



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

16TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

July 19th, 2026

A feast of parables in our Gospel today. About the first parable, Pope Francis said the following in 2020:

“Alongside God — the master of the field — who only and always sows good seed, there is an adversary, who sows weeds to impede the wheat’s growth. The master acts in the open, in broad daylight, and his goal is a good harvest. Instead, the other, the adversary, takes advantage of the darkness of night and works out of envy and hostility to ruin everything. The adversary whom Jesus refers to has a name: it is the devil, God’s quintessential opponent. His intention is to hinder the work of salvation, to stonewall the Kingdom of God through wicked workers, sowers of scandal. Indeed, the good seed and the weeds do not represent good and bad in the abstract, but we human beings, who can follow God or the devil. Many times we have heard of a peaceful family, and then war or envy begins . . . a neighbourhood that was peaceful, then nasty things begin to happen . . . And we are used to saying: “Someone went and sowed weeds there”, or “That person in the family sows weeds by gossiping”. Destruction always happens by sowing evil. It is always the devil who does this, or our own temptations: when we fall into the temptation to gossip to destroy others.”

We continue to pray for one another, that we will sow the seeds of God’s goodness and light in all we do and say.

Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki—may God bless you all.

Father Mark

Father Mark Field

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Rev. Mike Rolfe

Deacon

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Parish Office Administrator: Elaine Clark

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Facebook: Tairawhiti Catholic

ALPHA

The ALPHA programme begins in our parish this Thursday evening. Thirty-two have signed up to take part, which is a good response. We wish the leadership team and participants well. We are sure you will sow good wheat in the field of our parish! May God bless you all. (Meanwhile, the Junior Alpha programme continues at the College – wonderful!)

RCIA

We have a number of people who have expressed interest in taking part in the Enquiry Period to explore the Catholic faith – you might know someone who is also interested in becoming a Catholic? Why not invite them? It’s not too early – we will begin the next programme in October.

MASS CHANGES

Father Ritche and Father Mark are away for the earlier part of this week at a clergy meeting in Hamilton. (Please contact Father Mark in the case of an emergency.) Because they are away, the following changes will occur:

- No Mass in Tokomaru Bay today
- Tuesday: No Liturgy at Ryman; no Adoration or Mass
- Wednesday: Liturgy of the Word with Holy Hour, 9am. (Our thanks to Sister Meg.)

NEW TERM

Best wishes to staff and students for the new school term – thank goodness we had some good weather in the second week of your holidays! May Jesus our teacher be your strength and inspiration throughout this new term.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION & BANKING CHANGE

St Vincent de Paul will be collecting cash donations after church this Saturday night and Sunday morning. SVDP has a new bank account for those preferring online banking. It is SVDP Bay of Plenty Area Council 02 -0506-0378043-011. Money will be collected in the foyer after Mass this weekend. SVDP spends \$1000 a month on groceries for food parcels, so it all helps.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS YOU

Join our phone roster team
Once every 4-5 weeks / even from home
Easy / helpful / practical / rewarding
Call Patrick (027) 335 5873



LAY MINISTERS REMINDER

Community Lay Ministers of Communion will meet on Tuesday, July 21, at 2.30pm.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 KOREA

Expressions of Interest for WYD27 are being taken now. Register here:

www.cdh.org.nz/wyd2027

NEW ONLINE SITE ABOUT FAITH

Pat McCarthy, former editor of *NZ Catholic* newspaper, has just launched an online publication looking at Catholic beliefs and practices. Ever wondered how the Last Supper evolved into today's Mass? Or the purpose of church music? Is there an algorithm for a successful marriage? Does spirituality without religion make sense? Should we take the Bible literally? <https://fathomingthefaith.substack.com> (it's FREE).



Stella Maris Catholic Early Childhood Centre

Located next door to St Mary's School, Campion Road

Vacancies available

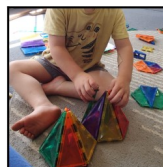
If you or you know of any families that would like their 2, 3 or 4 year olds to attend Stella Maris we have positions available this year, please visit us and find out more information.

We look forward to meeting you

44 Campion Road, Gisborne

Our website:

www.stellamaris.cdh.nz



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:

Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43

Next Sunday's Readings:

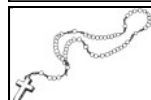
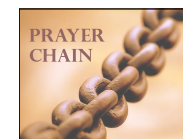
1 Kings 3:5,7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

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 July 19	6pm Vigil (Saturday) 9am Sunday	Parishioners' Intentions Eileen Parker (RIP Anniversary)	SIXTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME
Monday July 20	NO MASS		St Apollinaris
Tuesday July 21	NO MASS		St Lawrence of Brindisi
Wednesday July 22	9am: LITURGY OF THE WORD (Communion)		St Mary Magdalene
Thursday July 23	9am	Warren Barry (RIP)	St Bridget
Friday July 24	12.10		St Sharbel Makhlef
Saturday July 25	9am		St James, Apostle
Sunday July 26	6pm Saturday Vigil 9am Sunday	6pm Vigil: Mick Rofe (RIP Anniversary) Parishioners' Intentions	SEVENTEENTH 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