



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7 December 2025

Ngā mihi o te Wā ki a koutou kātoa. I hope your Advent journey has started well.

John the Baptist appears in our Gospel today, crying out in the desert, and calling us to prepare the way of the Lord. Don't forget to behold the many ways the Lord appears to us in these Advent days.



A special welcome to **Pā Gerard Paterson** – nau hoki mai, e Pā. Father Gerard is known to many here, but, for our newer parishioners, Pā was an assistant priest and a former parish priest of Gisborne. It's good to have you visiting us this weekend, in your capacity as Vicar for Maori in our Diocese.

Last Wednesday evening, we had an enjoyable social gathering of the Parish Pastoral Council, the Finance Committee and other ministry leaders in the parish. I am grateful to the assistance they give to me in administering the parish.

Bishop Richard has invited all the priests to gather in Te Awamutu on Tuesday for the blessing of the graves, and to remember especially Bishop Tākuira Māriu, on the 20th Anniversary of his death on 12 December 2005. (Because of this, there will not be Adoration or Mass this Tuesday.)

Lessons at Campion College have finished for the year, and St Mary's School has its Thanksgiving Mass [this Friday at 11am](#). There will not be Holy Hour or 12.10pm Mass this Friday, but parishioners are welcome to join with the children in giving thanks for the blessings of the year.

No Mass at Tolaga Bay next Sunday – but there will be a Christmas Day Mass there at 11am.

During these Advent days, let us continue to pray for one another.

Father Mark

Father Mark Field

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Deacon

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STAR MAGAZINE

Congratulations to Heather and Ron Stallmach on the December edition of our parish magazine, the first under their editorship. Thank you for this important work of service in our parish.

SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Advent Reflections: \$5 per copy – a few copies remaining

Bible Diaries: \$20 per copy

A REQUEST

If you bring someone to church who is not of our faith, please ensure that they know how to ask for a blessing at Communion so that there is no confusion. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve

- 6pm Vigil Mass
- 10pm Mass During the Night

Christmas Morning

- 9am at St Mary, Star of the Sea
- 11am at Tolaga Bay

Christmas Mass times around the Diocese can be found at: www.cdh.org.nz/christmas-mass-2025



PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE

A handmade envelope with money and no name was placed in the collection last Sunday. Could the person concerned contact the office for a

“giving

number” so that a tax receipt can be issued at the end of the financial year?

Thank you for your generosity.

HOME TO RENT

Three-bedroom home to rent. Contact 021 021 65483.

LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

Try **Saintly Gift** www.saintlygift.com (based in Auckland)

Or **Pleroma** www.christiansupplies.co.nz (based in Hawkes Bay)

MASS CHANGES THIS WEEK

- + No Mass Tuesday
- + Mass on Friday at 11am – no Holy Hour beforehand
- + No Mass at Tolaga Bay next Sunday

FROM FATHER RITCHE

Father Ritche emailed during the week: “My family is fine, thank you. The construction of their humble house is still on going. But it is almost done. The problem is, the carpenter is also very busy. Kindly send my regards to our dear parishioners.”

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

This coming Friday is the 20th anniversary of the death of **Bishop Max Tākuira Māriu**. Bishop Max was a frequent visitor to Gisborne when he was Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese, and would have confirmed a number of our young parishioners (who will now be in their 30s!) He is buried among his people of Tūwharetoa. E moe, e te Pīhopa – rest in peace.



MORE COLUMBAN CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED

For those who missed out, the Legion of Mary have a few more Columban Calendars available for \$15. See 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>

A NEW PARISHIONER LOOKING FOR BOARD

Harry is a 30 year old Catholic with a work visa for his mechanical engineering job here in Gisborne. Quiet but friendly, clean and tidy, respectful and thoughtful of others. Non-smoker, non-drinker. Good (or excellent) verbal reference available. If you have a room available, contact Father Mark for more information.

CAROLS EVENING

Next Sunday, 14 December, at 7pm at St Andrew’s Church.

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 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Next Sunday’s Readings:

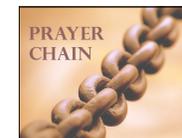
Is 35:1-6,10
James 5:7-10
Matt 11:2-11

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 December 7	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am Miha	6pm Sat: Special Intention 9am Sun: Parishioners’ Intentions	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Monday December 8	No Mass		Immaculate Conception
Tuesday December 9	No Mass		St Juan Diego
Wednesday December 10	9am	Trevor Coker RIP	
Thursday December 11	9am		
Friday December 12	11am St Mary’s School Thanksgiving Mass 6pm Syro-Malabar Mass	Peter Toye RIP Christeen Robinson RIP	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Saturday December 13	9am		Saint Lucy
Sunday December 14	6pm Vigil (Saturday) Sunday 9am	6pm Sat: Parishioners’ Intentions 9am: Mick & Mary Rofe RIP	THIRD 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