

Bible Stories - what do they mean?

Listen to Beate Matthies on Sunday, December 1, 2024, 7-8.30pm (Zoom).

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/bible-studies-what-do-they-mean-8/>

YouTube Recording:

Jennifer Lobo, a lay woman from Goa, in a 2 min interview about St Francis Xavier whose feast day is on December 3: <https://youtu.be/>

Bernadette Trust grants available

Funding is available to parish groups through the **Bernadette Trust**. Applications to assist with funding for running courses for parishioners, celebrating centenaries, supporting music ministry etc are welcome. Email Joanna Kearney at joannak@cdh.org.nz with details explaining how it will meet the pastoral needs of your parish and the level of financial support required.

St Mary Star of the Sea - Gisborne

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Deacon: Mike Rolfe



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOV 30 & DEC 1, 2024

SATURDAY	NOV 30	6.00 VIGIL MASS	ALEXIA ENGLISH (RIP)
SUNDAY	DEC 1	9AM MASS MAORI MASS 8.30 ROSARY	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
MONDAY	DEC 2	NO MASS 9.00am Rosary	
TUESDAY	DEC 3	9.00am MASS 8.30am Rosary	SHIRLEY MCDOWELL (RIP) ST FRANCIS XAVIER
WEDNESDAY	DEC 4	9.00am MASS 8.30am Rosary	
THURSDAY	DEC 5	9.00am MASS 8.30am ROSARY	
FRIDAY	DEC 6	1100AM ADORATION CONFESSION 11.30 ROSARY FOR LIFE 12.10 PM MASS	JOSEPH POULPSE (RIP)
SATURDAY	DEC 7	9.00 MASS 8.30 ROSARY 9.30AM CONFESSION	ST AMBROSE
		6.00PM VIGIL MASS	ENGLISH FAMILY INTENTIONS
SUNDAY	DEC 8	9AM MASS 8.30 ROSARY 11AM TOLAGA BAY	DEIRDRE MCGUINNESS (RIP) 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Let's continue to support **St Vincent de Paul's** food bank. Some items from St Mary's School children included Weetbix, dishwashing liquid, tea bags. All donations gratefully accepted.



National March for Life 2024

You're invited to 'love them both' by attending the national March for Life in Wellington on Saturday December 7. The march



peacefully protests the practice and legality of abortion. Gather at Parliament Grounds from 1pm for family-friendly entertainment. The March will go out from Parliament Grounds at 2pm and return again to finish by 4pm. Learn more at www.marchforlife.nz

LAST CHANCE

The Church's *Christmas Raffle* closes this Sunday, **December 1.**

\$2 a ticket or \$5 for 3 tickets.
25 Great prizes

Thanks to our sponsors.
Rose
027 4391275



ATTENTION

Parishioners from the East Coast or Matawai can purchase tickets for this fantastic Christmas Raffle by emailing roseperry@xtra.co.nz

SUNSHINE BUS IS AVAILABLE TO ALL PARISHIONERS FREE OF CHARGE FOR THE FRIDAY MASS SERVICE.



BOOK PICK-UP BY RINGING 06 8672905.

MASS & Rosary TIMES

Tuesday 9.00 am. Wednesday 9.00 am. Thursday 9.00 Saturday 9.00 am Sunday 9am.
Friday 12.10 pm - preceded by **ADORATION 11.00AM Rosary for Life 11.30.** The Angelus.12.00 noon **Anointing of the Sick every first Friday after Mass.**
ROSARY 8.30am TUES, WED, THURS, SAT, SUN – FRI 11.30, Monday 9.00am
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 11.00am

First Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year. From the Latin word adventus meaning arrival or coming, it was adapted by the early Christians from the Roman practice of preparing for the visits or assumption to power of their emperors then considered as “gods”.

Advent has a two-fold phase, the first part of the season focuses on being prepared for Christ’s second coming at the end of time. The second phase of Advent begins on the 17th of December with the readings focusing on the events that happened before the birth of Christ on that first Christmas more than two thousand years ago.

It is most fitting that we prepare not only outside, but most especially inside our very selves for the coming of the true God and King of Kings, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour!

Let’s make our Advent season meaningful and real through prayer, penance, and good works, so that when Christmas time comes, we may meet our Lord with joy!



Fr. Richard

Scripture Readings for Sunday. 1. Jeremiah 33:14-16 Ps 25 p.34
2. Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 **Gospel Luke 21:25-28**



BASKETBALL FUNDRAISER: A one-day basketball event to raise funds in honour of Midge Te Kani, to help her whanau, will be held on December 8 starting at 8am. Koha entry for spectators. It will be at the Ilminster School, De Lautour Road. It is our hope that this will be a family-friendly day to bring our community together to help raise funds for the whanau, but also to come together to help each other after the year we have had in our region. There will be things to buy, but also many things for our young ones to do at no cost, thanks to local businesses—lots of give away and spot prizes. Any queries, please contact Rose Brown 0274391275.

If you need prayer or want to be a prayer chain warrior contact Sr Cynthia 8686378 or Shirley 0276332320

A prayer chain is a group of people who commit to praying for a specific person or cause over a set period of time. The more people who pray, the more "links" there are in the chain, and the stronger the chain becomes. The purpose of a prayer chain is to support one another, lift up needs and hopes to God, and gain God's assistance through prayer.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS—Monday to Friday 8.30am—12.30pm . (Please note day and time change). Koha and pledge donations to our parish gratefully received at this time.

PAYWAVE available on weekend Masses or weekdays in office.

Collection last week: \$2833

St Mary’s Gisborne Parish BNZ 02-0342-0050016-004 (Please ensure your name eg White H and donation) are entered into the details.



BAPTISMS

Charlotte, Heidi and Pippa Brenssen will be baptised on Sunday morning after Mass. They are the daughters of Marian and Cameron. We welcome these young people into God’s family, our Church.

St Mary’s have their prizegiving at 1.15pm on December 12 and the school’s final Mass will be at 11am on December 13. Reports will also be sent home on the 13th.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Learn more about importance of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



Catholics believe the body, blood, soul and divinity are substantially present in the Eucharist. In other words, when you participate in Eucharistic Adoration, you pray and worship Jesus in a more intimate, present and real way.



HOLY MASS - A HOLY MASS OFFERED FOR - HOLY SOULS, THANKSGIVING, SPECIAL INTENTIONS, NEEDS OR PROBLEMS — CONTACT THE OFFICE (Mass is the most powerful prayer on earth)

MASS COUNT

The Mass count has been completed for another year. For your interest, the average number attending Sunday Mass in our parish (Saturday evening, Sunday morning and the three outlying churches) during November was **398**. (By way of comparison, the figure for 2023 was 300.) Our thanks to those who carried out the Mass.

ADVENT RECONCILIATIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 5.30pm to 6.30pm on **Thursday December 12**. Father Thomas will come to help as well. (There is no liturgy beforehand – just come, prepare and approach one of the priests for confession.) Before and after that, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at the usual times.

Daily Mass calendars are now available in the office for \$5.

Bible Diaries

The 2025 Bible Diaries are coming soon!

The cost remains the same, \$20 per copy.

If you wish to purchase one, see Elaine in the Parish Office.

You can also pay online – but you need to let Elaine know that you have deposited \$20 in the parish account for that purpose. — **Father Mark**

