

Parish Priest:	Fr Rico de la Torre	Ph: 021 205 6476
Assistant Priest:	Fr Marlon Tebelin	
Parish Secretary:	Jane Lee	Ph: 232 5611
	Hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am-12 noon	169 Main Road, Tawa
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:	Marie Prescott	Ph: 232 7679
Parish Finance Committee Chairperson:	Graeme Hansen	Ph: 232 4360
Marist Sisters:	Srs Francine McGovern & Margaret Vaney	Ph: 232 5151
St Francis Xavier School:	Joan Woods, Principal	Ph: 232 8927
St Pius X School:	Christine MacDonald, Principal	Ph: 236 7006
Bishop Viard College:	Chris Theobald, Principal	Ph: 237 5248

ROSTER FOR SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER AND SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER 2020

	St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay	Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa	
	Saturday 5.30pm	Sunday 8.30am	Sunday 10.30am
Music	Meli Meli and Samoan Choir	Chorum	Samoan Choir
Reader Prayer Leader	Mary Morley Elani Launiuvao	Laura Sommer Andrew Oliver	Jim Friel Ronni Perez
Offertory	Meli Meli and Family	Carol & Mark Braganza	Laureles Family
Collector		Dinesh Nand	Luzviminda Rattee
Altar Servers	Matalena Iosefa Thomas Iosefa	Anjel Fudotan Lexine Ledesma	Fatima Thomas
Eucharistic Ministers	Telesia Alaimoana Tea Teofilo Lagi Anamani	Jane Langham Mark Fouhy Patricia Fouhy	Angela Wolstenholme Mark Wolstenholme Volunteer required
Greeters	Aniseko Launiuvao	Patrick & Sally Horan	Patricia Budding
Counters		Graham Andrewartha, Brian Lang, Jing Moredo	
Cup of Tea		Gary Smith & Family Marie Nicol & Family	
	Altar Care: <i>No flowers in Advent</i>	Flowers: <i>No flowers in Advent</i>	Cleaning: J Thompson, S Lester, J Infante

DAILY READINGS

Day	Readings	Day	Readings
Mon 7/12	Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85; Luke 5:17-26	Tues 8/12	Genesis 3:9-15,20; Psalm 98; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38
Wed 9/12	Isaiah 40; Psalm 103; Matthew 11:28-30	Thurs 10/12	Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145; Matthew 11:11-15
Fri 11/12	Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1; Matthew 11:16-19	Sat 12/12	Ecccl 48:1-4,9-11; Psalm 80; Matthew 17:10-13

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11; Magnificat; 1 Thess 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,19-28



Happenings

Our Lady of Hope Parish, Tawa-Titahi Bay
OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH - 169 Main Road, TAWA
ST PIUS X CHURCH - 64 Te Pene Avenue, TITAHI BAY

✉ mail: PO Box 51029, Tawa 5249 | ☎ phone: 04 232 5611

✉ email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz | 🌐 website: www.ourladyofhope.org.nz

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B - 6 DECEMBER 2020

PREPARE IN THE WILDERNESS A WAY FOR THE LORD

THE CALL TO repentance lies at the heart of the Advent season. Like the people in today's readings, we, too, are called to a change of heart, as we long for a better world where injustice will cease.

Today's **First Reading** is full of hope and consolation for a nation weary of suffering. God is seen by the prophet Isaiah both as a warrior who fights for his people, and as a shepherd who nourishes and guides them to rest.

The **Psalms** reveals God's inner ways and intentions; he is a God of peace, mercy, faithfulness and justice, who longs to help us. One of the themes of Advent is that of looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. St Peter advises us to wait patiently. We are to live in a way worthy of our Christian calling; living lives that please God as we allow his peace to fill us. (**Second Reading**).

The **Gospel** underlines how radical John the Baptist was in his calling, just like the Old Testament prophets. His focus was on the need to repent, for people to change their world view and live accordingly. In this way, they will be more open to the teachings of Jesus, so that 'the glory of the Lord shall be revealed' (Isaiah 40:5).

This week, we might ask for the grace of trust, and to receive the deep love of God into our hearts. God is offering us new life in Christ, empowering us to be his instruments for change in a world torn apart by self-serving actions and fear. Perhaps we can make this our prayer: 'Lord, make us channels of your peace and justice. Amen.'



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

(Quotes from the past)

"Prepare a way for the Lord." – (Mk 1:3)



LET US EXAMINE the scriptural texts foretelling the coming of Christ. One such prophecy begins with a reference to John the Baptist: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." What follows, however, applies directly to our Lord and Saviour, since it is by Jesus rather than by John that "every valley has been filled in."

You have only to recall the kind of people you were before you put your faith in the Lord to see yourselves as deep valleys, as pits plunging precipitously into the lowest depths. But now that the Lord Jesus has come and has sent the Holy Spirit in his name, all your valleys have been filled in with good works and the Holy Spirit's fruits.

Love no longer tolerates the presence of valleys in your lives; if peace, patience, and goodness find a home in you, not only will each of you cease to be a valley but you will actually begin to be a mountain of God.- **Origen of Caesarea**, *Gospel Homilies*, 22



CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

Will you be attending Christmas Masses at either Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa or St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay? If so, we need people to assist with the following: -

TAWA: Eucharistic Ministers (7pm Vigil, Midnight & 10.30am); Reader, Prayer Leader, Offertory, Collectors, Greeters (Midnight, 10.30am).

TITAHI BAY: (9am) Reader, Welcomer/Prayers of the Faithful, Eucharistic Ministers, Offertory & Collector, Greeters, Altar Care.

Please contact Jane in the office email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz or phone: 232 5611 by **14 December** if you can help, so rosters can be finalised.
Thanks

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS/WEEKLY COLLECTION

29 Nov 2020 - \$1,209.10

This amount does not include Bank Automatic payments or direct debit payments.

MASSSES: Perlita Infante, RIP (13).

ANNIVERSARIES: Georgina Boyle (9); Cheryl Cynthia Fernandez (11)..

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Bennett Ratcliffe (8); John Whitman, Gertrude Radcliffe-Taylor, Litisie Alifereti, Georgina Boyle (9); Winifred Driscoll, Kenneth Patterson (10); Gina Toscano (13).



R.I.P

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Vailima Smith-Luani, RIP 27 November 2020.

Her Requiem was held at St Pius X Church on Tuesday.

Carmelo "Mel" Bernardo, RIP 30 November 2020

His Requiem will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Monday at 11am.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen

7-13 DECEMBER - MASS & SERVICE TIMES

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAHI BAY
Monday	NO 9am Mass. Requiem at 11am	
Tuesday	9am Mass	
Wednesday	9am Mass 9.30am - 9pm Adoration	
Thursday	9am Mass	10am Mass
Friday	9am Mass	
Saturday	9am Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.30am/10.30am Mass 7pm Rite II Reconciliation	
Weekday Masses may be replaced by a Funeral Mass		



Reconciliation is available:

Before 8.30am Mass and 10.30am Mass Sunday morning in the Crying Room, at Our Lady of Fatima Church,

or at any time by approaching a Priest or by appointment
ph (04) 232 5611 or text 021 205 6476.



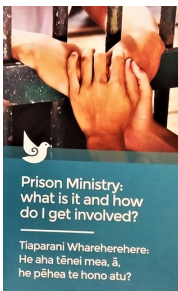
The 29 November-12 December issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Delight as Timaru Basilica reopens. Palmerston North diocese in "really good stead" for 2021. Troubled lay movements need outside oversight. Schools collect thousands of cans for Christmas. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on 13 December. **On sale in the foyer TODAY \$4.**

ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO ABUSE IN CARE

Please keep in your prayers at this time the work of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care which continues to look into what happened to children, young people and vulnerable adults in care. We pray for survivors for ongoing courage as they share their experience with the Commission. Starting in late November and early December, the Royal Commission will focus on cases involving the Catholic Church. While this may be a difficult time for survivors and many in our communities, this is an important process. We listen to the experiences of survivors, acknowledge failings, support the justice and reconciliation process and look forward to the future with hope.

Our bishops and congregational leaders requested that churches and faith-based organisations be included in the Royal Commission process in order to have this significant opportunity to acknowledge the past, listen and learn from the experiences of survivors, and participate in seeking justice.

Complaints of abuse involving church personnel in NZ are referred to the Church's National Office for Professional Standards (NOPS): prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz - ph: 0800 114 622 - www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz



PRISON MINISTRY BOOKLET

Sr Veronica Casey, PBVM, our Catholic Senior Prison Chaplain, is always seeking suitable people for the volunteer and paid prison chaplaincy roles she supports, but often can't find enough of them. To help, Sr Veronica has produced a special booklet on Prison Ministry and How to Get Involved. Prison ministry is service to some of society's most rejected people and is very valuable work. Look out for a copy of the booklet at your local parish church, think about how you could serve, and contact Sr Veronica.

For full information visit: www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/prison-chaplains-needed/

As we have now returned to Alert Level 1, all Masses have resumed. The following protocols must be adhered to for all Masses:

- 1) Although you are now not required to sign in or scan the QR code, it is wise to continue these tracing services.
- 2) Please ensure you sanitise your hands on entering.
- 3) Holy Water has been removed from the fonts.
- 4) NO physical contact at the Sign of Peace but an acknowledgment of some nature.
- 5) Holy Communion will be under one kind only, therefore no Precious Blood is to be distributed in the meantime.
- 6) Communion on the hand only. If you wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please come up last in the queue for Holy Communion.
- 7) Please note that there is dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass should you feel you have any health related concerns. **If you are feeling unwell, please refrain from getting to church.**

*Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.
We all need to do our bit so we can avoid the virus spreading.*



CHRISTMAS TREATS FOR SVDP FOOD PARCELS

During the month of December, we like to include a few treats like fancy biscuits and crackers, pickles and chutneys, tinned fruit, packets of jelly,

Christmas puddings, meringues, chocolate and sweets for the children in our St Vincent de Paul food parcels.

Super Sewers Community Sewing Group have been busy through the lockdown and recent months making sets of reusable mesh vegetable storage bags and pretty drawstring beauty pamper bags and hair towel turbans as gifts to include.

Over the next few Sundays please could you help us in spreading some Christmas joy by placing in our basket in the church foyer any of the above food items as well as any bottles of shampoo, hand cream, toothpaste, toothbrushes, fancy wrapped soaps etc.

Many thanks and May God Bless you all, Marie Nicol



MARIST ADVENT SERVICE

All parishioners are invited to a Marist Advent Service on **Tuesday 8 December at 10am** in the foyer of Our Lady of Fatima church. This will be following the Mass for the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The service will be

hosted by the parish Women of Faith and Marian Mothers groups and will be followed by morning tea.

Attendees are invited to bring a Christmas food donation for Our Lady's Larder/St Vincent de Paul. If you need transport, please ring Jane 232 7206.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This programme, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith will begin with an Introductory/Welcome session. This is an opportunity for those interested

in joining the Catholic Church family to come along and find out a little about the RCIA programme and to ask questions.

This session will be held on *Sunday 13 December at 4pm* in the Foyer at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa.

This programme is designed for those wishing to become Catholic. If you or a friend would like to join this programme, please come along on the 13th or phone: Fr Rico 021 205 6476 or Jane at the Parish Office - (04) 232 5611 or email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz

If you would like to assist Fr Rico and be a member of the team running the programme, please contact Fr Rico. Thanks



XAVIER YOUTH

Parish Youth Group for Years 9-13 meet for fellowship and fun, fortnightly from 7.30-9.30pm on Friday evenings at Our Lady of Fatima Church foyer.

The remaining term dates are: 4 and 18 December.

For further info, please contact Paul - ph: 027 304 0712

ADVENT RECONCILIATION—RITE II

Sunday 13 December, 7pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church

Come along and receive an early Christmas present from the hands of God. Advent is a season of repentance, a time to welcome the One who comes to us with healing and hope. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we ask the Lord to heal our sinfulness and to transform our lives.



SPECIAL COLLECTION - 19/20 December

On 2 November, the Philippines were hit by Super Typhoon Goni which caused major damage and flooding. This was in the region where Fr Rico and Fr Marlon are from.

Our Parish will take up a **Special Collection at the Vigil Mass on 19 December and Sunday Masses**

on 20 December. This collection will be forwarded to Caritas Aotearoa NZ who are working closely with Caritas Philippines (NASSA) to provide humanitarian and development work in the affected areas.

Donations can also be made direct to Caritas NZ by phone using a credit card or via their website: www.caritas.org.nz and click on donate now and emergency fund. Then type in "Philippines Fund" under the comments section. Caritas will provide tax receipts for these donations.

FOOD FOR FAITH FOR ADVENT - Online

Fr John O'Connor's Food for Faith page will have daily Advent reflections. Go to his site: www.foodforfaith.org.nz and sign up to receive them.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS

These are available from the Parish Office; Ian 236 0275 or Marie 027 2000 737. The cost of the cards is \$3 for a pack of 5. *Thanks*



SIMBANG GABI

This is a series of 9 Evening Masses in anticipation of Christmas and to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend the Novena Masses which will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa and celebrated in English.

DATE	TIME	SPONSORS	CHOIR
Tuesday 15th	7pm	Ortiz Family	Song of Mary
Wednesday 16th	7pm	tbc	Samoan Choir - Tawa
Thursday 17th	7pm	Couples for Christ	Couples for Christ
Friday 18th	7pm	Weimer Lilly	Song of Mary
Saturday 19th	7pm	Leo and company	Tawa Filipino Choir
Sunday 20th	7pm	Ilonggo Group	Samoan Choir - Titahi Bay
Monday 21st	7pm	Pinoy SelectioNZ	Samoan Choir - Tawa
Tuesday 22nd	7pm	tbc	Tawa Filipino Choir
Wednesday 23rd	7pm	Tawa Filipino Choir	Tawa Filipino Choir



In order to keep the footpath clear outside Our Lady of Fatima Church, especially during our Christmas Masses in Tawa, we would like one or two volunteers to monitor the area for the Family Mass at 7pm on Christmas Eve and the 10.30am

Mass on Christmas Day.

If you are able to help, please ring Marie Prescott, 232 7679 or the Parish Office, 232 5611 or email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz. We want to ensure no one parks illegally on the footpaths or yellow lines near our church. *Thanks*



Your gift to the 2020 Cardinal's Care Appeal will support Marriage, Family and Young Church Ministries. To learn more or to make your gift now, please visit:

www.wn.catholic.org.nz/donate or phone: 04 496 1778