



**PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
TE WAIRUA TAPU**

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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time(B)

19th September 2021

TRUE GREATNESS

In the financial world, we've been watching giant corporations merge and swallow each other up for some years now. Each one of them wants to be the greatest, to rise to the top, to pulverize the competition, to earn more money than any other company in their field. They want to be the greatest.

Greatness. It's highly prized. And our notions of greatness all have to do with the strong.

In our gospel, we hear Jesus make his unusual claim to greatness: The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again. For Jesus, *servanthood* for himself and for his followers is the only legitimate pathway to greatness and glory. The one who is great is the one who *accepts* suffering for the benefit of others, not the one who *escapes* suffering at the expense of others. For Jesus, the true measure of greatness is in one's willingness to be a servant.

In other words, *true greatness* is expressed through *servanthood*. True greatness is lived out in our putting first those whom the world puts last. True greatness is measured by loving service to those whom the world shoves aside.

That's what Jesus did, by reaching out to the forgotten, and by dying for sinners like you and me.

“the mission is to serve the Lord, but, often, our real desire pushes us toward the path of worldliness in order to be more important.” – Pope Francis.

God Bless and Stay Safe,

Fr. Marlon



‘Reconnecting with Te Awa Kairangi’ river walk - 3 October

To celebrate the [Season of Creation](#), a prayer walk along Te Awa Kairangi (Hutt River) from Upper Hutt to the coast at Petone will take place Sunday 3 October, 9am-5pm approx. People may journey for as long or short a time as they wish; to give thanks for the river, and share our hopes, dreams, and prayers for it.

To find out more, contact:

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