



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

30th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

26 October 2025

Our readings for this 30th Sunday of Year C, focus on the themes of humility, persistence in prayer and true worship. The Gospel parable of the Pharisee and tax collector highlights that genuine prayer comes from a humble, contrite heart, not from self-righteous pride. Similarly, the Old Testament reading emphasizes God's attentive ear to the prayers of the poor and oppressed, and calls for love and reconciliation through Christ.

A few important points -

Humility: illustrated by the contrast between the Pharisee who boasts and the tax collector who pleads for mercy.

True worship: The readings challenge the idea that external observance of religious rules is enough. Instead, they point to the need for genuine, humble, and selfless heart in prayer and in our relationships with others.

God's love for the poor and oppressed: The readings from the Old Testament and the Gospel work together to show that God listens to the prayers of those who are mistreated and that true worship is rooted in a love that serves others.

Applying the readings to daily life.

Examine our own prayers: Are we approaching God with a humble heart, or are we, like the pharisee, focused on our own accomplishments and judgements of others.

Practise Humility: Recognise that all our gifts come from God and that we are vulnerable without Him. Avoid self – righteousness and a “holier-than-thou” attitude.

Be persistent in our faith: Don't give up on prayer or our commitment to God, even when we face difficulties or don't see immediate results.

Sow love for others: True love involves selfless sacrifice and working for the good of everyone, including our enemies.

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CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE AT MASS

St Vincent de Paul will be selling packs of Christmas cards for \$5 at the Saturday 6pm and Sunday 9am Masses.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The Legion of Mary have the 2026 Columban Art Calendars for sale at Mass so remember to bring cash. The price remains at \$15.

AN EVENING AT THE CONCLAVE

This Thursday, October 30, at 7pm – come and hear Cardinal John share his experience of the Conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV. Supper in the foyer will follow.

ALL SAINTS

Next Saturday, November 1 – Mass in the church at 9am.

ALL SOULS

Next Sunday, November 2 –

- Candles for those who have died in the past year will be lit at the 9am Miha Maori.
- A blessing of the graves at Taruheru Cemetery will take place at 2pm (weather permitting). Meet at the Sexton's Office.

SPRINGTIME FAMILY PICNIC

Thank you to all who came along – it was a great gathering of parishioners, young, old, and in between! Thank you to those who helped with setting up, cleaning up, supervising the “bouncy church”, face painting – and a special thank you to those who fed Father Ritche and Father Mark so bountifully. There is such a thing as a free lunch!

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

Roberto Ayo spoke about this at last Sunday's Masses – please contact Father Ritche or Father Mark if you would like to take part in the day. It is a wonderful opportunity.

MATAWAI

Mass at St Bede's today at 11am.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Carol Harris died recently and her graveside service was celebrated on Tuesday – we pray for the repose of her soul.

PEACE WITH CREATION

Holy Trinity Anglican Church is celebrating the Season of Creation during October in fellowship with other churches in the global Christian community. For info on upcoming events ring Frances on: 027 3333 100.

Wednesday October 29: Maunga/Mountain— Indigenous Theology— Most Reverend Don Tamihere (Anglican Archbishop)

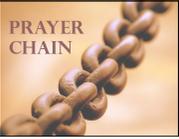
UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday November 8, 8am to 5pm: Marriage Enrichment Programme – contact Father Mark or Fr Ritche if you would like to take part
- Sunday Nov 23, 2pm: Pilgrimage of Hope, starting from Reads Quay

HOLY HOUR

There will be Mass this Friday at 12.10pm, but no Holy Hour beforehand, as Cardinal John will be celebrating the Leavers' Mass at Campion College earlier that day, and our priests will be concelebrating with him.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL A summary of the meeting will be in next Sunday's newsletter.

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			
<u>This Sunday's Readings:</u> <i>Eccl. 35:12-14.16-19</i> <i>2Timothy 4:6-8.16-18</i> <i>Luke 18:9-14</i>	<u>Next Sunday's Readings:</u> <i>Wisdom 3:1-6, 9</i> <i>Romans 8: 31-39</i> <i>John 14: 1-6</i>	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 26	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am (Sunday)	6pm Vigil: Special Intention 9am: Parishioners' Intentions	30th Sunday in Ordinary Times
Monday October 27	No Mass		Labour Day
Tuesday October 28	4.30pm Adoration 5.30pm	Special Intention	Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles
Wednesday October 29	9am	Special Intention	
Thursday October 30	9am		
Friday October 31	11am Adoration 12.10pm	Peggy Kauga (RIP anniversary)	
Saturday November 1	9am		All Saints' Day
Sunday November 2	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am Miha Maori 2pm Cemetery blessings	All Souls All Souls' Day	All Souls' Day The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
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 <i>Or by appointment with one of the priests</i>	

INVITATION TO A GOLDEN OLDIES SING-A-LONG

In gratitude for the use of the Parish Centre throughout the year the U3a Ukalodeons invite you to join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Date: **Sunday 16th November**
 Time: **1.30pm to 4pm**
 Venue: **Parish Centre**



Interested?

If so please text Sr Meg 021 027 87993 or leave your name at the Parish Office so we can ensure there's a seat and a cuppa reserved for you. 😊