



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

5 OCTOBER 2025

Our first reading this Sunday begins with the plaintive cry, “**How long, O Lord?**” Is this not a question most of us have asked countless times? It’s a question we ask when we’re weary, disappointed, or questioning how to keep the faith when we have lost the vision. Even the apostles who were with Jesus pleaded for increased faith. As we come to the end of the Season of Creation, it is a cry that we hear for the ongoing destruction of our common home, the earth we live in. We are reminded that it is our responsibility – we can’t just blame the big polluters or the warmongers. Let us ask for the Lord’s encouragement each time we gather – and every day.

Thank you to the **Josephite Companions** who have placed the needs of our created world before us once again. They remind us that creation will find peace when justice is restored.

Welcome back **Father Ritche!** It’s good to have you back with us again.

Tony Quirk’s Requiem Mass was celebrated on Tuesday – may he rest in peace. Our sympathy to the Quirk family, especially Robyn, his wife of 67 years.

Tom Heeney died last week also, and his funeral service was on Wednesday at the family home in Ruatoria, where Tom was surrounded by the love of his whānau. E moe, e te pāpā.

Best wishes for the **final term** to our schools, especially the Champion senior students who will leave so soon for their exam preparations.

Mass at Beetham Healthcare this Wednesday at 10.30am.

The Finance Committee meets this Wednesday also – another busy week!

Ma te Atua koutou e tiaki – may God watch over us all.

Father Mark

Father Mark Field

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ROSARY PROCESSION FOR PEACE

Let’s begin the month of the Rosary in a prayerful pilgrimage around the church and College grounds, praying for peace, this afternoon (Sunday) at 2pm.

RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

We will begin on Wednesday 15 October. So far we have two “inquirers”, Sophie and James. Please pray for them, and for the team who will lead them to deeper faith: Romano, Jim, Alphonsa, Father Ritche and Father Mark.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

The Marriage Enrichment Programme is taking place in our parish on **Saturday November 7**, beginning at 8am, and concluding at 5pm – four couples have expressed an openness to this formation opportunity. Please contact Father Mark if you would like to take part in the day, or have any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There is quite a lot happening between now and the end of the year. Make a note of these events on your calendar or in your diary:

- Sunday 19 October, 11.30am: Springtime Family Picnic, in the church grounds
- Thursday 30 October, 7pm: Cardinal John talks on his experience of the Conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV
- Saturday 8 November, 8am to 5pm: Marriage Enrichment Programme – contact Father Mark if you would like to take part
- Sunday 23 November, 2pm: Pilgrimage of Hope, starting from Reads Quay

BISHOP’S APPEAL

If you haven’t already done so, you can still give, to assist Bishop Richard in his pastoral care of the Diocese. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH CENTRE

Campion students are having retreats this week in the Parish Centre, and so it will not be available for other meetings or gatherings during the school day. We wish the students well for this special time together.

MOBILE PHONES

Please turn these off or on silent before Mass, out of courtesy for others, and to help us all to focus on the prayers and readings of the Mass.

HOME VISITS

If you would like a visit at home from one of the priests, please let them know.

PEACE WITH CREATION

This weekend marks the end of the Season of Creation for 2025. The Josephite Companions have erected a display in the foyer highlighting some of issues of the season.



PEACE WITH CREATION
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

If you would like to contribute in a practical way to advocating for peace with creation, Caritas Aotearoa have a petition you can sign to play a vital role in a global campaign for justice. The campaign highlights the urgent need for debt justice, especially for Pacific nations, many of which are now forced to borrow money to recover from climate disasters. Caritas is advocating for the international community to rethink how climate finance is delivered. You can sign the petition, **Turn Debt into Hope**, after Mass or go to this website for more information and sign online — <https://www.caritas.org.nz/turndebtintohope>

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE AGM

The CWL will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday October 16 in the Parish Centre at 1.30pm. This will be a chance for members to reflect on and celebrate their great work over the past year. Everyone is welcome!

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 (On Leave) (06) 867 9309

This Sunday's Readings:

Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4
2Timothy 1:6-8.13-14
Luke 17:5-10

Next Sunday's Readings:

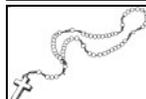
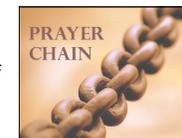
2Kings 5:14-17
2Timothy 2:8-13
Luke 17:11-19

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 every day before Mass.

Date	Mass Times	Intentions	Feast / Saint
Sunday October 5	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am (Sunday)	Sat 6pm: Darrin Berry (RIP) 9am: Parishioners' Intentions	27th Week of Ordinary Time
Monday October 6	No Mass		St Bruno
Tuesday October 7	4.30pm Adoration 5.30pm	Special Intention for Anne de Jong	Our Lady of the Rosary
Wednesday October 8	9am	Special Intention, Carol Hassan (RIP)	
Thursday October 9	9am	Chaffey/Rau family	St Denis & Companions, St John Leonardi
Friday October 10	11am Adoration 12.10pm 5.30pm	Fr Mark Field Syro Malabar Malayalam Mass	
Saturday October 11	9am		St John XXIII, Pope; Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday October 12	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am	6pm Vigil: Parishioners' Intentions 9am: Frances Baumann (Legion of Mary)	28th Sunday in 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 11.25 — 11.45am
 Saturday 9.30 — 10am
Or by appointment with one of the priests