



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

30 November 2025

Happy New Year! With the beginning of Advent, we begin a new Church year. The daily Mass readings during this season are very beautiful, and I encourage you to read them each day, even if you are unable to attend Mass. There is a certain urgency in today's readings – they encourage us to “wake up” and “be prepared”. Let's ask the Lord to rekindle our spiritual life during this Advent season.

Our church is 30 years old this week! We will have a special morning tea this Sunday morning to celebrate the life and worship which has taken place in this building opened on December 3, 1995.

There would normally be Mass in Ruatoria this 5th Sunday of the month, but as I am on my own, I won't be able to go there today. As well, I have a Board meeting at the College this Tuesday evening, so Mass on Tuesday will be at 9am. (No Adoration or Mass in the evening.)

A happy feast day to Campion College who celebrate the feast of the College patron, **St Edmund Campion**, tomorrow (Monday) with Mass in the church at 9.30am.

There is the opportunity for **Advent Reconciliation** this Friday evening. So . . . another busy week!

During these Advent days, let us pray for one another. We join with the people of today's first reading . . . “Let us walk in the light of the Lord!”

Father Mark

Father Mark Field

Parish Priest

021 844 231

ppgisborne@gmail.com

Father Ritche Maguinda SVD

Assistant Priest

021 172 0515

ritche.maguinda@gmail.com

Rev. Mike Rolfe

Deacon

027 344 5511

Parish Office Administrator: Elaine Clark *Office hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am—12.30pm*

Parish Church and Office: 51 Campion Rd, Te Hapara, GISBORNE 4010

Postal: PO Box 844, GISBORNE 4040

Phone: (06) 8677 224

Email: stellamaris003@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysgisborne.co.nz

Facebook: Tairawhiti Catholic

STAR MAGAZINE

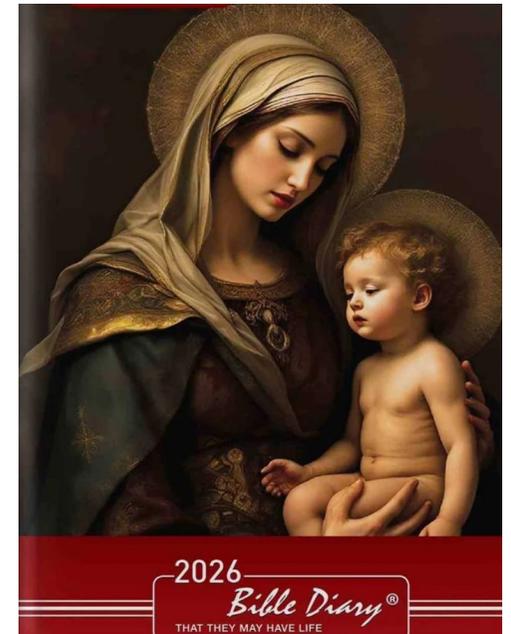
Any material for the next issue (the final for 2025) is due tomorrow, December 1st. You can email the editors at starmagazinegisborne@gmail.com

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Pa Gerard Paterson will be visiting next weekend, and so he and Father Mark will be available for Reconciliation this Friday evening, 5 December, 5.30pm to 6.30pm. This is the only special opportunity for Reconciliation before Advent, but the usual times for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation will continue.

SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Advent Reflections: \$5 per copy – a few copies remaining;
Bible Diaries: \$20 per copy; Daily Mass Diaries: \$5 each. Cash is preferred, but you can deposit into the parish bank account instead – please put Advent Ref, Bible Diary or Daily Mass as the reference. Alternatively, use the EftPos machine and give us the receipt.



HAPPY FEAST DAY

Tomorrow (Monday 1 December)

is the feast day of St Edmund

Campion, the patron of our College. There will be Mass in the church at 9.30am. All are welcome.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Elaine will be away for some of this week, and the Parish Office will be closed Tuesday to Thursday. All enquiries and newsletter items to Father Mark.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Next Saturday, Acacia Andrada-Kahukoti is to be baptised at St Mary, Star of the Sea. We pray that Acacia always knows that she is a beloved daughter of God.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve

Vigil Mass, **6pm**

Mass During the Night, **10pm**

Christmas Morning

9am at St Mary, Star of the Sea

11am at Tolaga Bay



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 414. (By way of comparison, the figure for 2024 was 398, and 2023 was 300.) Our thanks to those who carried out the Mass count at each of the Masses – one of those chores that needs to be done.

MORE COLUMBAN CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED

For those who missed out, the Legion of Mary have 8 more Columban Calendars available for \$15. Get them from Elaine in the office.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 IN SEOUL?

Expressions of Interest for World Youth Day 2027 are being taken. Please complete the form here. <https://tinyurl.com/ycxyxfvn>
For a world view visit <https://wydseoul.org/en>

DO YOU HAVE A YEARNING TO FOLLOW HIM AS ONE OF HIS PRIESTS?

Come - join Bishop Richard as he, Fr Adam and Fr Isaac lead a weekend retreat (Fri –Sun Dec 5 to 7) to help you discern your vocation. Contact the vocations team for registration: vocations@cdh.org.nz

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:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:37-44

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-9

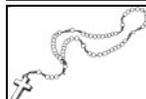
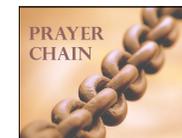
Matthew 3:1-12

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 **Chris Crowe** (027 2838936). 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 November 30	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am (Sunday)	6pm Sat: Special Intention 9am Sun: Parishioners' Intentions	1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Monday December 1	9.30am		St Edmund Campion
Tuesday December 2	9am		
Wednesday December 3	9am	Laurie & Nancy Gray (RIP)	St Francis Xavier
Thursday December 4	9am		St John Damascene
Friday December 5	11am Adoration 12.10pm		
Saturday December 6	9am	Carl Cooper (RIP 1st anniversary)	St Nicholas
Sunday December 7	6pm Vigil (Saturday) Sunday 9am	6pm Sat: Special Intention 9am: Parishioners' Intentions	2nd Sunday of Advent

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