

Third Sunday of Lent

"God gives us another chance"



'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.'" Luke 13: 6-9



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

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C - 20 MARCH 2022

CONSTANT REMINDERS

THE CHURCH HAS the ability to interpret world events correctly. In 1891, for example, Pope Leo XIII wrote an encyclical called *Rerum Novarum* (On the new things), in which he explained why communism was evil and destructive.

Many people, including some Catholics, didn't listen. Joseph Stalin rose to power and engineered murderous policies, which took the lives of almost twenty million innocent victims.

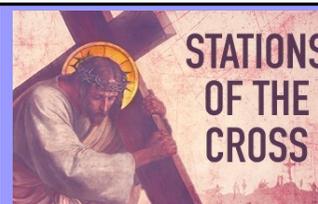
In 1937, Pope Pius XI wrote an encyclical *Mit Brennender Sorge* (With deep anxiety). Note that it was not written in the usual Latin, but in German language. In it he reiterated his condemnation of Nazi ideology and warned of the injustices that were to come if unchecked. But once again, too many people, even many Catholics, didn't listen. The world powers continued to appease Hitler, and in less than two years World War II began.

Jesus not only comes to us in his person and his grace through the sacraments, but he guides our understanding of current events through the Church's official teaching. The Church doesn't have a crystal ball to predict future events but She does have the charism of speaking the truth on issues of faith and morality. This enables Her to identify destructive social trends and false teachings. This is part of the gift God has given us through the Church.

The war between Ukraine and Russia is making people nervous and thinking about the possibility of World War III. Jesus, as in the Gospel today, might want us to see the events around us as reminders of how bad things can be if people would not heed the call to conversion. And so, throughout Lent, the Church will not stop reminding us: *Repent and believe in the Gospel.*

Blessings, Rico Angelo

REPENT AND BELIEVE
THE GOOD NEWS



You are invited to come along to this Lenten prayer, every Friday of Lent.

St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay - 6pm

Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa - 7pm.

All parishioners are welcome to attend as a way of preparing for Easter.

EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

(Quotes from the past)

Wherefore let him that thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. - 1 Corinthians 10:12 [Second Reading]



CONSIDERING THEREFORE THE greatness of His mercy, let us here make Him propitious unto us, and let us come before His face by a full confession (Ps 95:2), that we may not depart hence without excuse, and have to endure the extreme punishment. For if in the present life we exhibit even an ordinary diligence, we shall gain the greatest rewards: but if we depart having become nothing better here, even though we repent ever so earnestly there it will do us no good.

For it was our duty to strive while yet remaining within the lists, not after the assembly was broken up idly to lament and weep: as that rich man did, bewailing and deploring himself, but to no purpose and in vain, since he overlooked the time in which he ought to have done these things. And not he alone, but many others there are like him now among the rich; not willing to despise wealth, but despising their own souls for wealth's sake: at whom I cannot but wonder, when I see men continually interceding with God for mercy, while they are doing themselves incurable harm, and unsparing of their very soul as if it were an enemy.

Let us not then trifle, beloved, let us not trifle nor delude ourselves, beseeching God to have mercy upon us, while we ourselves prefer both money and luxury, and, in fact, all things to this mercy. - **St John Chrysostom, Homily on 1 Corinthians**

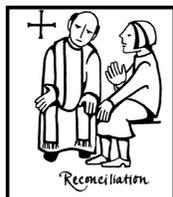


Adoration is held on Wednesday following 9am Mass and concludes at 12 noon. This is a **Vaccine Pass required** event. Please remember to social distance, scan or sign in, wear a mask and sanitise your hands on arrival.

Due to Covid, we are unable to provide reflection books for your use during Adoration.

Daily Readings: 21-27 March

Monday: Luke 4:24-30; *Tuesday:* Matthew 18:21-35; *Wednesday:* Matthew 5:17-19;
Thursday: Luke 11:14-23; *Friday:* Luke 1:26-38; *Saturday:* Luke 18:9-14
4th Sunday of Lent, Year C: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21;
Luke 15:1-3,11-32



Reconciliation is available:
on Wednesdays during Lent from 7-8pm
in the Foyer, at Our Lady of Fatima Church,
or at any time by appointment - please phone
(04) 232 5611 or text 021 205 6476.

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The Parable of the Fig Tree

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



Jesus Tells a Story

Then he told this _____: "A man had a _____ tree, planted in his _____, and he went to look for _____ on it, but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For _____ years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig _____ and haven't found any. _____ it down! Why should it use up the _____?'

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more _____, and I'll _____ around it and _____ it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it _____.'

Luke 13:6-9

cut	fertilize	parable	tree
dig	fig	soil	vineyard
down	fruit	three	year

Act of Contrition

Oh my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments, but most of all because they offend You, my God, Who are all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, Whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am sorry for my sins because I have offended you. I know I should love You above all things. Help me to do penance, to do better, and to avoid anything that might lead me to sin. Amen.

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of the Ukraine, for their country and their leader.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace in Ukraine.

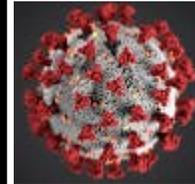
And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy. Amen



IMPORTANT NOTICE

OMICRON IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



Over the past two weeks we have been notified of people who've attended Masses at both our parish churches and have subsequently tested positive.

In our current alert level settings Masses are still able to proceed. However, with Omicron now circulating and spreading quickly in the wider Wellington area, it is important that if you are feeling unwell at all, please remain at home and get tested.

If you have cold or flu-like symptoms isolate and get tested. If you are vulnerable in your health, Masses are able to be viewed online and on Shine TV. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference.

Please remember that you **MUST WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES** while you are in our buildings and on our church grounds. The only time it can be removed is when you are receiving Holy Communion.



MARIAN MOTHER'S MARCH MEETING

This is to let mother's know, that we intend to have an "in person" meeting this coming *Monday, 21 March from 10am*.

The topic is "**Keep the Flame Burning**", but we can also share our experiences as we have had many cases of COVID I'm sure, among other things.

For more info please contact Mary Rayner: 021 120 4717. Transport can be provided.

PLANNED GIVING

 A big thank you to all who give so generously each week. With the end of the financial year approaching on 31 March, this is a gentle reminder that if you've fallen behind in your giving, please place your envelopes in the basket at the end of Masses on the weekend or alternatively drop them off at the Parish Office (Tuesday-Friday between 9.30am-12 noon).

Tax receipts for the financial year (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022) will be available late April.

If you are not on planned giving and would like to help the Parish financially, please consider signing up to an Automatic Payment or weekly envelopes. To do this please email, phone or visit the Parish Office.

ROSTERS FOR EASTER CEREMONIES

A roster is being drawn up covering Easter ceremonies:



- **Holy Thursday (7.30pm Mass Tawa):** 1 reader, 1 Prayer Leader, 1 Eucharistic Minister, 1 Vaccine Pass checker
- **Good Friday (3pm Service Tawa):** 1 reader plus 2 readers of the Passion, 1 Prayer Leader, 1 Eucharistic Minister, 1 Vaccine Pass checker
- **Easter Saturday Vigil Mass (8pm Titahi Bay):** 2 readers, 1 Welcomer/Prayers of the Faithful, 1 Eucharistic Minister, 1 Vaccine Pass checker
- **Easter Sunday Masses 8.30am (Tawa) and 10.30am (Tawa):** 1 reader, 1 Prayer Leader, 1 Eucharistic Minister, 1 Vaccine Pass checker.

If you are available can you please email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz or phone 232 5611 (and leave a message), by **4 April** - so rosters can be finalised.



NEW HEATERS FOR OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH

Work has begun this week on installing new heaters in the Church. Many thanks to those who donate to Planned Giving, as these donations are used to undertake this type of upgrade. Thanks to Kevin and the team at Sole Electrical.



NEW MEAL ROSTER: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 28 Feb-30 March 2022

Are you able to help out fellow parishioners by making a dinner? Please follow the link to sign up and for the address, food needs and contact information: [Take Them A Meal | Easy online meal sign ups to support your loved ones.](#)

Meals do not need to be fancy or expensive; just make something simple and delicious that you would usually have yourself.

Many thanks,

Rebekah Siave, OLOH Meal Roster Co-Ordinator - ph: 021 073 6829

GUIDE TO THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

During Confession

- 1 You can begin your confession by making the sign of the cross and saying: **“Bless me father, for I have sinned.”**
- 2 The priest gives you a blessing and you may continue with: **“My last good confession was ...** (how many weeks, months or years approximately).”
- 3 Say the sins that you remember. Start with the one that is most difficult to say, after this it will be easier to mention the rest. Sin declared is half-conquered, according to St Francis de Sales.
- 4 If you do not know how to confess, feel uneasy or ashamed, simply ask the priest to assist you. Be assured he will help you make a good confession. Simply answer the questions without hiding anything out of shame or fear. Place your trust in God: he is your merciful Father and wants to forgive you through His ministers (see Jn 20:23; 2 Cor 5:18).
- 5 If you do not remember any serious sins, be sure to confess at least some of your venial sins, adding at the end: **“I am sorry for these and all the sins of my past life, especially for ...** (mention in general any past sin for which you are particularly sorry, for example all my sins against charity, purity, etc).”
- 6 The priest will assign you some penance and give you some advice to help you to be a better Christian. If you are not sure how to go about with your penance, don't be afraid to tell the priest. Some priests would ask you to recite the *Act of Contrition* (see over the different versions) as he gives you the absolution.
- 7 Listen to the words of the absolution attentively. At the end answer: **“Amen”**. Be willing to do the penance as soon as possible. This penance will diminish the temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven.





40 DAYS FOR LIFE

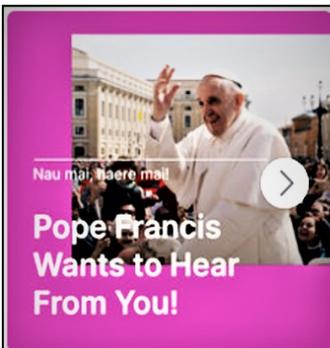
Be a sign of hope this Lent and help save lives!
2 March to 10 April (Monday to Friday) 7am-1pm and (Saturdays) 8am-noon.

Please protect mothers and babies through prayer, fasting and keeping vigil outside the local abortion facility, Te Mahoe, Newtown for one hour of prayer with two or three people needed to cover each hour. Be a positive, peaceful and fruitful witness to the precious gift of life. You may be her last sign of hope and her first sign of mercy.

To find out more and to sign up for your prayer hour(s), please visit: 40daysforlife.com or email: wellington40daysforlife@gmail.com

TOWARDS A SYNODAL CHURCH

Church Mission is offering ZOOM sessions for those who have not been able to join a Synod group in their parish: *Monday 21 March 11am-12 noon; Tuesday 22 March 2-3pm; Wednesday 23 March 7pm.* To register, email: l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz OR c.walkerline@wn.catholic.org.nz



POPE FRANCIS WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

The bishops are using this direct papal message to invite people - Catholic or not - to take part in a survey for the ongoing international synod on the future direction of the Church. The survey is being advertised on Stuff and in social media such as Facebook, so you might see it pop up. Please share it with friends who may not be reached by your parish/diocesan Synod consultation.

Details including a link to the survey: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-feedback/>

Complete a survey
New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference



If you have family members or know of parishioners admitted to hospital or a rest home, it is important that you let the Parish Office know so that we can arrange a visit by a priest or the Hospital Chaplain.

Please contact the Parish Office - phone: (04) 232 5611 OR email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz to arrange. *Thanks*

WE ARE IN THE RED TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM

You must register for all weekend Masses as there is a limited number of people permitted at each Mass. Once the number is reached we are sorry, you are unable to attend the Mass. Please DO NOT register for more than one Saturday vigil or Sunday Mass

PLEASE DO NOT TURN UP TO WEEKEND MASSES UNLESS YOU HAVE REGISTERED.

REGISTRATION IS FROM WEDNESDAY 9am to FRIDAY 12 noon.

Weekday Masses:

Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa: *Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 9am*

St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay: *Thursday 10am.*

You do not need to book for these Masses but you must wear a mask and scan in to the NZ Covid tracer app. These are **Vaccine Pass required Masses**. There is a limited number of people permitted at each Mass. Once we have reached our limit, you will not be permitted to enter.

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 7pm is a **Non Vaccine Pass required Mass** held at **St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay**. This is limited to 25 people permitted in the Church. You must book in to attend this Mass at: www.wn.catholic.org.nz - then click on Mass registrations, scroll down to Our Lady of Hope Parish, then click on the Mass you wish to attend.

Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm (at **St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay**) and *Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am Masses* (at **Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa**) are all **Vaccine Pass required Masses**. There is a limited number of people permitted to attend at each Mass. You must book into these Masses at www.wn.catholic.org.nz - then click on Mass registrations, scroll down to Our Lady of Hope Parish then click on the Mass you wish to attend.

If you DO NOT have access to a computer to register, please phone or email the parish office with the Mass time you want to attend, the names of all those people you wish to register and your phone number.

At all Masses you must sign in using the QR code or the paper system, sanitise your hands, wear face masks during the Mass and keep a 1 metre distance from anyone not in your bubble. If you are attending the Vaccine Pass Masses, you must show proof of your vaccination.

Please treat volunteers at the Masses with kindness and respect.

POPE TO CONSECRATE RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



The consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Pope Francis will take place during the Celebration of Penance on *25 March at 5pm* in St Peter's Basilica. **(NZ time is 5am on 26 March)**

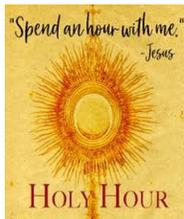
The Director of the Holy See Press Office, Matteo Bruni, said in a statement: "The same act, on the same day, will be performed in

Fatima by Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, papal almoner," who is being sent there by the Pope.

The day of the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord was chosen for the consecration.

In the apparition of 13 July 1917, in Fatima, Our Lady had asked for the consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart, stating that if this request were not granted, Russia would spread "its errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecution of the Church."

We ask parishioners of Our Lady of Hope Parish (which includes Our Lady of Fatima Church) to join in prayer and spirit with the Holy Father.



HOLY HOUR

You are invited to a Holy Hour on *Tuesday 22 March beginning at 7.30pm in Connolly Hall Chapel, Guildford Tce*, to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. We will also be praying for peace in the world and especially for peace in Ukraine. Included in the hour will be prayers, scripture reading, and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome



NZ CATHOLIC

We are providing, free of charge, a digital link to our latest issue (13-26 March) which has the following headlines in it: Lent leads to foot of cross preaches Anglican bishop. Dunedin rural roadshow gathers feedback. Young adults speak on faith in workplace. Pope's Lent message 2022.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/e7fba446-52c8-4585-aa31-2a70f63285eb>

Please enjoy reading New Zealand's only national Catholic newspaper.

MASSES: Carolina & Pablo's Wedding Anniv (20); Healing for Arnel Galvan (23); Holy Souls and Forgotten Souls in Purgatory (25).



ANNIVERSARIES:

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Colleen Wilkinson (21); Bernard Riddiford, Margaret O'Donnell, Patrick McSweeney (22); Hugh Murray (23); Eric Pearson, Brian Martin (24); Isabella Kennedy, Brian Davis, Torina Willetts, George Buckley, Teresa Ilton, Shirley Bucknor (25); Daniel Collins, Ronald Blair, Edna Mattar (27).

R.I.P

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

21-27 MARCH: MASS & SERVICE TIMES

for Vaccination Pass Required Masses

(apart from Sunday 7pm Mass)

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAHI BAY
Monday	9am Mass	
Tuesday	9am Mass	
Wednesday	9am Mass 9.30am-12 noon Adoration	
Thursday	9am Mass	10am Mass
Friday	9am Mass	
Saturday	9am Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass Booking required
Sunday	8.30 and 10.30am Mass Bookings required	7pm Mass Booking required

Weekday Masses may be replaced by a Funeral Mass

Parish Priest:	Fr Rico de la Torre	Ph: 021 205 6476
Parish Secretary:	Jane Lee	Ph: 232 5611
	Hours: Tuesday 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:	Philippa Matla, Acting Principal	Ph: 236 7006
Bishop Viard College:	Chris Theobald, Principal	Ph: 237 5248