

The Parable of the Lost Sheep



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, TITAHIBAY

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24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C - 11 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Transcendentals

LAST WEEKEND, I was at a presentation of the 16th century *Missa Papae Marcelli* (*Mass of Pope Marcellus*). The repertoire was a combination of plainsong Gregorian chant and polyphonic music of Giovanni Luigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594).

The music director, Michael Stewart, explained at the pre-concert talk that what we would be getting was a liturgical reconstruction, not a liturgical service. They had chosen the text for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary because of the proximity of her feast on 8 September.

As forewarned, it was like being in a sung Mass. They even sang the genealogy of Jesus according to Matthew, as well as the Nicene Creed, up to the Agnus Dei and the Dismissal, plus a Marian antiphon, *Beata es Virgo*, as the final song. Except for the *Kyrie Eleison* (*Lord, have mercy* in Greek), all were in Latin with English translations.

It was a magnificent, splendid, performance that I reckon even a non-believer might have been able to appreciate its artistic merit alone. With arts and music, we get a fleeting glimpse, though imperfect, of our inmost being.

The Gospel today speaks of the immense joy in heaven whenever we go back to our Father, after losing our soul in sinful living. The Gospel could also challenge us to rediscover our lost sense of the transcendentals and the way they lead our lost souls back to the source of all that is good and true and beautiful: the *Summum Bonum* (cf. CCC, 41). For, God's gentle touch could also be felt even in the ordinary daily experiences of goodness, truth, and beauty. Indeed, God's kindness should lead us to repentance (cf. Rom 2:4).

That weekend, the irony wasn't lost to me. There was I—a Catholic priest, by myself, surrounded by more matured unfamiliar faces, in an Anglican cathedral, set amidst the modern temples of commerce and temporal power, listening to ancient Catholic liturgical songs, arranged in Renaissance-era Catholic Mass, sung by what I assume to be a non-Catholic choir.

The transcendentals—the good, the true, and the beautiful—love irony.

Blessings,
Rico Angelo



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

(Quotes from the past)



There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents. (Luke 15:7)

FINDING SOMETHING WE HAVE lost gives us a fresh joy, and we are happier at having found the lost object than we should have been had we never lost it. This parable, however, is concerned more with divine tenderness and compassion than with human behaviour, and it expresses a great truth.

Humans are too greedy to forsake things of value for love of anything inferior. That is something only God can do. For God not only brought what was not into being, but he also went after what was lost while still protecting what he left behind, and found what was lost without losing what he had in safe keeping.

This story, then, speaks of no earthly shepherd but of a heavenly one, and far from being a portrayal of human activity, this whole parable conceals divine mysteries. - **St Peter Chrysologus, Homily 168**



Reconciliation is available before Vigil and Sunday Masses or by appointment - please phone (04) 232 5611 or text 021 205 6476.

5-11 September

Monday: Luke 6:6-11; Tuesday: Luke 6:12-19; Wednesday: Luke 6:20-26;
Thursday: Matthew 1:1-16,18-23; Friday: Luke 6:39-42; Saturday: Luke 6:43-49;
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C: Exodus 32:7-11,13-14; Psalm 51;
1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32

MASSES: Alajandra Alamos, RIP



ANNIVERSARIES: Rodney Arnold (15).

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Kathleen McGlone, Anastasia Hatchard, James Lally, Kolopa Uiese (12); Henry Clark, Genevieve Hanna, Cecilia Stirling, Tamati Laulu (13); Rose Meskill (14); Lilian Barton, Florence Campbell-Patterson, Mena Devine, Nicola McGill, Telesia Nui (15); John Nicholls, John Corley, William Flynn, Mary Barton, John McNab, Mary Christieson (17).

R.I.P.

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

12-18 SEPTEMBER: MASS & SERVICE TIMES Registration and Vaccination Passes no longer required

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAH 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
Sunday	8.30 and 10.30am Mass	

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

4 September 2022 - \$1,405.40

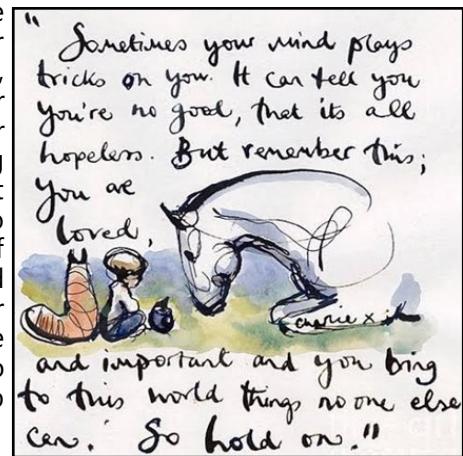
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EVERYDAY MISSIONARY

(Excerpts from concerningdiscerning.blogspot.com)

I HAVE BEEN reflecting lately on the importance of community. A few days ago I visited the Missionaries of Charity in Porirua, and joined in their youth group. It happened to be St Teresa of Kolkata's feast day, and Sr Joy Marie shared a video with us. It showed footage of the sisters working amongst extreme poverty in India, caring for the sick and dying. But in the video, Mother Teresa pointed out that there is a poverty here in the west too, a poverty of loneliness, a lack of love. She challenged us to recognise the people in our own lives who feel unwanted or unloved, who are poor because they don't know the love of Christ - and to do something about it!

And that, I feel is where community comes in. Do we foster a sense of belonging in our Parish, our families, our workplaces, our homes? Do we make time for friends and group activities, helping remind ourselves and others that they are not alone? Or are we too busy to stop and notice the needs of those around us, the lonely and those who feel unwanted or unloved? Often, as the image shows, it's all in our minds - but do we pause long enough to help people realise that?



JOSHUA WELLINGTON

Joshua Wellington invites men to join us on *Thursday 15 September at 7.30pm sharp* followed by a cuppa. Venue: *Loaves and Fishes next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, Cnr Hill and Molesworth Streets.*

Talk on: "As for me and my house ..." then prayer ministry: Michael Powell.

Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready 027 356 9555 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com



NZ CATHOLIC (Issue 11-24 September)

Now for sale in church foyers again. Price: \$4 (unchanged for eight years).

Some headlines for this issue: Three ordained deacons for the Dunedin diocese; Papal Knighthood for Christchurch parishioner Geoff Bailey; Hamilton priests celebrate their anniversaries.

ROSTERS for OUR LADY OF FATIMA and ST PIUS X CHURCHES

Would **Y O U** like to assist at Vigil or Sunday Masses?



We are looking for people to assist with the following:

- *read (proclaim the Good News)*
 - *prayer lead/operate the data projector*
 - *collectors (pass around the collection baskets before the Offertory)*
 - *offertory procession (bring the offerings to the altar)*
 - *Eucharistic Ministers (assist Father with distribution of communion)*
 - *flowers (prepare flowers for altar at either Titahi Bay or Tawa church)*
- Training and assistance will be provided, as required, for these ministries.

Ideally, the more people who volunteer, the less number of turns each person will have.

If you would like to join any of these ministries at either Parish church, we would happily welcome you. Please email your name, contact details and what ministry you'd like to join by *12 September*.

Having people available to assist and share the load is vital to bringing the Mass alive.

Thanks,
Jane Lee, Parish Secretary

Email: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz; phone 232 5611 to please leave a message



OUR LADY OF HOPE YOUNG READERS

The Our Lady of Hope Parish young readers will have a reading practice meeting on *Saturday, 10 September at 4pm at St Pius X Church*.

Please contact Kingsley on:
kingsley.ihejirika2015@gmail.com or phone: 021 085 90918 for more information.



MARIAN MOTHER'S GROUP SEPTEMBER MEETING

On *Monday 12 September at 10am*, we will be meeting. The topic is “Our Marist Memories and Connections,” and looks at how St Peter Chanel’s relic came to be where it is now.

We are a group of “young mothers” who meet to share how our month has gone, using the Marist Laity material as a guide.

If anyone needs a ride, please contact Mary Rayner: 021 120 4717.

WOMEN OF FAITH GROUP

The theme of this month’s meeting is “Our Marist Memories and Connections”. We will be meeting on *Tuesday 13 September at 10am* at 212 Westchester Drive, Churton Park. All welcome and any enquiries to Pat, phone 461 6122.



SEASON OF CREATION

This is a Christian event that wishes to celebrate, pray for and encourage the faithful to do all in their power to uphold all that the Lord asks of us in being custodians of our world. We will celebrate this event online on *11 September at 7pm* by answering the call to reach out to as many people as possible with this urgent message.

The people who will be linking up with us are from: Australia wide, NZ, New Caledonia, Fiji, Wallis and Futuna.

This is the link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84773680947> Alternatively, you can use the ID 84773680947. For more info, contact Ian on 022 544 3872



XLT (eXaLT) SEPTEMBER

Do you want to meet some other awesome Catholic teenagers and young adults in Wellington? Want to be inspired, have fun and encounter Jesus? Come and join us at XLT in September. XLT is an evening of worship, adoration, and the opportunity for reconciliation, as well as fun, food and fellowship.

So get your friends and youth groups together and join us!

XLT - Friday 16 September, 7pm, St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria

Do you want to support the young people in your community? Do you want to help them engage in their faith and meet other Catholic teenagers and young adults? Bring them to XLT!

All you have to do is drop them off at 7pm and pick them up at 9.30pm. So why not get a group of young people together and invite them? You never know the impact your invitation can have.



Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa Katorika o Aotearoa

New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference

5 September 2022

Catholics urged to support hospices and palliative care by direct action

Catholics are being urged to support the under-funded hospice and palliative care services by donating, volunteering in hospice shops and asking their members of Parliament and the Government to make palliative care a priority.

Bishop of Auckland Stephen Lowe, Secretary of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, says hospices provide a free service to 20,000 palliative care patients and their whanau each year, but have to fundraise almost half the \$176 million cost.

“The Government is providing just \$88 million, meaning hospices are having to raise the other \$87 million through fundraising events and sales from hospice shops and the like, which have been affected by the various pandemic responses,” said Bishop Lowe.

“When the public was asked at the 2020 election to support the euthanasia legislation - dubbed the End of Life Choice law - they were led to believe palliative care would be a priority choice. Instead, hospice funding has been virtually capped at a time of high inflation, and it was recently revealed that the Ministry of Health has at least seven staff devoted to supporting euthanasia, but none devoted to palliative care.

“As bishops we regularly hear from parishioners worried about the survival of palliative care services. A letter we received recently highlighted how we have an inequity of government support between the thankfully small number of those who choose to end their life by euthanasia and those who would like to die in God’s time with palliative care.

The letter said: “As a country we should be expanding palliative care, not cutting back because we can’t pay for it. As individuals we have little voice, but as a community, we could make a difference.”

Bishop Lowe says the bishops wholeheartedly support that message. “We need as the Catholic community to be vocal and practical in our support for palliative care and hospice facilities. We should be supporting hospices as much as we can through donations, volunteering in hospice shops and shopping in them when possible. Parishioners should consider contacting their local members of Parliament to state support for the hospice movement and palliative care.

“Palliative care helps many people with life-ending conditions including multiple sclerosis, lung failure, cancer, motor neurone disease and dementia. We need to remember and emphasise that palliative care is not just undertaken in hospices, but in people’s homes. It also helps families and whanau before and after their loved ones die. It is an essential service which should be supported as such.”