

### Definitions

**Loss** - Is one of the universal human experiences, no one escapes altogether from losing someone or something dear to them

**Death** - Is the passing from this life to the next

**Grief** - Is the process of overcoming coping with loss in our lives

**Dying** - Is when death is near, and our faith makes most sense

**The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick** has as its purpose the conferral of a special grace on the Christian experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age

The sacrament can assist in the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul; it can also assist in the preparation for passing over to eternal life



### Tangihanga

The tangi is the most important hui or gathering for Maori, and comes before all other activities. When a death occurs, all other meetings on the marae are cancelled or postponed, so that the body may lie in state there. People in the community leave what they are doing to organize the tangi or to visit it

### More on Death

When you remember that Christianity is all about the death of Jesus, it is startling how we evade the thought to death. And this, of course, makes it impossible to get anywhere near the Christian viewpoint that it is in terms of death that life makes sense.

**An ancient prayer for the Dead:**  
Eternal Rest grant unto him/her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace!

Everything you ever  
wanted to know about  
Loss, Death,  
Grief and Dying



### What happens at the end?

**Judgment** - "All of us must appear before Christ to be judged by him. All will receive what they deserve, according to everything they have done, good or bad in their bodily life" (2Cor 5:10)

**Purgatory** - A state or process of cleansing or purifying that all must go through if they are to be admitted into heaven

There is no other aspect of existence in which the fact of Christ's Passion, death and resurrection is so relevant in the human experiences of loss and death. E.g. "Anyone who does not take up their cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds their life will lose it." (Matt 10:38)

"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me even though that person dies, will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25-26)