



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26 January 2025

A great reminder from St Paul, in today's second reading, that we are all part of the Body of Christ, all baptised in the one Spirit. Our responsibility, then, is to preserve the unity in the Body – so that we can more effectively be about the work of the Mission (which Jesus announces in the Gospel of this Sunday). May the words of Scripture be fulfilled in our hearing also . . . and in our lives!

A number of people celebrate wedding anniversaries at this time. A special word of congratulations to **Anne and Steve Dimery** who this weekend celebrate 50 years of marriage. We rejoice with you, and pray that the Lord continue to bless you both, and your family.

I enjoyed spending Wednesday with the teaching staff of Campion College. In the afternoon, we went on a short pilgrimage and visited some of the city sites, which have been important in our parish story. Maybe our parish community could do the same sometime during this Jubilee year?

I also look forward to being with the staff of St Mary's Catholic School this Friday. They will be having a retreat time at Mahia. We hope that goes well for them and prepares them well for the year ahead. A reminder that the Schools' Commissioning Mass will be celebrated on February 13 at 3.15pm.

Best wishes also to the Parish Filipino community as they prepare to celebrate the **Sinulog-Santo Niño Festival** on the second Sunday of February. We are blessed to have such a devout and energetic community within our parish family – as St Paul reminds us, "all the parts of the body, though many, are one body." They will have Novena Prayers each evening at 7pm, beginning this Friday. All are welcome.

No Mass at Matawai today – and Father Richard is away. We hope he has a good break. Ngā manaakitanga o te Runga Rawa ki a koutou kātōa – every blessing!

Father Mark

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JUBILEE YEAR

If you have any suggestions as to how we might celebrate the Jubilee in our parish, please speak to one of the Parish Council members. (We meet on February 5.)

The Prayer for the Jubilee Year is enclosed within this newsletter – we are encouraged to pray it during the course of this special year of the Lord.

Try to find a time for it in the busyness of your day. It's a great way for us to pray for one another, and for our world.



RCIA

The course for those wishing to be a part of our Church resumes this week.

Please pray for **Jorje, Isabella, James, Ana, Ruth, Corin, Monica and Kristine**, that they continue to grow in faith and know the Lord's courage and peace in the coming weeks. Pray also for the team who will continue to guide and encourage them.

BIBLE DIARIES

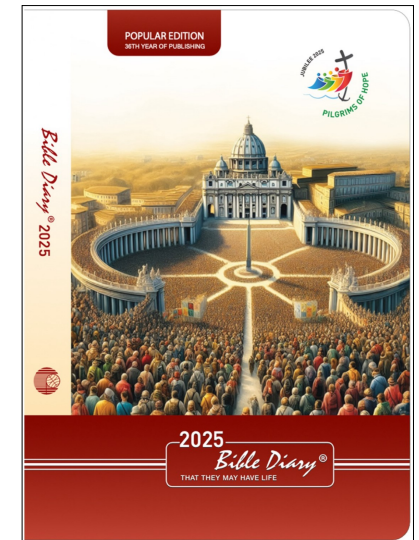
The last few Bible Diaries available from the foyer or from Elaine in the Parish Office, \$20 per copy.

AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY DAY

Tomorrow is a public holiday and so the Parish Office will be closed.

BAPTISMS

Best wishes to **Betty and Matilda Mitchell** who will be baptised next Saturday morning. May they always know that they are beloved children of God.



FAREWELL TO FATHER ROB

Father Richard and Father Mark travelled to Wairoa on Tuesday to say goodbye to Father Rob Devlin SM, who is retiring to Auckland. Father Rob has helped us on occasions with Reconciliation in particular. We wish him well for the years ahead.

Father Trevor Tindall SM is the new Parish Priest of Wairoa, and Brother Denis O'Brien SM continues to assist in the parish.

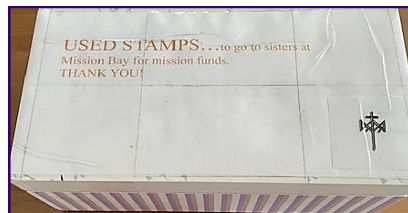
LEGION OF MARY

Our meeting is on Thursday January 30 at 4pm at the Parish Centre. If you are interested please join us. We also have a youth group. The aim of the Legion is for the Glory of God through the faith of its members, developed by prayer (e.g. Rosary) and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's work. "Mary is Apostleship." Contact president Maria Carruthers on 0272688188.



USED STAMPS

On behalf of the Sisters of St Joseph, I write to express thanks to those who continue to collect used stamps for our ministry with youth in Peru. Your ongoing support in collecting national and international used stamps is greatly appreciated. N.B. When cutting a stamp from an envelope, please leave some paper around it so the stamp doesn't get damaged. Stamps can be left in the small white box in the church foyer or at the parish office. Blessings of Gratitude, Sr Meg.



RETURN TO SCHOOL

Tuesday, January 28: Campion College, returning students 10.15am start. Year 7 & new students 10.30am start, gather at library.

Monday, February 3: St Mary's Primary School.

EDUCATION:

Stella Maris Early Childhood Centre Bridget Armstrong (Centre Leader) (06) 863 0428
St Mary's School Helen McGuigan (Principal) (06) 868 8332
Campion College Paul McGuinness (Principal) (06) 867 9309

This Sunday's Readings:

Nehemiah 8:2-10

1 Cor 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Next Sunday's Readings:

Malachi 3:1-4

Hebrews 2:14-18

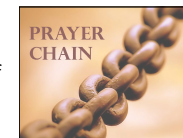
Luke 2:22-40

MASS OFFERING

Mass can be offered for Holy Souls, Thanksgiving, Special Intentions, needs or difficulties. Contact Elaine in the Parish Office to arrange to have a Mass offered for your intentions.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you need prayer, or want to be a Prayer Chain member (committing to pray for others), contact **Sister Cynthia** (06 868 6378) or **Shirley** (027 633 2320). The purpose of a prayer chain is to support one another, lift up our needs and hopes to God, and gain God's assistance through prayer.



THE HOLY ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed in the side chapel at 8.30am every morning, except on Fridays when it is prayed at 11.25am.

Date	Mass Times	Intentions	Feast / Saint
Sunday 26 January	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am (Sunday)	Parishioners' Intentions	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday 27 January			St Angela Merici
Tuesday 28 January	9am		St Thomas Aquinas
Wednesday 29 January	9am		
Thursday 30 January	9am	Patrick Ford (RIP) anniversary	
Friday 31 January	11am Holy Hour 12.10 pm		St John Bosco
Saturday 1 February	9am 6pm Vigil (Saturday)	Parishioners' Intentions	Memorial Blessed Virgin Mary & St Brigid's Day
Sunday 2 February	9am (Sunday)	Parishioners' Intentions	Presentation of the Lord

SUNDAY MASS AT OTHER CHURCHES —

Second Sunday: Sacred Heart, Tolaga Bay (11am)

Third Sunday: St James, Tokomaru Bay (11.30am)

Fourth Sunday: St Bede's, Matawai (11am)

CONFESSIONS —

Friday 11.25am

Saturday 9.30am

Or by appointment with one of the priests