



**Pray for me, and the Diocese of Hamilton, that God's will be done**  
*Bishop Laurensen*

Letter from Bishop Richard Laurensen

For Parishes

I wish to inform you of the shifts that are soon to take place in the Hamilton Diocese to accommodate the Vacancy left by my appointment as Bishop.

I would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support as I take on this new role given me by the Holy Father. I am grateful to my brother priests, all of whom, who were willing to accommodate themselves to the needs of the diocese, especially those who agreed without demur to transfer of assignment.

**Holy Family, Morrinsville, Te Aroha, Paeroa: Fr Tovio Lusitino, Pastor**

**St Mary, Gisborne: Fr Mark Field, Pastor**

Thank you, God Bless, and Merry Christmas to you all.

+Richard

**Enrolment for the Bachelor of Divinity and Graduate Diploma in Theology** is still on-going until the end of January. The Certificate and Diploma in Christian Studies are also accepting enrolment for 2024. Semester starts on 19 February 2024. For courses offered on campus, online and each diocese, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/timetables](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/timetables). To enrol, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply).

**CHILDRENS LITURGY**



*This Sunday is the last Children's Liturgy for the Year. It will resume again on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Thank you to everyone involved, your time and commitment is much valued.*

PH.D. ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

**ISRAEL MCGREW**

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, AUCKLAND  
 20TH MARCH

TOPIC: THE WISDOM OF JUDGES

HAMILTON  
 21ST - 23RD MARCH

TOPIC: SALVATION HISTORY



**COMING MARCH 2024**



**St Mary Star of the Sea - Gisborne**



PO Box 844, Gisborne 4040 website: [www.stmarysgisborne.co.nz](http://www.stmarysgisborne.co.nz)  
 Ph. 0225624671 e-mail: [stellamaris003@gmail.com](mailto:stellamaris003@gmail.com)

Administrator : Fr. Tovio Lusitino (ext. 4)  
 Assistant Priest Fr Richard Cortes, MSP  
 Deacon: Mike Rolfe



**FATHER RICHARD CELL 0272366621  
 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 23rd & 24th DECEMBER 2023**

SATURDAY	23RD DEC	6pm Vigil Mass	TERRY ALLAN+
SUNDAY	24TH DEC	9.00 AM 8.30AM ROSARY	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
CHRISTMAS EVE		6..00PM 5.30 PM Carols	<b>VIGIL CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
CHRISTMAS DAY	25TH DEC	9.00AM 11.00AM Tokomaru Bay	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>
TUESDAY	26TH DEC	No Mass	
WEDNESDAY	27TH DEC	9am MASS 8.30am Rosary St John	<b>COLLEN MAZENGARB + DECEASED MEMBERS OF LEGION OF MARY</b>
THURSDAY	28 TH DEC	8.30 am Rosary 9.00 AM CONFESSION	<b>HOLY INNOCENTS. Legion of Mary</b>
FRIDAY	29TH DEC	11.00am Adoration 11.30am Rosary Life 12.10pm Mass 11.30 Confession	<b>ALICE &amp; MOKENA TE RITO</b>
SATURDAY	30TH DEC	9.00 am MASS 8.30 am Rosary 9.30 AM CONFESSION 6.00pm Vigil Mass	<b>TAMA TERITO &amp; ISOBEL WILLS</b>
SUNDAY	31ST DEC	9.00 AM MASS 8.30 AM ROSARY	<b>PEOPLE OF THE PARISH FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b>
MONDAY	1ST JAN	9.00AM	<b>MARY MOTHER OF GOD</b>



**MASS & Rosary TIMES**

Tuesday 9.00 am. Wednesday 9.00 am. Thursday 9.00 Saturday 9.00 am Sunday 9.00 am

Friday 12.10 pm - preceded ADORATION 11.00AM Rosary for Life 11.30 the Angelus.12.00n

ROSARY 8.30am TUES, WED, THURS, SAT , SUN-FRI 11.30

Saturday Vigil Mass 6..00PM SUNDAY 9.00AM Mass at Tolaga Bay 2nd Sunday 11.00 am. Tokomaru Bay 3rd Sunday 11.30 am MATAWAI 4th Sunday

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 -

Romans 16:25-27

Gospel LUKE 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. **For nothing will be impossible with God.**" Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



DECEMBER  
Month of the Immaculate Conception

The month of December is traditionally dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**. The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a singular privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and hers, was preserved from all stain of original sin.

More information about the Peace Lamp and our work in the Holy Land can be found on our website <https://www.caritas.org.nz/where-we-work/holy-land>



Prayer for the Holy Land  
Jesus, protect the innocent and vulnerable, comfort the suffering, and give courage and wisdom to leaders in the Holy Land. Amen.

*"No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a newborn child."*

Part two of our 'Domestic' Church feature is up online

<https://www.cdh.org.nz/socials>



**.PRIEST AWAY....**

Father Tovio will be away from 27th Dec.—25-26th January

Father Jack will be here for two weeks mid January to cover.



**2024 BIBLE DIARY—ON SALE NOW IN FOYER OR OFFICE Just \$20.00 onLine \$25.00**

2024 Bible Diary  
THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE

**Please Prayer**  
for the Soul of **Mary Rofe , Mony Varghese** who's both funerals were held last Wednesday **May they rest in**



20 + C + M + B + 24

PARISH OFFICE HOURS—Mon, Wed, and Friday 9.30am—1.30pm **Office will be closed over statutory Holidays but can ring Parish Mobile 0225624671**  
Koha and Pledge Donations to our Parish gratefully received at this time. **PAYWAVE** Available on Weekend Masses or weekdays in office.  
Collection last week : \$ 2,613.00 approx.  
Please include Name in Ref. with all direct Bank Deposits.

NZ Catholic for sale in church foyers Price \$4.  
Some headlines for this issue Joy as fourth Bishop of Hamilton ordained. Don't forget suffering Church. Pope receives new NZ ambassador. South Korea pilgrimage was a real blessing.  
<https://indd.adobe.com/view/7d2f4fc3-4750-490e-9037-f0042afa6a31>

