



# PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME *18 January 2026*

Ngā mihi o te Tau Hou. Happy New Year.

Last Sunday we celebrated the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Our own baptism calls us to be faithful and fruitful disciples – every day. This Sunday we begin Ordinary Time once again, for just four weeks, until Lent begins, quite early this year, on February 18. Our response to the psalm this Sunday is, “Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.” May that be our inspiration as disciples of the Lord during this 2026 year.

Our celebration of Christmas was wonderful, and our Dawn Mass on the beach on New Year’s Day was well-attended—thank you to all who make these special liturgies go so well. These Sundays without musicians remind us of how blessed we are with the quality of music in the parish. We hope our musicians are having a good break.

It was good for me to have a few days away after New Year and I am grateful to Father Ritche for “holding the fort”.

No Mass in Tokomaru Bay today, nor is there Mass at Matawai next weekend.

Two dates for your diaries – the pōwhiri for Karyn Sadler as she takes up the principalship of Campion College will be on Monday 2 February at 11am; and the Commissioning Mass for the staff of our Catholic early childhood centre, school and college will be on Tuesday 24 February at 3.15pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend both of these.

Best wishes for 2026 to you all – and every blessing

*Father Mark*

### Father Mark Field

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Deacon

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

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## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

- + Our sympathy to the Gillies family on the death of their beloved mother, **Flora** – may she now rest in peace.
- + We offer sympathy to David Harvey on the death of his wife, **Anne Milner-Harvey**, after a long illness
- + **Marie MacIntosh** died at Christmas and her family held a private funeral for her last week.

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

We rejoice in the baptism of a number of children over the summer break, and we pray that they always know that they are beloved children of God:

- Castiel Koa Nepe Sarcia-Apatu
- Calix Koata Nepe Sarcia-Apatu
- Natalie Hope Lazo
- Tamara Te Whai Ao Tipene
- Noah Manaakitanga Tipene

## ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

**1:** Accommodation required for a new **Religious Education teacher** starting at Campion in 2026. A room with an ensuite would be ideal, or alternatively a studio unit for a male, and preferably close to school. Please email [namalaq@gmail.com](mailto:namalaq@gmail.com) or contact Chris Goodwin at [chris.goodwin@campioncollege.school.nz](mailto:chris.goodwin@campioncollege.school.nz)

**2:** A 34-year-old occupational therapist starting at Gisborne Hospital soon is looking for accommodation as a flatmate, boarder or tenant of a small flat or granny-flat. She is doing the RCIA programme and would prefer to stay with a Catholic family with a quiet space. Contact Cindy on 027 384 7660.

## BIBLE DIARIES

Only a handful of Bible Diaries still available from the foyer or from Elaine in the Parish Office, \$20 per copy.

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS

A small number of these are also available from the Parish Office at \$15 each.

## WHEN RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Please respond “Amen” or “Āmene” when receiving Holy Communion, and consume immediately. Do not take the Eucharist back to your seat – that is not our practice.

For those not receiving, please indicate that you seek a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Once again, if you bring a person who is not of our faith to Mass (and that is a wonderful thing to do), please explain this to them.

Thank you for your reverence.

## REMINDER

- During the month of January, there is no Holy Hour in the parish.
- No Mass at Matawai next Sunday

## LEGION OF MARY MEETING TODAY

The Legion of Mary are meeting this afternoon (Sunday 18 January) at 4pm in the Parish Centre to plan their year. You are welcome to join them, or come along to find out about the work of the Legion.

## MESSAGE FROM POPE LEO FOR THE NEW YEAR

*(From the Angelus, January 1)*

Dear brothers and sisters, happy New Year! ...

The Saviour comes into the world by being born of a woman. Let us pause to adore this event, which shines forth in Mary Most Holy and is reflected in every unborn child, revealing the divine image imprinted in our humanity... Let us all pray together for peace: first, among nations bloodied by conflict and suffering, but also within our homes, in families wounded by violence or pain. Certain that Christ, our hope, is the sun of justice that never sets, let us confidently implore the intercession of Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church.



*Mass at Dawn, New Year's Day*

## 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** Karyn Sadler (Principal) (06) 867 9309

### This Sunday's Readings:

*Isaiah 49:3, 5-6*  
*1 Corinthians 1:1-3*  
*John 1:29-34*

### Next Sunday's Readings:

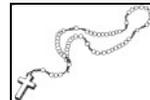
*Isaiah 8:23-9:3*  
*1 Cor 1:10-13, 17*  
*Matthew 4:12-23*

### **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 before Mass.

Date	Mass Times	Intentions	Feast / Saint
<b>Sunday January 18</b>	6pm Vigil (Saturday)  9am	Vigil: Special Intention  9am: Parishioners' Intentions	SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
<b>Monday January 19</b>	No Mass		
<b>Tuesday January 20</b>	5.30pm	Special Intention	St Fabian, Pope St Sebastian
<b>Wednesday January 21</b>	9am	Special Intention	St Agnes
<b>Thursday January 22</b>	9am	Special Intention	St Vincent
<b>Friday January 23</b>	12.10pm	Dragica Zacic RIP and Zvonko Filkovic RIP	
<b>Saturday January 24</b>	9am		St Francis de Sales
<b>Sunday January 25</b>	6pm Vigil (Saturday)  Sunday 9am	Flora and Iain Gillies RIP Parishioners' Intentions	THIRD SUNDAY 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 11.25 — 11.45am  
 Saturday 9.30 — 10am  
*Or by appointment with one of the priests*