and see what it means for you.

Over time, you might find there are other ways you can be ‘more present’ to God in your prayer time by the posture you use. You might even find yourself prompted to bow down or stand up during your time at Wednesday adoration in the Church – that’s ok. Or you may wish to join those who are moved to raise their hands during the ‘Our Father’ or the singing of some hymns of praise during Mass.

Just go with what the Spirit prompts!

*“... my lips will recite your praise;  
all my life I will bless you,  
in your name lift up my hands ...”*

Psalm 63:3-4

[Back](#)



## Church Emergency Procedures - Fire

Current legislation requires the Tawa church to have an automatic fire alarm system, a NZ Fire Service approved Evacuation Plan and to have regular evacuations tests.

The Finance Committee appointed Red Alert, a company that specialise in writing evacuation plans, to write the report and to run evacuation tests for our church.

### *Our Lady of Fatima Church Evacuation-Fire Drill Procedures*

#### Fire Alarm

#### *When the alarm operates what happens and what should you do?*

##### When you hear the alarm:

- \* treat all operation of the fire alarm as a potential fire.
- \* get up and walk calmly to your nearest exit.

These are the:

- \* four wooden doors that were the original church entrance, at the back of the church.
- \* double glass doors, at the entrance to the church, that lead into the carpark.
- \* ensure your family stay together.
- \* do not go anywhere in the church. **You must leave!**



##### Fire wardens will:

- \* don coloured vests so that you know who they are. The building warden will have an orange vest and the other wardens will have yellow vests.
- \* ensure that you are ushered safely out of the building and find assistance for you if you are unable to leave unassisted.
- \* If you are asked to assist a fire warden please do so.
- \* check rooms, toilets and storage areas to ensure no-one is left inside the church or, if it is open, the presbytery.
- \* give you directions on where you are to assemble. Listen for those instructions and follow them without question.
- \* dial 111 to alert the appropriate emergency services.

## Once outside:

### Do

- \* listen to the warden's instructions. They will tell you where you are to assemble. *(You can be fined by a New Zealand court if you fail to follow the warden's instructions.)*
- \* Remember they are only interested in ensuring that you are safe.
- \* go to the safe area instructed by the wardens. These may be:
  - \* outside numbers 2-4 Lyndhurst Road
  - \* outside 173 Main Road.

EFC101-TS



"These fire drills are getting pretty intense."

### Do Not

- \* stand in the carpark.
- \* cross the road. You may get hit by passing traffic or a fire service vehicle.
- \* try to remove your car from the carpark. You may get in the way of the fire service or injure people evacuating the building.
- \* re-enter the building before receiving authorisation from the building warden (orange vest).

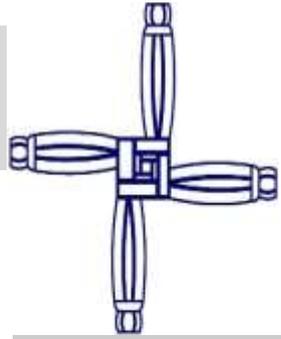
### From the Parish Finance Committee:

*Father John van der Kaa, Denise Dorman, Graeme Hansen, Ted Gallen, Edward Juchnowicz, Patrick McGill & Margaret Weaver*

[Back](#)

## St Francis Xavier School

by *Joan Woods (Principal)*



**St Francis Xavier School**  
Strength and Gentleness  
Tu Maia, Tu Aroha

### Term 2 News

I am delighted to be part of the St Francis Xavier School community and would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I received at the start of Term 2. I enjoyed being part of the school/parish communities in celebrating Pentecost at Our Lady of Fatima Church in my first few weeks.

As a school we joined Bishop Viard College to celebrate Catholic Schools' Day along with children from Holy Family, St Pius X and St Theresa's. The day began with a shared liturgy followed by a range of sporting and cultural activities.

Board of Trustee School Elections were held during the Term and a new Board was elected for the next three years, with Peter Mallon remaining as Chairperson. The new Board has met for the first time and will hold regular meetings throughout the year in their role of school governance.



**A highlight this term has been the establishment of a lizard garden** which was the result of a study in the school on lizards. River stones were delivered, weed mat put down and stones moved into place. Friends of Tawa Bush donated suitable

plants for the garden. *Above: Tawa garden lizard.* While this work was being carried out, two lizards were seen in the garden which caused great excitement.

Lots of learning has taken place with another highlight being visiting STARLAB at school. STARLAB is a portable planetarium which is a tent-like dome and the children experienced the night sky and constellations by going inside STARLAB.

Learning Conferences held recently gave parents the opportunity to share their child's learning with their teachers.

Following on from our Space study, Parents and Friends held a Family Disco 'Shine Like a Star' and a Matariki Mufti Day was held. Parents and Friends also provided a meal on our Space Odyssey night. Our Year 3-6 students stayed after school until 7.00pm taking part in space related activities which included looking through a telescope.

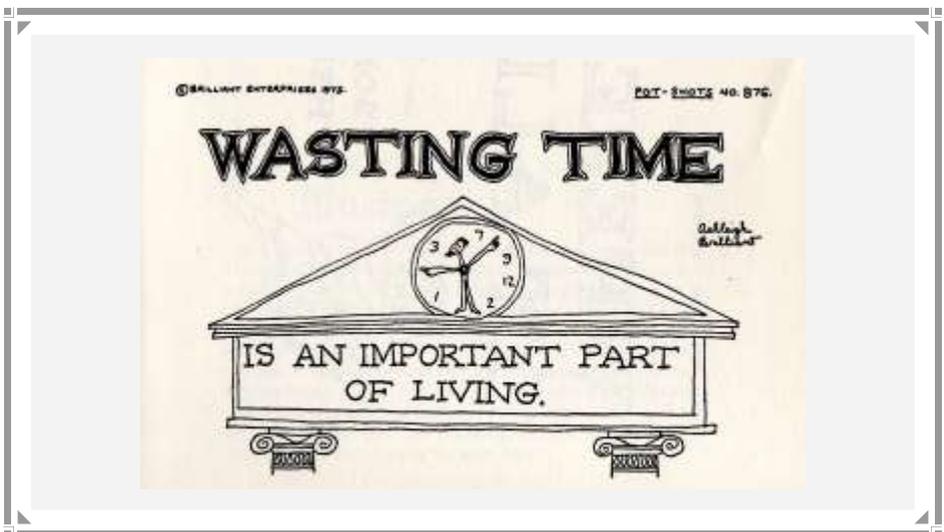
The students have been involved in Cross Country, Big Air Gym and Soccer as part of our fitness programme. Some of our older students play Saturday netball under the school name.



Our senior students are practising for Tawa's Music Festival and some of our students are involved in Artsplash. We now have a Ukulele Club using ukuleles purchased through a grant from the Tawa Community Grants Fund. Students enjoyed showcasing their talents at a recent performance assembly.

It has been a very rewarding term with the focus being on the children's learning ensuring they are given lots of wonderful opportunities while attending St Francis Xavier School.

[Back](#)



## St Pius X School - 'Strong and Gentle

by *Jane Reddish (Principal)*



### Term 2 News

As usual Term 2 was action-packed from go to whoah!

### SPECIAL CHARACTER

Catholic Schools Day – Monday 16 May

We had a fabulous day participating in activities with all the students from Holy Family, St Theresa's, St Francis Xavier and Bishop Viard. Many of our children made friends with new children and we all came away with a feeling of unity and belonging to the wider Catholic Community here in Porirua City.

First Reconciliation with St Francis Xavier School – 25 June at St Pius X Church

Mufti Mania – 8 July – raising money for schools in the Solomon Islands



### FUNDRAISERS

Pasifika Quiz Night – 24 June – organised by St Pius X Fono Group raised \$960.

Monster Book Fair

10 June - \$1605 books purchased by families and \$481.50 raised for the school library.



### **CURRICULUM EVENTS**

Science Day - Awesome

Forces was our physics topic for the term ending in a Science Day run by parent Dave Sutherland (who is also a secondary school teacher)



### **PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS**

IT and Digital Literacy – a series of 3 nights where parents could learn where our school is heading in Google Classrooms, Future Focused Learning and a new Innovative Learning Environment.

Parent / Teacher / Child Conferences – 27/28 June – 97% turnout of parents checking in on half yearly progress and setting goals for Term 3.

### **STOP PRESS EVENTS**

Flooding in May – with photo published in Kapi Mana

TJ Perenara visits our school

Dane Coles visits our school

St Pius X students contribute to the Porirua City Council Action Plan

[Back](#)

## Passionist Family Groups



There are a number of these groups in our parish, each comprising several families who meet together monthly for some form of social activity. Sometimes this would be family /children focused and sometimes just adults.

In June the Zephyrs group met for a mid-winter dinner and had a great time with delicious food then in July there was indoor bowls for all the family.

It would be good to get a group meeting in Titahi Bay.



If anyone (single, couple, family - all ages) would like to be part of a PFG group or to find out more, please contact Graeme & Carmen Conijn

Phone: 232 2115      Email: [carmen@sightandsound.co.nz](mailto:carmen@sightandsound.co.nz)

---

## Baptisms continued ....

George James Anderson - son of Michael & Jessika Anderson - baptised: 8 May 2016

Ryler James Sammut - son of Justine Sammut - baptised: 15 May 2016

Isabella-Rose Mary Perenise - daughter of Anthony Perenise & Carley Burge  
- baptised: 5 June 2016

Drayvinh Tomasi - son of Tomasi & Jardena Larsen-Tomasi - baptised: 25 June 2016

Sasha Bernadette Blackwood - daughter of Philip Blackwood & Noemi Almo  
- baptised: 3 July 2016

Ratu Mikaele Lelecanavanua Qaraniqio - son of Josefa Logavatu & Amy Sio  
- baptised: 10 July 2016

## Parish Notices - Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths

### Marriages

Michelle Dorothea Chambers and Aaron James Martin on 4 June 2016 at St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay

### Deaths

Sheryl Mary Huggins - died: 29 February 2016  
Patricia Anne Allen - died: 19 March 2016  
Ramona Rosaline Mar - died: 15 April 2016  
Edith Jessie Lang - died: 26 May 2016  
Michael William Huggins - died: 7 June 2016

### Baptisms

Name of child	Parents	Date
Julius Kuresa - son of Cassius & Cherie Kuresa		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Leiana Edwards - daughter of Frazer & Uritta Edwards		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Manaia Edwards - son of Frazer & Uritta Edwards		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Jahriah-Lee Saelem Savaii McGoldrick - son of Justin McGoldrick & Kyrach Samuel		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Feka Seu - Son of Ia & Nina Seu		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Rosieane Raukura Tiana and Lettitia Kahukura Luana Winiata-Demicoli - daughters of Louis Demicoli & Waiharakeke Winiata		- baptised: 7 April 2016
Patricia Nora Newell - daughter of John & Losa Newell		- baptised: 10 April 2016
Kiyan Isaac Silva - son of Nuwan & Shalindri Silva		- baptised: 17 April 2016
Samuel Edward John Erickson - son of Daniel Erickson & Kirsty Singleton		- baptised: 22 April 2016
Rory Angus Allen - son of Barry Allen & Gillian Watson		- baptised: 24 April 2016
Annabelle Rose van Son - daughter of Anthony & Sarah van Son		- baptised: 24 April 2016
Vincent William McCardle - son of Paul & Hannah McCardle		- baptised: 8 May 2016

[Back](#)

## 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

## 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.

## Regular 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,

Marian Mothers - 2nd Monday am each month - see weekly newsletter

Women of Faith - 2nd Tuesday each month pm - see weekly newsletter

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 website calendar: [www.tawacatholic.org.nz](http://www.tawacatholic.org.nz)

**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!!**

## This edition of *Stories of Hope* is sponsored by **Ninness Funeral Home**

17 Kenepuru Drive, Porirua ph: 04 237 4174 fax: 04 237 4172  
email: [info@ninness.co.nz](mailto:info@ninness.co.nz)

### **If I Only Had Time!**

**John Greally**

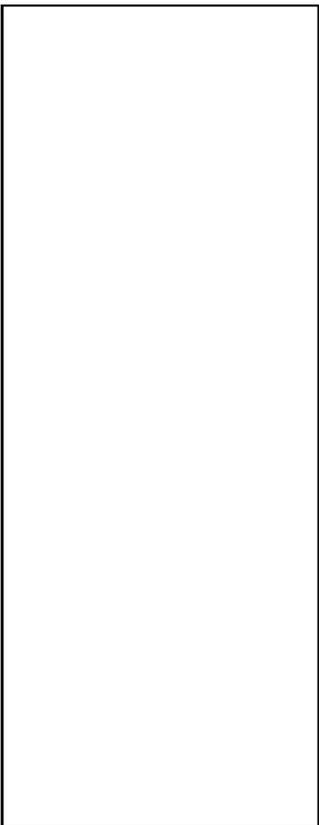
The song sung by John Rowles is one known to a number of people, and given that you, as a Catholic community have entered into that season you call ‘Ordinary Time’, it seemed a good opportunity to reflect on time and how it affects all of us who have suffered bereavement in our lives. As you’ll know, the phrase ‘Ordinary Time’ is not that it isn’t extraordinary time, nothing special, or just the mundane part of the Christian calendar, but rather it is the day to day unfolding of the message of Jesus counted or ordered time. It can become very easy for people to say, not so much out of being uncaring or unthoughtful, “time heals” or “in time you will get over the death”, but rather their wishing us to ‘return to our old selves’, for us to have the spark back in our lives before we were having to cope with the death of a family member or friend. Our day-to-day time has been overwhelmed by the daily grind of grief. Our days, months and years are no longer the same – how could they be! We think of times spent together and now time not together. We think of the special events that marked our lives which are now all the more poignant by absence rather than presence ... if we only had more time with them! ‘Ordinary time’ may give us a glimpse as to how best enter into this part of our lives. Day by day we can let the memories of our loved ones continue to enter into our stories. Day by day we cannot so much seek closure (if ever a word should be banned it is that one) but rather openness to the broad spectrum of emotion that visits us. Day by day may we grow in the hope that our lives have the DNA of our loved ones firmly imprinted on our hearts and no one can ever take that away from us. That is at the very heart of Ordinary Time within the Christian calendar. We, at Ninness Funeral Home, hope that these words will offer you some warmth and comfort and help you as you look back on times spent together and embrace the time ahead with those who love you dearly.

**For further helpful information**, have a look at the Ninness Funeral Home website: [www.ninness.co.nz](http://www.ninness.co.nz). Go to [‘Community Traditions’](#) and then [‘Catholic community’](#).

### **Shuttle Service to Whenua Tapu Cemetery**

Ninness Funeral Home provides a complimentary shuttle service for people who either do not have their own transport or where the cemetery is not on a public transport route. The shuttle runs to Whenua Tapu cemetery every month (excluding December) on the last Wednesday.





**If undelivered return to: P.O. BOX 51-029, TAWA, 5249**



Time is of the essence at  
**Rapid Copy Ltd**  
191B Thorndon Quay  
Wellington 6011  
Ph. 04 471 2537

Digital Printing Solutions

Email: [copyit@rapidcopy.co.nz](mailto:copyit@rapidcopy.co.nz)

Stories of Hope is printed with care by **Rapid Copy**



John Grealley



Brenden Jacobsen

**Ninness Funeral Home** - for caring, friendly and professional, funeral services.

**Call us for personal service today:**