



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23 February 2025

Ngā mihi ki a koutou. Challenging words in our Gospel today: “Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.” We live in an age that is (via social media) quick to judge, quick to condemn, and so, so slow to forgive. Let us dare to be different! Lent is beginning soon, with Ash Wednesday on March 5. The Bishops’ Lent Appeal envelopes are included with your newsletter this Sunday. Caritas explains: “We are only including one type of envelope - a Freepost single giving envelope which replaces the previous ‘giving pack’ of six weekly envelopes. We encourage you to donate online if possible, either through our website or via direct deposit. This helps us keep costs down, ensuring more of your support goes where it’s needed most.”

Thank you in anticipation for your support of Caritas.

Thanks to those who came to the Liturgy Preparation meeting last Thursday – it was very helpful.

Mass at **Matawai** this Sunday at 11am.

The **Parish International Evening** will take place this Friday (February 28) at 6pm, just before Lent, in the St Mary’s School Hall. I look forward to seeing you there!

Our thanks to the Catholic Women’s League for organising this for us all.

May God bless you all, and your families

Father Mark

Please bring back last year’s palms for this year’s ashes.

Father Mark Field <i>Parish Priest</i> 021 844 231 ppgisborne@gmail.com	Father Richard Cortes MSP <i>Assistant Priest</i> 027 236 6621 frrichardmsp@gmail.com	Rev. Mike Rolfe <i>Deacon</i> 027 344 5511
Parish Office Administrator: Elaine Clark <i>Office hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am—12.30pm</i>		
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ASH WEDNESDAY

We will have Mass on Ash Wednesday at 9am and 5.30pm. The schools will have their own liturgies outside of those times.

BINGO FUNDRAISER EVENT FOR THREE PARISH TEENS

Tickets for next Saturday’s Bingo Fundraiser will be available after Mass this weekend. The **\$15 entry ticket** gets you a free bingo card. There are great prizes from generous local business supporters. Spin the wheel raffles will also be happening. Contacts Rose Brown - 0274391275, Reena - 0212115791, Maria — 0273361093 and Aileen - 02102430334. The Parish’s continued support for **Aileen Arnaldo, Rafael Rivera and Santino Camero’s international pursuits** is greatly appreciated. Being held on **March 1**, the doors open 12.30pm and games start 1pm.

JUBILEE YEAR

One of the suggestions endorsed by Parish Council at their recent meeting was that we pray just the **first paragraph of the Prayer for the Jubilee Year** at the end of the Prayers of the Faithful, at each Sunday Mass.

**Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.**

STAR DEADLINE

The deadline for the March issue of the parish **STAR Magazine** is this Wednesday, February 26.

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

With new banking regulations being enforced there have been some issues for parishioners when attempting to make a donation online. Our bank account number remains the same BNZ 02-0342-0050016-004 . . . it is the account name that was the issue. Please ensure the bank account name is: **R.C.Bishop of Hamilton — Gisborne Parish**. Thank you.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EVENING

Tantalise your taste buds at the international evening celebrating the many cultures and nationalities in our parish community. Enjoy a **shared meal** with fellow parishioners this **Friday (Feb 28) at St Mary's School hall from 6pm**. Everyone is invited to bring along a dish representing their culture — spaghetti bolognese, butter chicken, noodles, Irish stew, paella, pico de gallo, satay, Yorkshire puddings, pavlova— whatever you like! The **Catholic Women's League** have organised this parish mixer to celebrate our diversity. Dancing and music performances will provide fun entertainment. Juices, tea and coffee will be available, but you are welcome to BYO. See you there!

SCAM BIBLE SOCIETY EMAIL CIRCULATING

Bible Society New Zealand has warned about a **fraudulent email** sent out asking recipients to click a DropBox link. This is a spam or phishing email. Please **delete** this email.

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE MAY 23-25 2025 AUCKLAND

Divine Mercy NZ is excited to be bringing back to New Zealand Fr Chris Alar MIC from the US plus several other international speakers. To support this important event in the Jubilee Year, please register at **www.divinemercuryconference2025.co.nz** — Pat Barrett 03 359 2087 info@divinemercury.co.nz

POPE IN HOSPITAL

Pope Francis had a peaceful sixth night in hospital on Friday where he is being treated for double pneumonia and he ate breakfast in an armchair. Pope Francis has developed pneumonia in both his lungs and his condition remains "complex", the Vatican says. Pope Francis, 88, expressed his gratitude to well-wishers and asked them to **"pray for him"**.

CATHNEWS NEW ZEALAND

The Bishops Conference this week launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. Sign up at <https://cathnewsnz.com>

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:

1 Samuel 26:2.7-9, 12-13.22-23
1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-28

Next Sunday's Readings:

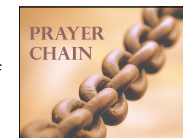
Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7
1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

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 23 February	6pm Vigil (Saturday)	Special Intention	Seventh Week of Ordinary Time
	9am (Sunday)	Parishioners' Intentions	
Monday 24 February			
Tuesday 25 February	9am		
Wednesday 26 February	9am		
Thursday 27 February	9am		St Gregory of Narek
Friday 28 February	11am Holy Hour 12.10 pm		
Saturday 1 March	9am	Melva Mary Atkins (RIP)	Mass of Our Lady Blessed Virgin Mary
	6pm Vigil (Saturday)		
Sunday 2 March	9am (Sunday)	Parishioners' Intentions	Eighth Week of Ordinary Time

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