



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

EASTER SUNDAY

5 April 2026

Nga mihi o te Aranga ki a koutou katoa – a happy and a holy Easter to you all. The event that we celebrate today lies at the centre of our faith, and defines who we are as Christians. *Resurrexit sicut dixit* – He has Risen, as He said that He would. Let us rejoice in the new life that Easter brings, and leave behind fear, doubt, animosity and all that holds us back from embracing the new life that Christ gives to us, today and every day.

Let us remember Pope Leo as he celebrates his first Easter as our Holy Father – may the light of the Risen Christ continue to shine through him, and may he know the Lord's strength in his ministry to the Church.

A special welcome to our new Catholics—Chrystal, Sophie, James, Ryu and Malvareena; and to those who are now fully initiated into our faith – Song, Janine, Sio and Cindy. May you always feel at home in the Church at St Mary, Star of the Sea, or wherever you may be.

Although we relax somewhat after the rigours of Lent (and rightly so!), I do encourage you to take time to read the daily Mass readings through this Easter season – they are simply stunning.

I thank all who have contributed in any way to the ceremonies this Easter weekend, and wish you and your families every blessing. If you are travelling, we pray you do so in safety. School people – have a great holiday!

On behalf of Father Ritche and Deacon Mike, I wish all families a blessed, safe and joyful Easter.

Remember – we are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song! May we continue to journey in faith and courage where our Risen Lord leads us!

Yours in the Risen Christ

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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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◇ The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday.
- ◇ There will not be a newsletter next Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL—FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS

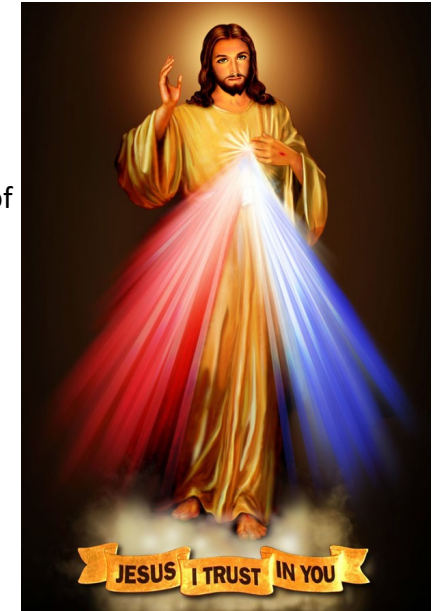
Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

MASS AT BEETHAM HEALTHCARE

There will be Mass at Beetham Healthcare on Wednesday 15 April at 10.30am. Please pray for our elderly parishioners.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY — APRIL 12 at 3PM

Divine Mercy Sunday, (the Sunday after Easter), is a feast day dedicated to celebrating God's mercy. It offers the "greatest promise of grace", where Catholics who attend confession and receive Holy Communion in a state of grace can obtain total forgiveness of sins and punishment—essentially resetting the soul to a state of baptismal innocence. Everyone is welcome to attend the concluding prayers for the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm (or five minutes earlier) to recite/sing the Chaplet and concluding prayers. Divine Mercy Sunday began through the 1930s revelations of Jesus to St Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who recorded requests for a feast dedicated to God's mercy on the Sunday after Easter. Pope John Paul II officially established the feast for the universal Church on April 30, 2000, upon canonizing St Faustina.



FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

Please bring flowers today (Sunday) so our children can place flowers on The Cross. There will be a basket in the foyer for your blooms.



PLEDGE ENVELOPES FOR 2026

If anyone did not receive their pledge envelopes please call Elaine at the parish office on (06) 8677 224 or 027 529 6786.

PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registrations are open for the three-day Pilgrimage of Mercy being held at the St Francis Retreat Centre in Auckland from May 29 to 31. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4berb6aj>

JOSHUA 40-YEAR CELEBRATION

All men are invited to the Joshua 40-Year Celebration Weekend being held from Friday August 14 to Sunday August 16 at Keswick Christian Camp, 5 Cooper Ave, Holden's Bay, Rotorua. The keynote speaker is leader of Australia's menAlive and author of "Importance of a Present Dad", Robert Falzon. The \$247 cost includes accommodation and meals. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/ykwnprmn> or contact Mike Lobo (021) 2809285 or Greg Sullivan (021) 437747

REBUILD MY CHURCH: DR MARY HEALY

In June, internationally renowned Catholic theologian **Dr Mary Healy** will be in Hamilton for a three-day formation series, *Rebuild My Church*, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Known around the world for her engaging teaching on Scripture and the Holy Spirit, Dr Healy helps people hear God's voice more clearly and grow in confidence in the gifts He gives for the building up of the Church. Everyone is warmly invited to the **three-night series (June 9–11)** exploring the power of God's Word, the life of the Holy Spirit, and our call to live our faith today. To register go to - <https://tinyurl.com/yvetp549>

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:

Acts 10:34. 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-9

Next Sunday's Readings:

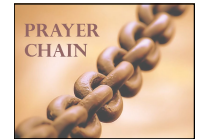
Acts 2:42-47
1Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

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
Sunday April 5	7pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am	Vigil: Iain & Flora Gillies Parishioners' Intentions	EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Monday April 6	5.30pm	Syro Malabar Malayalam Mass — Fr Thomas	Monday within the Octave of Easter
Tuesday April 7	5.30pm	Helen Murray (RIP)	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
Wednesday April 8	9am	Robin & Mary Jefferson (RIP)	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
Thursday April 9	9am	Wynsley Wrigley	Thursday within the Octave of Easter
Friday April 10	12.10pm	Peter Toye (RIP)	Friday within the Octave of Easter
Saturday April 11	9am		Saturday within the Octave of Easter
Sunday April 12	6pm Vigil (Saturday) Sunday 9am	Vigil: Nina Ganal (RIP 10th anniversary) 9am: Bernie & Joan Thompson (RIP)	2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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