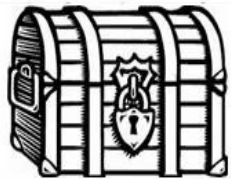


# Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

## Parables of the Kingdom



17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

M K E J O Y A G A I N E V A D  
 H B Z G M H D P G N U V S R H  
 O I O N A V K L V L J D S T T  
 V Q B U M K R I A Q U U F Y R  
 V K M M G U A V N I F N O A E  
 F F I S G H V S Z G E O U R A  
 S I Z W W E T S J D D K N M S  
 O D E K V X D T D C L O D Q U  
 L F D L N B B I G F C X M E R  
 D M R K D C H S S I R C S T E  
 O N V L O V L L K F H H A K T  
 H R L L M R U H E A V E N G R  
 X A C P A W B A B F R B X X D  
 Z K Z E P X A E D G H H N Z L  
 Y I P L N M S P M A N L X F B

GREAT	AGAIN	SOLD	TREASURE	BOUGHT
KINGDOM	FIELD	JOY	FOUND	HIDDEN
VALUE	ALL	HEAVEN	MAN	PEARLS

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it." Matthew 13:44-46



# 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

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A - 30 JULY 2023

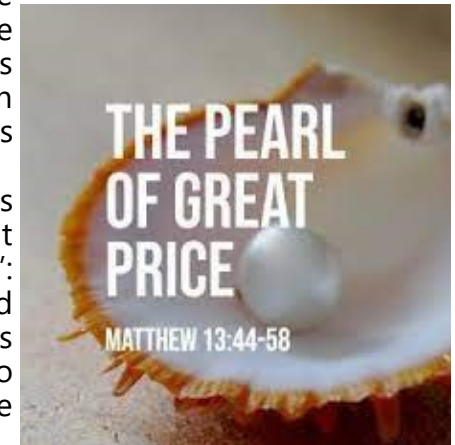
## A pearl beyond price

TODAY'S READINGS WEAVE around themes of wisdom, treasure and joy. When asked in a dream what he desires from God, Solomon chooses 'a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil.' God is pleased that Solomon does not seek riches or a long life, so gives him the gift of wisdom (**First Reading**).

The Psalmist asks the Lord for his consoling love. God's law means more to him than precious metals. St Paul explains that the plan now unfolding has been there from the beginning (**Second Reading**). God chose, and called us all to become 'true images of his Son'. God wants all who love him and follow his teaching to share in his glory.

In the **Gospel** Jesus offers three images for God's kingdom: a treasure we find unexpectedly; a pearl for which we search diligently; a net that gathers us in. They illustrate the priceless value and importance of the kingdom to which all are invited. Jesus also reminds us to hold on to treasures both old and new as we seek God's kingdom.

This week, we ponder God's gift of wisdom. We pray that it will guide us to the 'treasure': the delight of knowing and loving Jesus, and the riches this brings. We ask God's help to share that with those we encounter, however we can.



## EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW

**For whom he foreknew, he also predestinated to be made conformable to the image of his Son; that he might be the firstborn amongst many brethren.** - Romans 8:29 [Second Reading]



**N**OT ALL WHO are called are called according to God's purpose, for the purpose relates to God's foreknowledge and predestination. God only predestined those whom he knew would believe and follow the call. Paul refers to them as the "elect". For many do not come, even though they have been called, but no one comes who has not been called.

We should understand our Lord as "only begotten" in one sense and as "firstborn" in another. Christ is called "only begotten" because he has no brothers and is the Son of God by nature, the Word in the beginning by whom all things were made. But by his assumption of humanity and by the dispensation of the incarnation, through which even we who are not sons by nature have been called into the adoption of sons, he is said to be the "firstborn" of many brothers. For before him there was no resurrection of the dead ... but now after him comes the resurrection of many saints, whom he does not hesitate to call "brothers" because he shares in their common humanity. - **St Augustine of Hippo**



### SAMOAN MASS

Samoan Mass will be held at St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay at 11am on **Sunday 6 August** - All welcome



**Reconciliation** is available before Vigil and Sunday Masses or after 9am Mass on Saturday mornings (9.30-10am).

### Daily Readings 31 July - 6 August

*Monday:* Matt 13:31-35; *Tuesday:* Matthew 13:36-43; *Wednesday:* Matt 13:44-46; *Thursday:* Matt 13:47-53; *Friday:* Matthew 13:54-58; *Saturday:* Matthew 14:1-12;  
**Transfiguration, Year A:** Daniel 7:9-10,13-14; Psalm 97; Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9

**MASSES:** Eli Bocacao Senior, RIP (40th day) (30).

### ANNIVERSARIES:



**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** Ivy Herriot, James Roberts, Russell Snell, Margaret Brooky, Murray Dick (31); Jennie Broderick, David Ratana, Barry Kortegast, Eileen Flemming, Henry Redden, Marie Morley, Murray Henderson (1); Peter O'Neill, Dorothy Moylan, Benjamin McGlone, Rae Mielnik, Margaret Howe (2); Frederick Borlase, Mary Burns, Alice Hughes, Wallace Johnston, Apolinario D'Souza (3); Winifred Kennedy, Valentine McSweeney, Louis Smith, Beatrice Lander, Bridget Garrat, James McGurk (4); Margaret Gusscott, Hubert Schmidhuber (5); Cornelius Hickey, Rachel Walker, Ernest Foxall, Anthony Fernandes (6).

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

### 31 JULY - 6 AUGUST: MASS & SERVICE TIMES

	OUR LADY OF FATIMA CHURCH, TAWA	ST PIUS X CHURCH, TITAHIBAY
Monday	9am Mass	
Tuesday	9am Mass	
Wednesday	9am Mass 9am-9pm Adoration	
Thursday	9am Mass	10am Mass
Friday	9am Mass	
Saturday	9am Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.30am 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:** Nenah Kelemete, Principal Ph: 236 7006  
**Bishop Viard College:** Chris Theobald, Principal Ph: 237 5248  
**Filipino Chaplaincy** Web: www.filchap-adw.nz

### PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS/WEEKLY COLLECTION

**23 July 2023 - \$2,278.80**

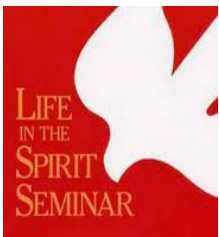
*This amount does not include Bank Automatic payments or direct debit payments.*



## CELEBRATION FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

A celebration for World Youth Day will be held in Wellington on *Sunday 6 August from 1-8pm at Bishop Viard College.*

Join us for - 1pm: Welcome; 1.15pm: Worship band; 1.45pm: Mass; Afternoon tea; 3.15-4.55pm: Workshops; Potluck dinner; 5.15pm: Main session; 6pm: Student performances and Youth Rally; Closing prayer



### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR (LSS)

The Lamb of God Christian Community will again be conducting a Life in the Spirit Seminar (LLS).

WHEN: *Saturday, 12 August (9.30am-4.30pm) lunch provided*  
*Sunday, 13 August (1.30pm-4.30pm)*

WHERE: *St John's Anglican Church, 18 Bassett Rd, Johnsonville*

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/8pq3Mc3a83co4ztUA> Please see poster in foyer for more info.



### BISHOPS URGE ALL CATHOLICS TO STUDY SYNOD'S WORKING DOCUMENT: *Instrumentum laboris*

All Catholics are being urged to read the working document that will guide the Synod meeting in Rome in October and help to set the future direction of the Church. Bishop of Auckland Stephen Lowe says "*it is a document that reflects the Holy Spirit speaking to people throughout the world.*" As such it is a document for the whole Church, and I invite everyone to prayerfully read and reflect on it, and to pray for the Synod's work over the next 18 months. More info plus links to *Instrumentum laboris*: [www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-2](http://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-2)

**NZ Catholic** *NZ CATHOLIC (30 July - 12 August) Now for sale in church foyers. Price: \$4 (unchanged for eight years).*



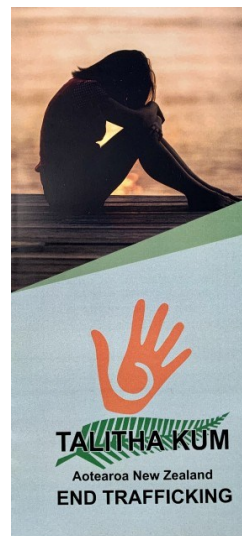
**Please put money in blue cash box on foyer table**

Some headlines for this issue: Update on precinct plan for Hato Petera College site. Akld Catholic tertiary chaplaincy leaves site. Matariki celebrated with Christian emphasis. Rethinking masculinity in terms of self-giving love.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AGAINST TRAFFICKING OF HUMANS & SLAVERY

Modern slavery covers a range of exploitative practices including forced labour, forced marriage, human trafficking and slave-like conditions. This happens in Aotearoa New Zealand through such activities as debt bondage, immigrant workers to work in industries here including construction, dairy farming and fruit picking. Slavery exists in many supply chains and legitimate businesses as well as sex slavery which involves an exchange of sex for money and/or drugs. Let us remember all those caught up in this tragic situation.

**So how can I help?** Join Talitha Kum Aotearoa NZ in Wellington



**ST BAKHITA pray with us**  
*To rid the world of modern slavery, so that no children or adults are subjected to the inhumane treatment you suffered.*

*Bless us God*

*with hearts that grieve injustice.*

*May your Spirit be with us and Christ companion us.*

*May your blessing flow in us, strengthening our commitment to stop the trafficking and slavery of humans*

*in this country and around the world. We ask this. Confident that you desire freedom for all people.*

*Amen*



Josephine Margaret Bakhita was a Sudanese-Italian Canossian religious sister who lived in Italy for 45 years, after having been a slave in Sudan. In 2000, she was declared a saint, the first black woman to receive the honour in the modern era.

**PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT**



**PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT**

Approximately 25 years ago the Passionist Family Group Movement was established in our Parish. We had around 10-12 groups. However, over time this has fallen into abeyance.

**What is Passionist Family Group Movement?**

The emphasis is on building relationships and creating a sense of belonging among members of the parish. Groups are formed of approximately 24 to 40 people including children, who are encouraged to

meet once a month for a low cost or no cost activity such as pot luck dinners, picnics, games nights or film evenings. It is about developing friendships and support as a family.

The Parish is looking at resurrecting the Movement and needs people who would be willing to be the Co-ordinators. Parish Co-ordinators get to know the people in the groups and make connections from group to group, listen to stories and welcome anyone who comes into the community.

If you think you would like to be Co-ordinators, Paul Traynor from the Passionist Family Group Movement is willing to come and meet with you and explain what the role involves.

Please contact Marie Prescott on 232 7679 or 027 2000 737.



★ **TUESDAY LUNCHEON** ★

★ The next Tuesday luncheon will be held on 1 August at 12 noon in the ★  
★ Our Lady of Fatima church foyer. ★

★ We will have soup and sandwiches followed by a mid-winter dessert. ★

★ Do come along and enjoy. ★

★ For a booking, please phone Kate on 232 9754 or Peter on 232 8795, no ★  
★ later than Sunday evening 31 July. ★

★ **Late bookings can only be taken if there are cancellations.** ★

★ For a cancellation on the day of the luncheon, phone Jane in the office ★  
★ on 232 5611. ★

★ We ask for \$6 to cover the cost and look forward to seeing you there! ★



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Wellington Celebration for World Youth Day event on Sunday 6 August. If you can help, please sign up here: [https://admission.infoodle.com/form\\_process?g=0af40a42-28c7-463b-8b66-4a343e6b8ff7](https://admission.infoodle.com/form_process?g=0af40a42-28c7-463b-8b66-4a343e6b8ff7)



**BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE**

The next Baptism Preparation class will be held on *Saturday 5 August at 10am in the Our Lady of Fatima Church foyer*. It is a pre-baptism requirement that you attend a preparation course.

So if you're planning on having a baptism, please register your intention to attend the course by contacting the Parish Office 232 5611 or [ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz). Please do not just turn up in case there has been a change in time or venue.



**WORKING BEE: St Pius X Church**

The next monthly Working Bee at St Pius Church will be held on *Saturday, 5 August between 10am to 12 noon*.

The church is starting to sparkle after the previous Working Bees and it would be lovely to have more people along this time to help keep our place of worship clean.

So please make time to come and help - as the saying goes "Many hands make light work".

For more info, please contact Pete Smith on 027 822 9634.



**GAME ON!**

Courses are being held between 6.30pm-8.30pm in Wellington (*starting 9 August*) and Lower Hutt (*starting 23 August*).

Game On! is a parenting programme of 8 weeks duration, especially for Dads and run by Dads.

To register, please email: [reception@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:reception@wn.catholic.org.nz) OR [office@greenstonedoors.co.nz](mailto:office@greenstonedoors.co.nz)



**WORKING BEE - Our Lady of Fatima Church**

Following the example set by the Smith Family at St Pius X Church, we are going to have a monthly working bee at Our Lady of Fatima Church. A big thank you to the Smiths and their helpers for the cleaning they have all done.

Beginning on *Saturday, 12 August between 10am to 12 noon* (and monthly thereafter on the 2nd Saturday) a Working Bee will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

The church is in need of a thorough C L E A N. So please make time to come and help.

For more info, please contact Marie on 232 7679 or 027 2000 737.