

# < KID'S > KORNER

**Gospel Today**  
Second Sunday of Advent | Mark 1:1-8

Year B

**BE AWARE, PREPARE!**

John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, was sent to Baptize many people and prepare them for the coming of Jesus, the True Messiah.

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SECOND WEEK OF  
**ADVENT**  
ARRIVAL OR COMING OF CHRIST

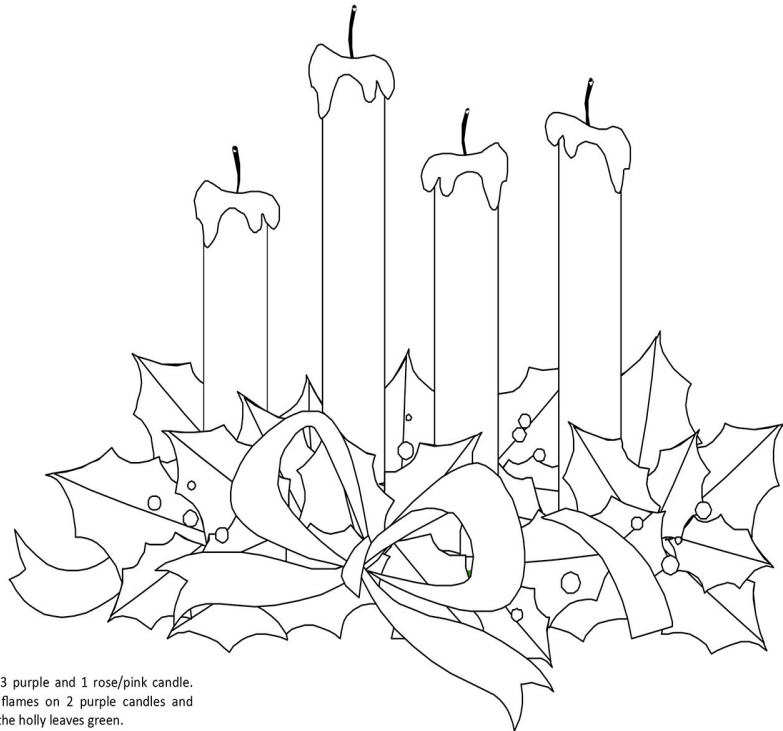
We begin the second week of Advent preparing ourselves for the Messiah. Our Advent wreath has 4 candles (3 purple, 1 rose/pink) for the four Sundays, or weeks before Christmas. The more candles we light, the brighter it gets, and the closer we are to the birth of Christ.

**WEEK 2, evening lighting prayer**

Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Oldest child lights 2 purple candles.



Color 3 purple and 1 rose/pink candle.  
Draw flames on 2 purple candles and  
color the holly leaves green.



# 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

**2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B - 10 DECEMBER 2023**

## *Homoousios vs Homoiousios*

**C**ONSUBSTANTIAL IS THE English word used to translate the Greek "homoousios", which literally means "of the same substance". Its usage was once a subject of intense theological debate connected with the nature and identity of Jesus Christ.

For the first time in the Church's existence, one of its fundamental beliefs, the divine nature of Christ, was put into question by Arius who taught that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is a creature and therefore neither coeternal nor coequal to the Father.

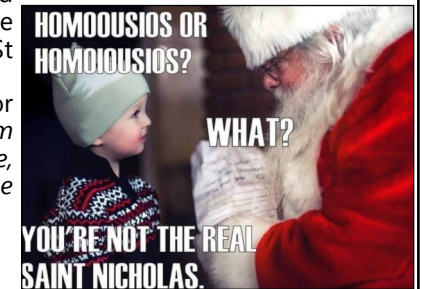
The resulting controversy was so divisive that it began to tear the empire apart, prompting Emperor Constantine to summon all bishops to Nicaea in 325AD (St Nicholas was one of 318 who attended). It must be noted that Constantine, a supporter of Arius but served as council moderator, wasn't involved in the debate or voting process. He would later order all Arian books to be burned.

One of the attendees, St Athanasius, argued from Scriptures and from the Church's practice of having Jesus Christ, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as an object of worship since the time of the Apostles. The Incarnation and the saving Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and his mandate for people to be baptised "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19)" wouldn't make sense if the Trinitarian doctrine is not true.

"Consubstantial" (*homoousios*) was added in our Creed specifically to counteract the dangerous doctrine of Arius. Later on, the Arians sought to compromise and proposed another term, homoiousios (*of similar substance*). Just an *iota* of difference to some, but not for Athanasius who saw how it threatened the integrity of the faith as handed down by the apostles. The texts we use in the Nicene Creed (*Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed*, if you prefer a mouthful) was actually approved and elaborated upon in 381AD at the Council of Constantinople, this time with St Gregory of Nazianzus as president.

Blessings + for you as we prepare for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, "true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, born of the Virgin Mary". — Fr Rico

\*previously published December 2019





## THE CATECHISM CONNECTION

Here, some paragraphs from **the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)** are presented because they cite, or allude to, or treat topics found in the liturgical readings. We, therefore, encourage you to read them with the Catechism that we may grow deeper in our understanding of our Faith.

### CCC 522:

**T**HE COMING OF God's Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries. He makes everything converge on Christ all the rituals and sacrifices, figures and symbols of the "First Covenant". He announces him through the mouths of the prophets who succeeded one another in Israel. Moreover, he awakens in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming.

### CCC 719:

**J**OHAN THE BAPTIST is "more than a prophet." In him, the Holy Spirit concludes his speaking through the prophets. John completes the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. He proclaims the imminence of the consolation of Israel; he is the "voice" of the Consoler who is coming. As the Spirit of truth will also do, John "came to bear witness to the light." In John's sight, the Spirit thus brings to completion the careful search of the prophets and fulfils the longing of the angels."

### CCC 1042:

**A**T THE END of time, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness. After the universal judgment, the righteous will reign for ever with Christ, glorified in body and soul.

*RESPONSORIAL PSALM* - Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.



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

### Daily Readings 11-17 December

*Monday:* Luke 5:17-26; *Tuesday:* Matthew 18:12-14; *Wednesday:* Matthew 11:28-30; *Thursday:* Matthew 11:11-15; *Friday:* Matthew 11:16-19; *Saturday:* Matt 17:10-13;  
**3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B:** Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11; Magnificat; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,19-28



**MASSES:** Dennis Galicia, RIP 27.11.23 (10); Admiral Tagumpay Jardiniano, RIP (11); Special Intention (Our Lady of Guadalupe) (12); Thanksgiving Mass (13).

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Norah Randall (16).

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** Gina Toscano (13); John Santos, Edward Foley, Gemma Rattigan, William Falvey (14); Henry Wilkinson (15); Mary Sievers, Joseph Habersatter, Jane Greally, Gwendolen Sievers (16); Evol (John) Connolly (17).

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

### 11-17 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	10am Mass
Friday	9am Mass; 7pm Simbang Gabi	
Saturday	9am Mass; 7pm Simbang Gabi	5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.30am Mass; 7pm Simbang Gabi	

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  
**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

**3 December 2023 - \$1,633.50**

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



### HEALING SERVICE

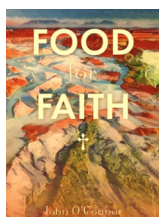
Fr John Rea will conduct a Healing Service on *Tuesday, 12 December at the North Porirua Baptist Church, 69F Discovery Place, Whitby at 7.30pm* in the downstairs meeting room. All are welcome. Bring all those who need Jesus' healing.



### CAROL SINGING WELLINGTON HOSPITAL - Christmas Eve

After an absence of 3 years, Christmas Eve Carol singing is returning to the wards at Wellington Hospital. This has great meaning to patients who are unable to be home with family and friends.

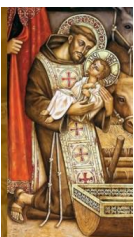
If you are able to join in, please meet at the *Hospital Atrium at 6.45pm on Christmas Eve* for 90 minutes approx. *Wellington Hospital Chaplains*



### FOOD FOR FAITH

A selection of Fr John O'Connor's reflections from the [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz) website is now available as a book. It is offered as an encouragement for people who are seeking greater maturity of faith.

To get a copy please visit the website, or for more info email: [john@fff.org.nz](mailto:john@fff.org.nz)



### PLENARY INDULGENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE EIGHT CENTENARY OF "CHRISTMAS AT GRECCIO" AS EXPERIENCED BY ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

On Christmas night 800 years ago St Francis of Assisi was inspired to create the first live Nativity scene at Greccio. He desired to touch people's hearts with the depth of God's love revealed in the Incarnation. It was this event that popularised the Christmas creche. This year to mark the anniversary, a plenary indulgence is available for all the faithful between 8 December 2023 and 2 February 2024. For more info, visit the website: [www.secularfranciscans/nz/](http://www.secularfranciscans/nz/)



**NZ CATHOLIC (3-16 December)** 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: NZ representatives at Vatican Synod reflect on experience. Changes to sanctuary at Dunedin cathedral. Young people debate topic of married priests. Transitional deacon ordained in Wellington.



### THE JESSE TREE

2nd week of Advent

*Joseph* - Ornament: Coat of Many Colours - Genesis 37-38:22

*Abraham* - Ornament: A knife - Genesis 22:1-18



### ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Saturday 16 December, 3pm  
Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa

Parishioners are invited to take up this opportunity for Reconciliation prior to Christmas.

Fr Rico will be joined by Fr Andrew Kim and Fr Alfred Tong.



### SIMBANG GABI

### SIMBANG GABI / AGUINALDO MASS

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.**

DATE	SPONSORS	CELEBRANT
Friday 15 December	Ortiz Family	Fr Rico de la Torre
Saturday 16 December**	Ilonggo Group	Fr Raja, SVD
Sunday 17 December	Torres Family	Fr Giosue Busti
Monday 18 December	Salada Family	Fr Doug Shepherd
Tuesday 19 December	Olegario Family & friends	Fr Dennis Nacorda
Wednesday 20 December	Couples for Christ	Monsignor Gerard Burns
Thursday 21 December	Panakal Family	Archbishop Paul
Friday 22 December	Tawa Filipino choir	Fr Akuila Taliauli, SVD
Saturday 23 December**	Jims Cleaning, BM Express, Pinoy SelectionZ, Balay Pinoy	Fr John van der Kaa

\*\* Please note this is a Vigil Mass

*Thank you for your support.  
May we have a fruitful celebration of the Birth of Jesus.*

We Need YOU!



## CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

**ARE YOU HERE FOR CHRISTMAS  
MASSES  
at Our Lady of Fatima Church or  
St Pius Church?**

We require Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Prayer Leaders/Welcomers, Offertory processors and Collectors.

This weekend there is a **clipboard sheet in the foyer** for you to fill in how you can help at Christmas Masses.  
OR alternatively please email the parish office: [ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz)



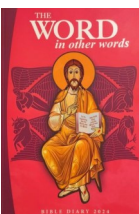
## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This programme, for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith will begin with an Introductory/Welcome session. This is an opportunity for those interested in joining the Catholic Church family to come along and find out a little about the RCIA programme and

to ask questions.

This session will be held **TODAY, Sunday 10 December at 4pm in the Foyer of Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa.**

This programme is designed for those wishing to become Catholic. If you or a friend would like to join this programme, please come along on the 10th or phone: Fr Rico 021 205 6476 or Jane at the Parish Office - (04) 232 5611 or email: [ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz)



**FOR SALE AT THE PARISH OFFICE - [cash only]**

**Columban Calendars - \$12**

**The Word in Other Words - Bible Diary 2024 - \$25**

A helpful companion for those who continually seek to encounter Christ in the Scriptures.



**St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards - \$3 for pack of 5**

**MISSIONZ Calendar - \$2**



## CHRISTMAS FUN MORNING

Tuesday, 19 December 10am-12.30pm in the Our Lady of Fatima church foyer

Leave your children, 4 year olds and upwards with us to enjoy crafts/video/songs/food. We will also be practicing the Christmas Eve Family Mass play.

Contact Marie Andrewartha for more info: 021 476 153. If you are able to help with the Fun Morning, please contact Marie.



## CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

7pm, Sunday 24 December at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa

Join us for this special celebration. Children can come dressed as angels or Shepherds and participate in the Christmas play.



## 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 Sundays 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 God Bless you all.*

## BACKUP TECH ADMINISTRATOR FOR PARISH FACEBOOK/ WEBSITE

Our Parish is seeking someone who will fill the voluntary position of backup person for our current online administrator in case they are ever unable to carry out their role?

You will

- receive emails on website invoices and record keep (what IT people call "DNS records")
- be the administrator for our website and facebook (content administrator)

If you are interested in helping the Parish with this, please message our Facebook page or contact our website. Full training will be given by the current administrator



## RAT TESTS AND FACE MASKS

If you or your family need RAT tests and/or face masks, please contact the parish office ([ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz) or phone: 232 5611) as we still have a good free supply. *Thanks*