

## First Sunday of Advent - Hope

"Be ready"



Color the first candle of Hope on the Advent wreath purple.



# 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

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1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A - 27 NOVEMBER 2022

### Happy New Year!

**H**APPY CHURCH NEW YEAR! The **Church calendar** reveals the pattern of our lives—the pattern of our supposedly sanctified lives. Look closely at our Church calendar and you will see the **history of salvation** being replayed before our very eyes: in **Advent**, we recall the longing of the prophets and how the people of God prepared for the coming of the promised Messiah; **Christmas** season conveys to us the joy the birth of the Messiah brings.

The season in **Ordinary Time (First Part)** after Christmas brings us lessons about the Kingdom as Jesus prepares his disciples during his short public ministry to look towards Calvary where the Messiah will suffer and die. **Lenten Season** brings us closer to His Suffering and Death, as he accomplishes the Father's will—because he loves us—even unto death on the cross; but with **Easter Season**, we celebrate his victory over sin and death through his Resurrection and Ascension.

From the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, until the Solemnity of Christ the King, we are "sent" into the world during the **Ordinary Time (Second Part)** to bear witness to our faith while we await the *end of times* where Jesus Christ will come again as King to judge the living and the dead; while the feasts and solemnities in between teach us about the saints and the mysteries of our faith.

"Our calendar is our catechism," Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch replied when asked why the Jews do not have a catechism. His answer speaks for us, too; for, through the Church Calendar, with its repetitions and cycles, makes the sacred lessons sink more easily and deeply into our lives. The Holy Spirit at work in the Church who is our *mater et magistra*, (mother and teacher) knew exactly how to form, educate, and develop our stubborn human nature.

We may have been unfaithful and faltering these past days, months, and years, but in God there is always a new beginning—that the history of salvation that we will once more relive throughout the year may find its **fulfillment in our own lives**.

Blessings,  
Rico Angelo

\*article first appeared on Dec 2018



## EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

(Quotes from the past)

**Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. (Mt 24:42)**



DO NOT FOR a moment believe the apostles expected the Lord to return in judgment during their own lifetime. All the same there can be no doubt that they took every care not to be drawn from the right path. They kept watch, observing the universal precepts their master had given to his disciples so as to be ready when he came again.

Consequently we must always be on the lookout for Christ's twofold coming, the one when we shall have to give an account of everything we have done, and the other when he comes day after day to stir our consciences. He comes to us now in order that his future coming may find us prepared.

If my conscience is burdened with sin what good will it do me to know when the Day of Judgment will be? Unless the Lord comes to my soul beforehand and makes his home with me, unless Christ lives in me and speaks his word in my heart, it is useless for me to know if and when his coming will take place.

Only if Christ is already living in me and I in him will it go well with me when he comes in judgment. If I have already died to the world and am able to say, "The world is crucified to me, and I to the world," then, in a sense, his final coming is already present to me. - **St Paschasius Radbertus** (c.785-860), *Hom IV on the Mass*



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

### 28 November - 4 December

*Monday:* Matt 8:5-11; *Tuesday:* Luke 10: 21-24; *Wednesday:* Matt 4:18-22;  
*Thursday:* Matt 7:21,24-27; *Friday:* Matt 9:27-31; *Saturday:* Matt 9:35-10:1,6-8;  
**2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A:** Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72;  
Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

### 5-11 December

*Monday:* Luke 5:17-26; *Tuesday:* Matt 18:12-14; *Wednesday:* Matt 11:28-30;  
*Thursday:* Luke 1:26-38; *Friday:* Matt 11:16-19; *Saturday:* Matt 17:10-13;  
**3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A:** Isaiah 35:1-6,10; Psalm 146;  
James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

**MASSSES:** Mario Galicia, RIP (birthday) (27); Special Intention (29); Special Intention (4).

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Carmelo (Mel) Bernardo (30); Clarinda Bernardo-de Asis (4).



**ANNIVERSARIES 28 NOV - 11 DEC:** Laurie Dowd, Kathleen Koschak, Eric Butts, Edna Mahony (28); Thomas Cranney, Terence Childs, Ronald Wulff, John Meikle, John Caskey (29); Lois McGrath, Carmelo (Mel) Bernardo (30); Elizabeth Gillett, Fritz Steiner (1); Douglas Whiting, Noleen Costello, Basil (Iwa) Brooking, Felix Kane (2); Maurice Blacktop, Bernard Leigh, Colin Evans (3); Timothy Leaf, Kevin Swain, Frank Ward, Robert Davies, Franciscus Knipping (4); Stephen Polaschek, Francis McCormick, John Rutledge, William Harcourt (5); Augustine Anthony (6); Bennett Ratcliffe (8); John Whitman, Gertrude Radcliffe-Taylor, Litisie Alifereti, Georgina Boyle (9); Winifred Driscoll, Kenneth Patterson (10).

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

### 28 NOVEMBER – 11 DECEMBER: MASS & SERVICE TIMES

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAHI BAY
Monday	9am Mass	
Tuesday	9am Mass	
Wednesday	9am Mass 9am-9pm Adoration	
Thursday	9am Mass	<b>10am Mass</b>
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

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Rico de la Torre	Ph: 021 205 6476	
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Jane Lee	Ph: 232 5611	169 Main Road, Tawa
	Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.30am-12 noon		
<b>Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:</b>	Marie Prescott		Ph: 232 7679
<b>Parish Finance Committee Chairperson:</b>	Graeme Hansen		Ph: 232 4360
<b>Marist Sisters:</b>	Srs Francine McGovern & Margaret Vaney		Ph: 232 5151
<b>St Francis Xavier School:</b>	Joan Woods, Principal		Ph: 232 8927
<b>St Pius X School:</b>	Philippa Matla, Acting Principal		Ph: 236 7006
<b>Bishop Viard College:</b>	Chris Theobald, Principal		Ph: 237 5248
<b>Samoan Chaplaincy</b>	Mikaele Teofilo		Ph: 021 0818 5037
<b>Filipino Chaplaincy</b>	Web: www.filipinochaplaincy-wellington.org.nz		

### PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS/WEEKLY COLLECTION

**20 November 2022 - \$1,795.40**

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



### BROTHER PETER BRAY FSC - Speaking Tour

Brother Peter Bray FSC, the Kiwi Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University, will make a NZ speaking tour on behalf of the bishops to all our Catholic Dioceses early next year, to talk about the Holy Land, his work with his students, and the lives of other ordinary Palestinians. In preparation for the tour, he is making three videos; the second has just been issued. It is very powerful. View it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R17kia53-GY>

Go here for more information about the videos and Br Peter's speaking tour: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/brpeter-video2/>

**Wellington Venue:** St Thomas More (Wilton) Monday 30 January 2023, 7pm start. Tea and coffee available from 6.30pm.

Please register with Christine at [c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz) or phone (04) 496 1706.



### CAROLS IN PARLIAMENT

Ginny Andersen MP is hosting Carols in Parliament, a Christmas service in association with the Council of Wellington Churches on Sunday 11 December at 7pm in the Banquet Hall of Parliament (please be seated by 6.50pm). Christmas address will be given by Rev Canon Katie

Lawrence. Music by the Salvation Army Band and the Choir of Wellington Cathedral of St Paul.

Places are limited and RSVPs are essential for security reasons. Please RSVP by 1 December 2022 to [carolsparliament@gmail.com](mailto:carolsparliament@gmail.com)

Dear God, we pray for all students who are preparing for exams. We ask your Holy Spirit to guide them and give them the understanding and knowledge that comes only from you. Grant them favour, and bring the information that they have studied to mind that is needed for each exam they take. Bless each student, in Jesus name, we pray. Amen



### NZ CATHOLIC (Issue 20 November - 3 December)

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

Some headlines for this issue: Otara school celebrates opening of new buildings. New Catholic Maori Group meets with Bishops. Liturgical formation of the People of God in NZ.



### OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion will be held on *Sunday 27 November at 2pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa*. You are most welcome to attend.



*Congratulations to the following children who will be nourished at the Lord's Table for the first time this Sunday*

Elisha, Carlos, Enzo, Elizabeth, Francesca, Caleb, Christoff, Lola, Elizabeth, Isabel, Sophia, Marcellinus, Peighton

*O taste and see that the Lord is good: happy are those who take refuge in him (Psalm 34:8).*



### Prayer for a Child's First Communion

Lord Jesus, Bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time. May this day be an initial step into a life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. Thank you for their innocence and goodness. May their hands, extended in anticipation of your Body and Blood, inspire all of us to cherish this sacred sacrament.

### CHRISTMAS TREATS FOR SVdP FOOD PARCELS

During the month of December, we like to include a few treats like fancy biscuits and crackers, tinned fruit, chocolate and sweets in our St Vincent de Paul food parcels. Over the next few Sunday's please could you help us in spreading some Christmas joy by placing in our basket in the church foyers any of the above food items as well as any bottles of shampoo, hand cream, fancy wrapped soaps etc.

*Many thanks and May God Bless you all.*



*You are encouraged to celebrate the weeks leading up to Christmas with an Advent wreath which can be used as a focal point for your daily devotions.*

### ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
he is the Savior of every nation.  
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us  
as we bless this wreath.  
May its Advent light be a sign of Christ's promise to  
bring us salvation.  
May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen*



### TUESDAY LUNCHEON

The Tuesday luncheon will finish the year with a **CHRISTMAS LUNCH**. It is always the highlight of the year. So do come and join us in this enjoyable parish get-together for everyone 60 years and over.

It will be held on **Tuesday 6 December at 12 noon in the Our Lady of Fatima church foyer**. It will last a bit longer than our usual luncheons because of the extras you are served and the special entertainment.

For catering purposes we need to know if you are coming, so for a booking, please phone *Kate on 232 9754 or Peter on 232 8795*, no later than *Sunday evening 4 December*. Late bookings can only be taken if there are cancellations.

We ask for **\$6** to cover the cost and are looking forward to seeing you there!



### MARIAN ADVENT SERVICE

The parish Marian Mothers and Women of Faith groups are hosting an Advent Service (prepared by Marist Laity NZ) on **Tuesday 13 December at 10am in the foyer of Our Lady of Fatima church**. This will be followed by morning tea.

YOU are invited to join this event as part of your preparation for Christmas. If you haven't done so already, please bring some donations for the St Vincent de Paul appeal for their Christmas food parcels. For more information, you can contact Mary 232 2088 or Jane 232 7206.



### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed from *28 November to 6 December* and will reopen on *Wednesday 7 December*. The next newsletter will be published on *12 December*.



### SIMBANG GABI

This is a 9 Day Novena 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 **7pm from 15-23 December at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa** and **celebrated in English**.

Would you like to take part or serve as a music group, reader, prayer leader, Eucharistic Minister or altar server? If so, please contact Elsie at: [devera\\_elsie@yahoo.com](mailto:devera_elsie@yahoo.com) or phone: 021 240 4544.

*Thank you for your support.*

*May we have a fruitful celebration of the Birth of Jesus.*



### CHRISTMAS FUN MORNING

*Tuesday 20 December 10am-12.30pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa.*

Leave your children with us for a fun-filled morning while you catch up on Christmas preparations.

Our fun morning is suitable for children 4 years and upwards. Younger children are welcome with an adult caregiver.

Enjoy games, crafts and snacks. We will also be practising the play for the Christmas Eve Family Mass. Helpers are required for this event (teenagers, parents, other parishioners). Please contact Marie Andrewartha 021 476 153.

### NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

Be a voice for the voiceless and let NZ know that we love them both by attending the sixth annual National March for Life. Gather at *Civic Square, Wellington on Saturday 3 December from 1pm* for pro-life stalls, sausage sizzle and family-friendly entertainment. March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. For more info go to: [marchforlife.nz](http://marchforlife.nz)



### MASS FOR LIFE

*Friday 2 December, 7pm at St Mary of the Angels, Boulcott Street*. You're invited to pray for the protection of all human life from conception. You are invited to remain for one hour of Eucharistic Adoration after Mass. For more info visit [fli.org.nz/prolifeevents](http://fli.org.nz/prolifeevents) or phone Clare: 021 231 7954 or email: [clare.fli@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clare.fli@xtra.co.nz)