



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

13TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

June 28th 2026

Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa. I want to begin by acknowledging Father Ritche who has taken care of the parish so capably during my time away, and to those who have assisted him, especially Father Alliston, Elaine Clark in the office, and Mark O'Sullivan, looking after the buildings and grounds – and all who contribute in any way to the life of this great parish.

It's good to be home again! I had a wonderful time away, challenging at times, but full of great experiences and encounters. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have a sabbatical time to breathe, to reflect, to pray and to explore new places.

My thanks to the **ALPHA team** who have completed the pilot programme in the parish, and now prepare to launch the full programme next month. This is a big undertaking, and a great opportunity for our parish. I encourage you to take part – whether you are younger or older, new to the parish or have been here for a long time, firm in faith or struggling at times. If you're not sure, bring someone else with you.

Youth Mass this Saturday evening – our thanks to those who encourage our young people in their faith. Mass at **Matawai** this Sunday at 11am – wear your winter woollies!

Finally, Jesus reminds us in the Gospel today of our need to take up our cross – for those who are carrying a heavy cross at this time – in sickness, struggling in faith, in sorrow, in loneliness, in grief, may you know the Lord's strength and encouragement through the community gathered around you this Sunday. God bless you all

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MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Louise Shields died recently after a long illness and was farewelled at a funeral service earlier this week. Father Ritche was able to anoint Louise before she died – may she now be at peace in the Lord's loving arms.

CONGRATULATIONS

Some parishioners will remember **Father David Gledhill SM (Pā Rāwiri)** who regularly ministered in our parish, especially in the East Coast communities. Father David celebrated his 60th anniversary of ordination on Friday, and some of our parishioners travelled to Levin to be with him. For his many years of faithful service in the Lord's vineyard, we pray God's continued blessing upon Pā Rāwiri.

WELCOME HOME FR MARK

Welcome home Fr Mark. Parishioners have enjoyed following your pilgrimage on the Tairawhiti Catholic Facebook page. You have probably inspired some to follow in your footsteps on the Camino de Santiago Trail.

END OF TERM

The school term ends this week – we pray that our young people and those who care for them have a restful and safe winter break.

CAMPION COLLEGE YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Mass is this Saturday night (June 27) and will be followed by the Campion College Youth Group. The numbers are growing each month and the introduction of a sausage sizzle went down a treat in May.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BANKING CHANGE

St Vincent de Paul has a new bank account for those preferring online banking. It is SVDP Bay of Plenty Area Council 02-0506-0378043-011. Cash donations are collected in the foyer after Mass on the second Saturday & Sunday of the month. The charity spends about \$1000 a month on groceries for food parcels, so every little bit helps.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Parish Finance Committee met on Wednesday, and reviewed our income and spending over the past two months. There has been a noticeable increase in people using the EFTPOS machine, which is interesting, and may reflect a trend away from carrying cash. Whatever the reason, we are grateful for your support of the parish. Our thanks to the members of the Committee: Aaron Brown (Chair), Jim Langer, Kevin Parker, Corin Heath and Father Mark – with Elaine Clark, as Minutes Secretary. Father Ritche also joins the meetings as an observer.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION THIS WEEK

The 2026 Peter's Pence collection—the annual global appeal supporting the Pope's charitable activities and apostolic mission—officially takes place **today**, Sunday, June 28. The collection is an ancient tradition dating back to the 8th century, allowing the faithful to participate directly in the Pope's activity as Pastor of the universal Church. Funds are primarily distributed in two ways: **Humanitarian Initiatives**: Providing immediate relief to victims of war, oppression, natural disasters, and the refugee crisis. **Support of the Holy See**: Funding the broader apostolic work of the Vatican, including evangelization, diplomatic efforts, and aid for struggling local dioceses. Your support is appreciated.

ALPHA IS FOR EVERYONE

Nau mai, haere mai ki Alpha. You're warmly invited to Alpha—a place to share a meal, meet new people, ask questions, and explore the Christian faith in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Whether you're curious about faith, returning to the Church, new to the parish, or simply looking for connection and conversation, Alpha is for you. On Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm, from July 23 – September 24, 2026, at Campion College (Marcellin 1). Register at the sign-up table before or after Mass, or via alphagisborne@gmail.com, or by scanning the Alpha QR code. Everyone is welcome. We would love you to join us.



WORLD YOUTH DAY INFO NIGHT POSTPONED

The Hamilton diocese WYD info night will now be on July 26. It will be held at the Blessed Virgin Mary Cathedral in Hamilton after 6pm Mass.

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:

2Kings 4:8-11, 14-16
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11
Matthew 10:37-42

Next Sunday's Readings:

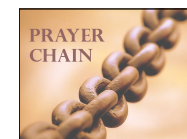
Zechariah 9:9-10
Romans 8:9, 11-13
Matthew 11:25-30

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 027 2586378) 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 June 28	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am Sunday	6pm: Rosalie Campbell (RIP) 9am: Parishioners' Intentions	THIRTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME
Monday June 29	NO MASS		Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles
Tuesday June 30	5.30pm	Charles Rau (RIP anniversary)	The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Wednesday July 1	9am	Nicholson Family	
Thursday July 2	9am	John Thomas & Neethu Varghese (19th wedding anniversary)	
Friday July 3	12.10pm	Gennie Arahill	St Thomas, Apostle
Saturday July 4	9am	Thanksgiving Mass	St Elizabeth of Portugal, Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday July 5	6pm Saturday Vigil 9am Sunday	Iain & Flora Gillies Parishioners' Intentions	FOURTEENTH WEEK 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