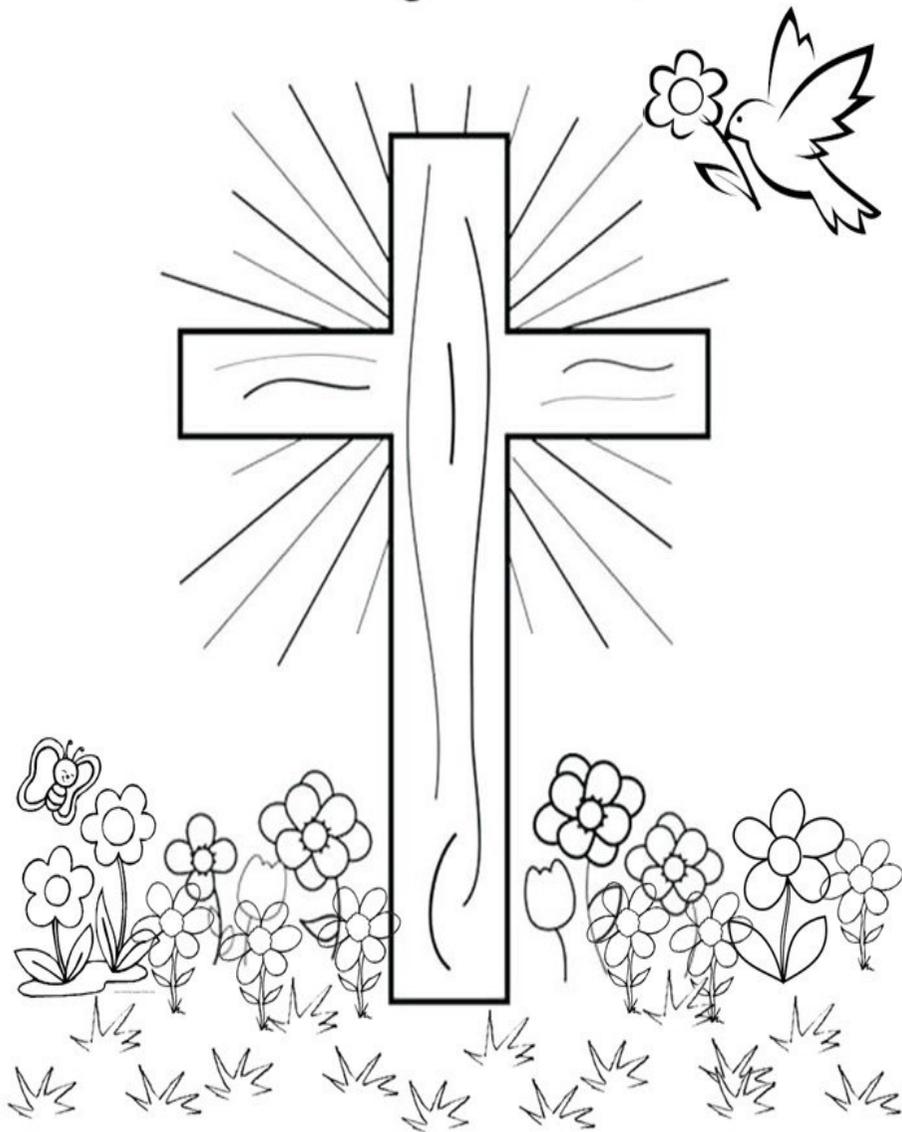


Fifth Sunday of Lent

"Jesus forgives a woman"

Jesus forgives my sins.



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

5th SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C - 3 APRIL 2022

The wonders of Lent

LENTEN SEASON IS about to end. As I said at the beginning of Lent, this season is our spiritual boot camp. Although we may have been negligent and lazy in our spiritual life these past months, the season of Lent, as intended, can give us that necessary push to jumpstart and fire up our relationship with God once more.

Sin, being an ugly reality, always triggers a negative reaction in us. The simple explanation could be: sin has never been part of God's original plan for us; sin is never part of our primal identity.

As Lenten liturgy and scripture readings make us tremble and loathe our sins, there is, however, one thing we must not overlook: God is a Father who is after our love, and so He offers us opportunities to start anew.

Today's readings speak of the renewal of our relationship with God. We come to this new beginning by a self-examination: we look deep within us to see how and when and where we sinned by omission and by commission.

God says in the First Reading from Isaiah: "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!" The Responsorial Psalm says, "Although they go forth weeping, they shall come back rejoicing." Paul tells us in the second reading: "Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus." And Jesus himself tells us, as he told the woman in the Gospel, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

Isn't it wonderful? God is making it easy for us to start anew by just doing what the Season of Lent is asking us to do: "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Blessings,
Rico Angelo



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

(Quotes from the past)

Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her. (Jn 8:7)



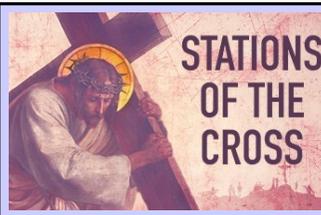
TWO REMAINED BEHIND: the miserable woman, and Mercy. The Lord raised his eyes, and with a gentle look he asked her: "Has no one condemned you?" She replied: "No one, sir." And he said: "Neither will I condemn you."

What is this, Lord? Are you giving approval to immorality? Not at all. Take note of what follows: "Go and sin no more."

You see then that the Lord does indeed pass sentence, but it is sin he condemns, not people.

One who approved of immorality would have said, "Neither will I condemn you. Go and live as you please; you can be sure that I will acquit you. However much you sin, I will release you from all penalty, and from the tortures of hell and the underworld."

He did not say that. He said: "Neither will I condemn you; you need to have no fear of the past, but beware of what you do in the future. *Neither will I condemn you:* I have blotted out what you have done; now observe what I have commanded, in order to obtain what I have promised." - **St Augustine of Hippo, Homilies on the Gospel of John 33**



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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.



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.

Daily Readings: 4-10 April

Monday: John 8:1-11; *Tuesday:* John 8:21-30; *Wednesday:* John 8:31-42;
Thursday: John 8:51-59; *Friday:* John 10:31-42; *Saturday:* John 11:45-56
Palm Sunday, Year C: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11;
 Luke 22:14-23:56

MASSES: Thanksgiving Mass for Bryan Farrales (2); Nivae, RIP Samoa (mother of Maria Harding) (3 & 6).



R.I.P

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: John Kemsley, Jennifer Bartosh, Frank Ford (4); Catherine Blight, Jack Glockling, Alfred Levick (5); Loris Pearson, Bryan McLaughlin (6); George Ivamy (7); Robert Carswell, Sharon McCallum (8); Monica Lyall, Eleanor Cardno, Rosaleen Humen (9); Gerardus Jansen, Elizabeth Holes, Elizabeth Denham, Louise Nightingale, Edward Sexton, Alice Barber, James Duncan (10).

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

4-10 APRIL: MASS & SERVICE TIMES

for Vaccination Pass Required Masses

(until 11.59pm on 4 April)

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAHI BAY
Monday	9am Mass	
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 Booking required
Palm Sunday	8.30 and 10.30am Mass Bookings required	7pm Mass discontinued

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 169 Main Road, Tawa
 Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.30am-12 noon
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

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS/WEEKLY COLLECTION

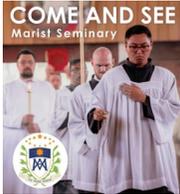
27 March 2022 - \$1,200.50

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



ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL PARENTS & FRIENDS EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets for a selection of beautiful Easter Baskets are on sale at the Parish Office. Tickets cost \$1 each; drawn on 11 April. Proceeds towards playground fitness/development stations. *Thanks*



COME AND SEE MARIST SEMINARY 8-10 April

Are you looking to discover God's call? Could God be calling you to be a Marist Priest? Join us for a weekend of retreat, prayer, input, community and more at Marist Seminary, Auckland. Call or text: 021 025 78466 or email: vocations@smnz.org.nz or see poster in church foyer.



LIVING IN COLOUR

Affected by an abortion experience? Make *Living in Colour* - an 8 week course a step towards healing. To find out more, email: hopeandhealing4u@gmail.com or phone: 021 231 7954.

WOMEN'S VOICES - A SYNODAL RESPONSE

How are we as women called to participate in the mission of the Church? As Catholic women, what are our hopes and dreams for a truly inclusive Church?

Register today for an opportunity to participate in the synodal journey and share, listen and discern with other Catholic women in our Archdiocese.

Wednesday 20 April at 7pm on Zoom, or Thursday 21 April at 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria.

Contact Lucienne Hensel at: l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz or (04) 496 1715.



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

We are seeking expressions of interest from people aged 18-35 to join us at World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. Contact: youth@wn.catholic.org.nz



NZ CATHOLIC

We are providing, free of charge, a digital link to our latest issue (27 March-9 April) which has the following headlines in it: College name changed after inquiry. Three first year students at seminary. Defeat of anti-life mentality needed for peace. Major reform of the Roman Curia.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/020aaf8c-8cb2-45cb-be32-6e89083cecec>

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

ROSTERS FOR EASTER CEREMONIES

A roster is being drawn up covering Easter ceremonies. Due to the increase in the number of people now allowed at indoor events, we require more Eucharistic Ministers plus all the other ministries listed below.



If you are able to assist, please

- sign-up on the sheets in the foyer; or
- email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz; or
- phone 232 5611 (and leave a message), so rosters can be finalised.

- **Palm Sunday Vigil Mass (5.30pm Titahi Bay):** 1 Reader, 1 Welcomer/Prayers of the Faithful, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker

- **Palm Sunday Masses 8.30am (Tawa) and 10.30am (Tawa):** 1 reader, 1 Prayer Leader, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker, 2 collectors.

- **Holy Thursday (7.30pm Mass Tawa):** 1 Prayer Leader, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker

- **Good Friday (3pm Service Tawa):** 2 readers of the Passion, 1 Prayer Leader, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker, 2 collectors.

- **Easter Saturday Vigil Mass (8pm Titahi Bay):** 1 reader, 1 Welcomer/Prayers of the Faithful, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker

- **Easter Sunday Masses 8.30am (Tawa) and 10.30am (Tawa):** 1 reader, 1 Prayer Leader, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 Vaccine Pass checker, 2 collectors.



ADORATION

From *Wednesday 6 April*, Adoration will return to the pre-Covid time of starting *after 9am Mass and concluding at 9pm* but continue to be held in the main church.

This is due to the updated Covid traffic light rules where from 11.59pm on 4 April we no longer need to scan or sign in (although individuals can if they wish), and where Vaccine

Passes are no longer required.

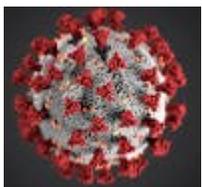
The only stipulation is that attendees **MUST WEAR A MASK covering their nose and mouth at all times** and use the sanitizer provided on entering and exiting the building.

We are unable to provide reflection books for your use during Adoration.

If you would like to sign up and have a regular one hour time spot to meet with the Lord at Adoration, please contact Angela who co-ordinates the roster by emailing: angela.wooly@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE

OMICRON - MORE CASES IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



Once again we have been notified of more people who've attended Masses at both our parish churches and have subsequently tested positive.

[If you test positive you and your household contacts must stay home for a minimum of seven days]

It is very important that if you are feeling unwell at all, or have cold or flu-like symptoms please isolate and remain at home 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.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you very much for the items donated for Christmas and for those regular donations that are left in the baskets at Church. Thank you also to those who provide monetary donations either through the poor box, at the Parish Office or by direct debit. Your donations enable us to provide food parcels to those in need.

We are receiving multiple requests for food parcels every week and any donations in the baskets are gratefully accepted. As Easter is approaching we would also appreciate donations of Easter treats etc.

A special thank you for the donations brought to the altar at the Offertory Procession from the families of the children who received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion last weekend.



WE ARE IN THE RED TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM

CURRENT RULES UNDER "LIFE AT RED"

Overnight on 26 March 2022 the government's Covid-19 website was updated. Under "Life at Red", in the section "Gatherings and Visits at Red", it now says that social distancing is no longer required. However, Regional Public Health (who inform us of cases of Omicron in our parish community) have said *"social distancing is still a good idea to prevent the spread of Covid-19. You are not required to enforce a 1 metre distance between bubbles, but asking people to spread out will help keep the more vulnerable members of your congregation safe."*

We have therefore removed the barrier tape and signage in our churches.

These are the current rules:

- gatherings can go ahead;
- if everyone has a My Vaccine Pass, indoor gatherings are limited to **200 people**, and outdoor gatherings have no limit;
- children and babies are included in the gathering limits - but not people working at a gathering;
- face masks will still be required in most indoor settings;
- at all gatherings, people do not need to physically distance.

From 11.59pm on Monday 4 April:

- there will be no requirement to scan/sign in (although people can, if they wish) or display a QR code poster or have mandatory record keeping;
- Vaccine Passes will no longer be required.

People **must** continue to wear face masks in our churches and continue to register for all weekend Masses due to the limited number permitted at each Mass. Once the number is reached we are sorry, you are unable to attend the Mass.

Weekend Mass Times:

This will be the last weekend that the Sunday 7pm Non Vaccine Pass required Mass will be held at St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay.

From next weekend, 9/10 April we will revert to our original timetable of *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). To book to attend Mass, please go to www.wn.catholic.org.nz - then click on Mass registrations, scroll down to Our Lady of Hope Parish and click on the Mass you wish to attend.

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

REGISTRATION IS FROM WEDNESDAY 9am to FRIDAY 12 noon.