

We pray for our Bishop Steve Lowe. May he be blessed in his ministry with our Diocese of Hamilton. May our Lady bless his ministry.



St Mary Star of the Sea - Gisborne

PO Box 844, Gisborne 4040 **website:** www.stmarysgisborne.co.nz
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Clergy: Msgr Frank Eggleton - Parish Priest frfrank@extra.co.nz
Deacon - Mike Rolfe
Assistant Priest— Fr. Jack Smith 8677224 #4 or 021 380979



Third Sunday of Advent

15th and 16th December 2018

Sat	15 Dec	6.00 pm	Joan Shanks
Sun	16 Dec	9.00am 11.30 am Tokomaru Bay	People of the Parish
Mon	17 Dec	7.30 am	Eileen and Peter Grealish
Tues	18 Dec	6.00 pm	Maureen and Pat Griffin
Wed	19 Dec	9.30 am	Special Intention
Thurs	20 Dec	9.00 am 7.00pm	Hilary Allan Rite II Reconciliation
Fri	21 Dec	11.30am 12.10pm	Confession
Sat	22 Dec	9.00 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm	Intentions of Colleen Story Confession Terry Allan
Sun	23 Dec	9.00 am 11.00am Matawai	People of the Parish



Flowers required please by 'flower ladies' We will be needing preferably white and some red flowers please for our Christmas arrangements. Flowers can be left after 6.00 pm Mass on Saturday 22nd or after Sunday 23rd morning Mass in the flower room.

Please place in water . Any queries to Sharleen 868 4788

To our Filipino Community.... Wow so thrilled to read you took 1st place in the Christmas Float Parade. Well done and Congratulations from us all.



Seasons Greetings from Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

A sincere thank you to every one who has assisted us in our work throughout the year.

The Haven will close 19 December and re-open 5 February 2019.



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS TIMETABLE:

Monday 24 December: Saint Mary Star of the Sea Church
 9.00 am Mass
 6.00pm Family Vigil Mass preceded by Carols at 5.30 pm
 12.00pm Midnight Mass preceded by Carols at 11.30pm

Tuesday Christmas Day 25 December:
 Mass at 9.00 am St Mary Star of the Sea
 Mass at 10.30 am Tolaga Bay

Tuesday 1 January 2019:
 5.30 am Sunrise Mass on the beach (along Midway Beach)
 Mass at 6.00 pm St Mary Star of the Sea

All other Mass times stay the same during the week

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3: 14-18
PSALM: Canticle Isaiah 12: 2-6
 Springs of Salvation (All sing)

SECOND READING: Philippians 4: 4-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia ! Hurry the Lord is near. Alleluia, Alleluia ! Hurry the Lord is near.

GOSPEL : Luke 3: 10-18

IMPORTANT Notice from Diocese:
 there is now a direct link where parishioners can see the full content of **Snippets online** at newsletter.cdh.nz.

NEXT WEEKS READINGS - 4th Sun Advent (Year C)
 First Reading Micah 5: 1-4
 Psalm: 79: 2-3. 15-16. 18-19
 Second Reading : Hebrews 10: 5-10
 Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45

Last Sunday's collection total (includes estimate AP's): \$2,101.40

Monsignor Frank's Message

Dear parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea and all visitors,

Over the last week I have watched two excellent Nativity Plays- one by the Fish and Chips Club and the other at Campion College's final Liturgy. There will be a third Nativity Play before St. Mary's School final Mass on Thursday. They all help us to focus upon the reason for our Gift-buying and coming together. Christmas is all about celebrating the birth of Jesus. Please make sure that a Christmas Crib (no matter how simple) graces every one of our homes.

Tonight (December 16th) at St. Andrews Church (cnr of Cobden Street and Childers Rd) at 7.00pm there will be the Combined Churches evening of Carols and Christmas Readings. Come along and enjoy. You can be guaranteed that the singing will be outstanding.

On Thursday (December 20th) at 7.00pm we will be hosting Rite II Reconciliations. Hopefully two priests from Wairoa will join us. Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful response to the Readings of Advent where we have been exhorted to make a fresh start as we begin a new Church Year by facing up to our sinfulness.

Earlier on that day (December 20th) at 9.30am there will be the end of the Year Mass and Prize-giving for St. Mary's School and then- let the holidays begin!!

Mrs Sarah Aperahama, who is currently the Deputy Principal at Riverdale School, has accepted the position of Deputy Principal at St. Mary's School for the New Year. We welcome Sarah with open hearts.

A huge Well Done to our Filipino community on the outstanding float you prepared for the Santa Parade last Saturday. It won First Prize. It was lovely to see the Christmas scene integrated into it. You did us proud!!

Bishop Steve has written a Letter focussed upon the Church's outreach to our Catholic Maori people. Copies of the Letter are on the table in the foyer. Sadly our diocese will no longer be served by the Marist Fathers. Our last Community of Marists- currently in Rotorua- will be farewelled at the end of January 2019. Fr. David Gledhill will move into semi-retirement and be living at Otaki. Fr. David Moore has been transferred to Wairoa. 2019 is set down as a 'fallow year' for our Catholic Maori pastorate in our diocese as we look to and plan for the future.

A big Welcome into our Church family to Mahlia Vaotuua, who was baptised on Saturday morning. Mahlia's mother is Ashley Vaotuua. We hope Mahlia becomes a mighty disciple of Jesus!

Kind Wishes, Mons Frank.

This week's featured link on the parish web site (<http://stmarysgisborne.co.nz>) Eric Metaxas, author and pro-life advocate raises the abortion issue during a speech at a breakfast with pro-choice President and Lady Obama.



Marian Family Group will next catch up for a 'Cuppa' on Sunday **23rd December 2018** then 17 February 2019, after 9am Mass. Merry Christmas Everyone!



The women from HAFOTI wanted to say thanks.

As we enter the holy season of advent, and reflect on the year that has been, we would like to thank you for all of your support for the work of Caritas. In particular we thank you for your participation in the 2018 Lenten journey and the NZ Catholic Bishops Lent Appeal for the communities in Timor Leste.

All the parishes from across the country managed to raise \$1million for the Lent Appeal this year. This money will go directly towards assisting poor and vulnerable communities around the world. Thank you for your support, and for keeping us and our work in your prayers.

Thank you once again for your contribution and support. With all good wishes for a happy and holy season of advent and a blessed Christmas, Roger Ellis
Community Engagement Manager



The Catholic Women's League would like to sincerely thank all parishioners for the generous response to their "Christmas" Cake Raffle. A **total of \$765** was raised. Our congratulations go to the lucky winners
Gail and June Sharp.

We would like to thank you for your continued support during the year and wish you all a very blessed and peaceful Christmas

This is the last children's liturgy for the year
Enjoy the story of the candy cane and get one to take home.

The children's liturgy will resume again after the Christmas holidays on Sunday, 3rd February 2019.

A big thank you to all the people who have hosted the children's liturgy this year as we couldn't run it without your time and support. Your commitment is very much valued. Thank you from Leigh

