

First Sunday of Lent

"Jesus is tempted in the desert"

The Temptation of Jesus

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert. where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.



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

Spirit	devil	days	Jordan	stone
Holy	live	angels	authority	worship
desert	temple	command	bread	world
tempted	forty	kingdoms	Jerusalem	hungry

18 February: *RESPONSORIAL PSALM* - Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.



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

1st SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A - 18 FEBRUARY 2024

The Cross: Our Membership Card

WE STARTED OUR LENTEN journey with the cross being traced on our foreheads, while the priest/minister says "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (another liturgical option is, "Repent and believe in the Gospel").

Having the cross traced on the foreheads of God's people is not something new. The early Christians would have been reminded of the same thing from the book of prophet Ezekiel, 9:4 "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it."

Something is lost in translation here. The "mark" mentioned above is literally, in proto-hebrew alphabet, a cross (+). See below. Some non-catholics would mistakenly attribute the sign of the cross to the mark of the Beast in Rev 13:16-18, without considering that that it is the devil's parody of the divine mark of God's people described in Ezekiel and Rev 14:1.

With the saving passion of Jesus, the cross has acquired a deeper significance. Saint Paul would write in 1 Cor 1:18, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God;" and in Gal 6:14, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Thus, in the rite of Baptism, the priest would trace the cross on the forehead of the catechumen while he says "I now claim you for Christ our Saviour by the sign of his cross."

The sign of the cross that we received and we perform each time we pray, should make us think more often of the grace of salvation that we received through the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, through which, we became members of God's covenant people. The appropriate response to this, is of course, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Early Hebrew	Middle Hebrew	Late Hebrew	Modern Hebrew
+	×	ת	ת

Rico Angelo

THE CATECHISM CONNECTION - 1st Sunday of Lent

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 2119:

TEMPTING GOD CONSISTS in putting his goodness and almighty power to the test by word or deed. Thus Satan tried to induce Jesus to throw himself down from the Temple and, by this gesture, force God to act.⁴⁹ Jesus opposed Satan with the word of God: "You shall not put the LORD your God to the test."⁵⁰ The challenge contained in such tempting of God wounds the respect and trust we owe our Creator and Lord. It always harbours doubt about his love, his providence, and his power.⁵¹

CCC 2847

THE HOLY SPIRIT makes us *discern* between trials, which are necessary for the growth of the inner man,¹⁵² and temptation, which leads to sin and death.¹⁵³ We must also discern between being tempted and consenting to temptation. Finally, discernment unmasks the lie of temptation, whose object appears to be good, a "delight to the eyes" and desirable,¹⁵⁴ when in reality its fruit is death.

God does not want to impose the good, but wants free beings. ... There is a certain usefulness to temptation. No one but God knows what our soul has received from him, not even we ourselves. But temptation reveals it in order to teach us to know ourselves, and in this way we discover our evil inclinations and are obliged to give thanks for the goods that temptation has revealed to us.¹⁵⁵

49 Cf. *Lk* 4:9. 50 *Deut* 6:16. 51 Cf. *1 Cor* 10:9; *Ex* 17:2-7; *Ps* 95:9.

152 Cf. *Lk* 8:13-15; *Acts* 14:22; *Rom* 5:3-5; *2 Tim* 3:12.

153 Cf. *Jas* 1:14-15. 154 Cf. *Gen* 3:6. 155 Origen, *De orat.* 29:PG 11,544CD.



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

Daily Readings 19-25 February

Monday: Matt 25:31-46; *Tuesday:* Matt 6:7-15; *Wednesday:* Luke 11:29-32;
Thursday: Matt 16:13-19; *Friday:* Matt 5:20-26; *Saturday:* Matt 5:43-48;
2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18; Psalm 116B;
 Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10



MASSES: Ceceil Mulder, RIP (18 & 23); Thanksgiving Mass - birthday & job (22).

ANNIVERSARIES:

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Nina Gillon, Catherine Brockie, Josefa Salvador (19); Vera Feslier, John Wanden (20); Stefan Pruss, Brian Le Champion (21); Rhoda Entwistle, Raymond Polaschek, Susanna Brown (22); Roy Penman, Myrtle McGill, Franz Pignet, Edward Healy, Garth Ward (23); Brian Butler, Peter Cusick, Karen Martin (24); Joan Ross, James Lavin, Maria Webster (25).

R.I.P

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

19-25 FEBRUARY: 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 Stations of the Cross	6pm Stations of the Cross
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
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
Filipino Chaplaincy Web: www.filchap-adw.nz

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS/WEEKLY COLLECTION

11 February 2024 - \$1,432.90

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



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life, prayer and fasting to end abortion will take place again in Wellington from *14 February to 24 March*.

For further information please phone Maria Hammond 027 354 7367 (Family Life International)



EMAILS, NEWSLETTERS & PARISHIONER UPDATES

Are you new to our parish?



Would you like to receive the email version of the Parish newsletter or other emails we occasionally send out?

This is a vital way to keep in contact, so we can update parishioners quickly about Mass times etc.

Please send your email details to the parish office: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz so you can be included in our emails and database. Also, if you have changed your email address, moved to a new address or have a new phone number, please let us know.

Thanks Jane Lee, Parish Secretary



FOR SALE: COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2024

Did you miss out on getting a 2024 Colulmban Calendar?

If so, we still have copies left for sale at the Parish office
(Tuesday-Friday 9-noon)

Columban Calendars \$12 each (cash only)



NZ CATHOLIC (11-24 February) *Now for sale in church foyers. Price: \$4 (unchanged for 8 years).*

Please put money in blue cash box on foyer table

Some headlines for this issue: Kiwi and Anglican bishops gather in Rome and UK. New director for Hearts Aflame. Christchurch diocese seeks feedback on cathedral location options. Dunedin cathedral sanctuary

angels get their wings.

As a promotion, this entire edition is supplied at this link: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/2face917-ff29-4b13-83b3-3010e8522ea0>

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2024

TIME TO ENROL YOUR CHILD



Each year, our children are invited to continue their faith journey through joining the Parish Sacramental programme, which includes making their First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. For each Sacrament, children and their parents or guardians join others for learning sessions which begin in **March**. You are warmly invited to register your child/children. There will be sign-up forms in both our churches and also at St Francis Xavier and St Pius X Catholic schools.

Please enrol your child/children as soon as possible. Enrolment packs are also available from the Parish Office: ourladyofhope@xtra.co.nz - phone: (04) 232 5611.

You can also email Marie Andrewartha (m.g.andrewartha@gmail.com) to enrol.

Please include:

- a) your child's name and age;
- b) your name, and
- c) your contact phone number.

Children must be eight years of age or over and have been baptised.

Sessions will be on Sundays at **4pm**, at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa.

The programme begins on **Sunday 17 March 1pm-4.30pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church** with an **Introduction to the Sacramental Programme**. Please bring *some photos or special things from your child's Baptism e.g. candle, gown etc.* **(This day is a special part of the programme and it is important that you and your child attend).**

ENROLMENT MASS - *Sunday 24 March, 8.30am*, Our Lady of Fatima Church

FIRST RECONCILIATION - *Sunday 28 April, 3pm*, Our Lady of Fatima Church

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION - *Sunday 16 June, 2pm*, Our Lady of Fatima Church

FIRST COMMUNION - *Sunday 24 November, 2pm*, Our Lady of Fatima Church

Please contact Marie Andrewartha if you have any questions - 021 476 153 or m.g.andrewartha@gmail.com. *Thanks*



INDONESIAN COMMUNITY MASS

On Saturday, 17 February at 5pm a Vigil Mass with the Indonesian Community will be held at our Lady of Fatima church. (Mass is in English and Indonesian). All are welcome.



KIRABATI MASS

Kiribati Mass will be held at St Pius X Church, Titahi Bay at 12 noon, **TODAY, Sunday 18 February** - All welcome

Thank You



Dear Parishioners I want to thank you for your friendship, love and support expressed in the many letters, cards and gifts I have received. You are in my heart and prayers and I entrust myself to yours.

May the Lord bless you and your families. Sr Francine



STORIES OF HOPE

Please send your contributions for our next edition to magazine@ourladyofhope.org.nz by **Friday 23 February** at the latest. Hard copy can be left in the

parish office. Send us photos of your special family celebrations; group reports or coming events; or your own personal faith journey or insights. Poems and artwork also welcome.

HELP NEEDED

STORIES OF HOPE - HELP REQUIRED

Volunteers required for the delivery of Stories of Hope magazine. Is this something you would be willing to do just 3 times a year? (March, July, November). Please contact

Maureen if you are interested: okeeffolk@xtra.co.nz or 027 624 4556 or Jane in the Parish Office. All help is very much appreciated.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

On Fridays during Lent, Stations of the Cross is held at 6pm at St Pius X Church and 7pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

Would you like to lead the Stations on one of the Fridays?

If so, can you please email the Parish Office which day you are available - 16, 23 February, 1, 8, 15, 22 March. *Thanks*

Fast from hurting words
and say kind words.
Fast from sadness
and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger
and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism
and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries
and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints
contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures
and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness;
fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness
and be compassionate.
Fast from grudges
and be reconciled.
Fast from words;
be silent and listen.

Pope Francis



CARITAS LENTEN GIVING ENVELOPES

The time is now to empower vulnerable families to thrive! Lenten Giving envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 have been distributed today at Mass. This year, we are using a single giving envelope. By reducing costs, we ensure more of your donations go to those in need. You can give once or weekly, as is your preference. You can return the envelopes during the parish offertory collection. Thank you for your generous support.