



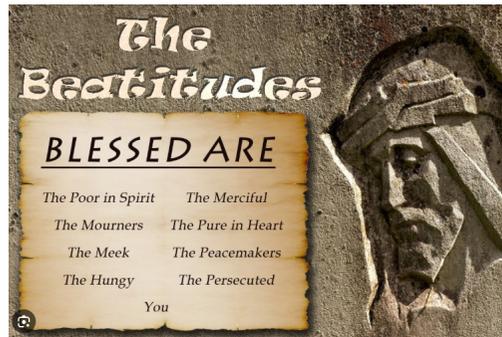
PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 01 FEBRUARY 2026

Welcome to the Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time. This week, in the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches that blessedness comes from being merciful, pure in heart, and peacemakers, rather than through material success or power. The Beatitudes are not merely a set of rules but a call to adopt a new way of living that elevates kindness and tolerance over self-interest. Qualities, which if I may say so, are sadly in very short supply in our current times.

Zephaniah also reminds us of this when he calls for a “remnant of people who are humble, reverent, and seek refuge in the Lord”. This reading from him calls for humility in God’s people. St Paul reminds us God purposefully chooses the foolish, weak, and lowly to confound the wise and powerful, ensuring that all glory belongs to God.



So, the question is, can we accept Jesus’s invitation to live out the Gospel in our daily lives one small, faithful act at a time? Or perhaps the more telling one is, can we afford not to?

Deacon Mike

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CONGRATULATIONS

A Nuptial Mass was celebrated last Saturday afternoon for the marriage of **Tausilia McClutchie and Pelasio Filo**. The couple were, of course, surrounded by the love of many family and friends, and the ceremony was marked by a fine and prayerful blend of cultures. Our best wishes to them in their life together.

COMING UP

For your diaries:

- The **pōwhiri** for Karyn Sadler as she takes up the Principalship of Campion College is tomorrow (Monday 2 February) at 11am
- Father Ritche will celebrate the **Campion College Investiture Mass** this Thursday at 11am
- Our **Parish Ministry Fair** will be on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, 14/15 February, in the church foyer
- **Ash Wednesday** is on February 18
- The **Commissioning Mass** for the staff of our Catholic early childhood centre, school and college will be on Tuesday 24 February at 3.15pm
- The **Diocesan Catholic Women’s League Conference** will be held in our parish on Thursday 5 March

WAITANGI DAY

Waitangi Day (Friday) is a public holiday and so Mass will be at 9am. The Parish office will be closed.

HOLY HOUR

Holy Hour and Adoration begin again this week after our break in January: **Tuesday 4.30pm and Friday 11am.**

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL

St Mary's Primary School returns for 2026 on Tuesday February 3. Don't forget Waitangi Day on Friday February 6 is a public holiday.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

Mass at 9am tomorrow (Monday). Our church candles for the coming year will be blessed at this Mass - bring your candles from home also if you wish.

TWO MIR PILGRIMAGES PLANNED FOR MEDJUGORJE THIS YEAR

Join a MIR pilgrimage to Medjugorje in 2026. Two departures tentatively planned for the first two weeks in June and October. Take the opportunity to extend your stay in Europe post-pilgrimage. Expressions of interest are welcome by using the contact form on: www.pilgrimage.nz or emailing: info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz

WANTED FOR A SCHOOL PROJECT

Do you have any small test pots of Resene COLOURED paint lying around? If so please give to Sr Meg or drop into the school or parish office. Very many thanks in advance.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

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.

NEW MEETING DATE FOR LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary now meets on Sundays at 4pm in the Parish Centre. New members are welcome



to come along. We pray the Lord's blessing upon them and thank them for their spiritual and pastoral ministry in our parish.

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

<u>This Sunday's Readings:</u>	<u>Next Sunday's Readings:</u>	MASS OFFERING
<i>Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13</i>	<i>Isaiah 58:7-10</i>	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.
<i>1Corinthians 1:26-31</i>	<i>1Corinthians 2:1-5</i>	
<i>Matthew 5:1-12</i>	<i>Matthew 5:13-16</i>	

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
Sunday February 1	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am	Special Intention Parishioners' Intentions	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Monday February 2	9am		The Presentation of The Lord
Tuesday February 3	5.30pm	Brent Gillard RIP	St Blaise St Ansgar
Wednesday February 4	9am		
Thursday February 5	9am		St Agatha
Friday February 6 (Waitangi Day)	9am	Sofija Lasic (RIP)	
Saturday February 7	9am		St Paul Miki and Companions
Sunday February 8	6pm Vigil (Saturday) Sunday 9am	Iain and Flora Gillies (RIP) Parishioners' Intentions	FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY MASS AT OTHER CHURCHES —	CONFESSIONS —
Second Sunday: Sacred Heart, Tolaga Bay (11am)	Friday 11.25 — 11.45am
Third Sunday: St James, Tokomaru Bay (11.30am)	Saturday 9.30 — 10am
Fourth Sunday: St Bede's, Matawai (11am)	Or by appointment with one of the priests