



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

13 September 2026

My name is Nhat, and I am originally from Vietnam. It is a great joy and privilege for me to spend some time here in this parish in Gisborne and to have the opportunity to meet and share life with the parish community.

I was born and raised in a Catholic family with a strong faith that has been passed down through several generations. My family has played an important role in nurturing my faith and supporting me throughout my vocation journey. I am very grateful for their love, prayers, and encouragement.

I come from Huong Khe, in Ha Tinh Province, in central Vietnam. It is a beautiful part of the country, although it is often affected by storms and heavy weather, especially from September to November. I have been living in New Zealand for more than three years now, and I am currently in my third year of seminary formation. I am studying theology and preparing, with God's grace, for the priesthood.

In my free time, I enjoy music, especially playing the piano and the organ. I also enjoy meeting people, having conversations, and learning about different cultures.

Please keep me in your prayers as I continue my seminary formation and discern God's call in my life. I will also remember you and your parish in my prayers.

Thank you for welcoming me!

Nhat Cao



Father Mark Field

Parish Priest

021 844 231

ppgisborne@gmail.com

Father Ritche Maguinda svd

Assistant Priest

021 172 0515

ritche.maguinda@gmail.com

Rev. Mike Rolfe

Deacon

027 344 5511

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

Parish Church and Office: 51 Campion Rd, Te Hapara, GISBORNE 4010

Postal: PO Box 844, GISBORNE 4040

Phone: (06) 8677 224

Website: www.stmarysgisborne.co.nz

Email: stellamaris003@gmail.com

Facebook: Tairawhiti Catholic

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Margaret-Ann Smith died last weekend and her Requiem Mass was celebrated on Thursday. May she rest in peace. Margaret-Ann was the sister of Judy Lynch—our sympathy to Judy and all of the family. We were all saddened to hear of the tragic death of **Terry Donovan**, and his Requiem was celebrated on Friday. His passing will leave a big gap in our parish—all the small things he did with great love. Our sympathy to Terry's family—with them we say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

KITCHEN DOOR

The **code** is available for parishioners – speak to Elaine or one of the priests. Please ensure that all the doors into the kitchen are locked after use.

OCIA

Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic? Why not invite them? We will begin the next programme in mid-October. A good number have already expressed interest.

CONFIRMATION

A great celebration last Sunday—thank you to all who contributed in any way.

THIS WEEK

- Father Mark and Nhat will travel to **Tolaga Bay** for Mass today
- Anointing at **Ryman** on Tuesday, 1.30pm
- **Parish Pastoral Council** meets after Mass on Tuesday evening
- Mass at **Beetham** on Wednesday, 10.30am

RECEIVING COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE

It was our intention to offer the Precious Blood from the beginning of this month, but concern at the high level of influenza in the community meant that we delayed the reintroduction of the chalice. We will aim for next weekend, September 19/20.

BRING CASH FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION NEXT SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Cash donations are collected in the foyer after Mass on the second Saturday & Sunday of the month, which is this weekend. "Vinnies" spends about \$1000 a month on groceries for food parcels, so every little bit helps. Please give generously.

Bank details: SVDP Bay of Plenty Area Council 02-0506-0378043-011. Society of St Vincent de Paul AGM will be held on today, (Sunday September 13) after the 9am Mass. Anyone interested in Vinnies' work is warmly welcome.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE SALE

Save the date: Sunday, September 20

The CWL will be hosting their Annual Courtyard Sale after Mass next Sunday, September 20. Parishioners are encouraged to donate baking, plants and crafts to this good cause. Come along with cash and treat yourself to some goodies and a sausage sizzle. Money raised goes to the parish's three education centres Campion College, St Mary's and Stella Maris.



SEASON OF CREATION

Runs from through September to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi). In this season, Christians worldwide unite in prayer and action to protect the environment and care for creation. See the display in the foyer for more information.



PARISH CENTRE

Please make sure that any spillages in the oven are cleaned up. Thanks

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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:

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

Next Sunday's Readings

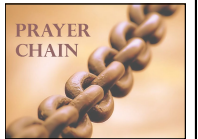
Isaiah 55:6-6
Philippians 1:20-24, 27
Matthew 20:1-16

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 September 13	6pm Vigil 9am Sunday	Parishioners' Intentions Rhian (RIP)	24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Monday September 14	NO MASS		The Exaltation of the Cross
Tuesday September 15	5.30pm	Kelvin Summersby (RIP)	Our Lady of Sorrows
Wednesday September 16	9am	Peter Toye (RIP) Terry Donovan (RIP)	Sts Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian
Thursday September 17	9am	Stephen Melville (RIP anniversary)	St Robert Bellarmine, St Hildegard of Bingen
Friday September 18	12.10	Robin & Mary Jefferson (RIP)	
Saturday September 19	9am	Stuart Cross (RIP anniversary)	St Januarius, Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday September 20	6pm: Saturday 9am: Sunday	Parishioners' Intentions Bernie & Joan Thomson (RIP)	25th SUNDAY IN 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