



PARISH OF ST MARY, STAR OF THE SEA, GISBORNE

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 27, 2026

In this Sunday's second reading, St Paul reminds us of our Christian calling: "Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus". . . and then, of course, put it into action!

This Sunday we commemorate in a special way Servant of God **Suzanne Aubert**, the foundress of the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion – and hopefully our first saint (formally canonised, that is). We continue to pray to God for Michael's healing, and our Novena will conclude this Thursday, October 1st, the 100th anniversary of the death of Mother Aubert. (Other parishes are celebrating this on October 4th, but we will focus on the end of the Season of Creation that day, as well as blessing the statue of Saint Francis that we have placed in the courtyard.)

Our **Catholic schools** enjoy a break for two weeks – I hope students and staff have a restful holiday.

Father Richard Pipe will celebrate Mass at Matawai this Sunday at 11am – thank you, Father Richard.

Father Ritche has been helping out in a parish in Auckland, but will return to us this Thursday. Finally, with October, the month of the Holy Rosary beginning this week, we will have our Rosary Procession next Sunday, October 4th, at 2pm. All are welcome. May God bless you all



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ALPHA

The parish Alpha programme concluded last Thursday evening—thank you to all who took part. A special word of thanks to **Sue Baker** who has cooked a meal for 40 people every Thursday for the past 10 weeks (and for the pilot programme before that!) Thank you also to those who regularly assisted Sue (Heather, Emma, Damya and KC). A special word of thanks also to **Tamin and Denzil Simmer** whose vision it was to run the programme once again in our parish, and to **Chris Goodwin**. Finally, to all the leaders and participants—well done! (There will be a full report in the December STAR magazine.)

NOVENA TO MERE HOHEPA — SUZANNE AUBERT

Please keep praying to God for the healing of **Michael Fraser**, a student at Campion College who is being treated for cancer.

ELECTION—FROM OUR BISHOPS

The Bishops remind us that the Catholic Church does not endorse or support any political candidate or party. To maintain political neutrality, party political materials, including leaflets, posters and similar promotional items, must not be displayed, distributed or otherwise made available on Church premises. This extends to any digital platforms. Party political campaigning or promotional activity is likewise not permitted on Church property . . . Thank you for your cooperation in helping our parishes remain welcoming places for all in the community.

THIS WEEK

- School holidays have begun — have a good break everyone!
- Mass at Matawai today at 11am — Father Richard Pipe will say this Mass
- Next Sunday — blessing of the St Francis statue in the courtyard after Miha Māori at 9am.

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH

Next Sunday **Luchia Wilson-Tatana** and **Kian Ngaro** will be baptised — may they always know that they are beloved children of God. Kia kaha kōrua i roto i te whakapono!

ROSARY PROCESSION

Wednesday is the beginning of October, the month of the Holy Rosary, and we will have our parish Rosary Procession next Sunday beginning at 2pm. (If it is raining, we will pray in the church.)

LEIGHTON HOUSE LITURGY

We have been asked if we would be able to lead an ecumenical liturgy at Leighton House once a month, on the 4th Thursday of each month, at 2.30pm. It would consist of hymns, readings, prayers, but would not be a sacramental liturgy. If you think you could be part of a team to lead these, please let Father Mark know. It would be great if there could be a musician on the team. (We will begin on Thursday 22 October.)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR REFUGEES & MIGRANTS TODAY

This is a day when the Church throughout the world prays for refugees and migrants and takes active steps to ensure they are welcomed, protected and have their human rights upheld. More than 117 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide according to the United Nations, and almost 40 percent of refugees are children. We entrust all migrant and refugee children to the maternal protection of Mary, who with Saint Joseph and the Infant Jesus knew the hardship of exile.

GREAT SUPPORT FOR COURTYARD SALE

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated their time, money and skills to our annual Courtyard Sale last weekend. The Catholic Women's League fundraise to support our Mission work, and last weekend's efforts raised over \$1,100 which will be going towards the money we give to Campion College, St Mary's Primary School and Stella Maris Early Childhood Centre.



IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

This month's Tui Motu magazine is dedicated on the Season of Creation. For those interested in the theology of ecology, this publication is well worth reading. The closing blessing from the Tui Motu team is one to embrace,

"Bless us with humility to learn respect for our planet and know our path of action for Earth as the common home for God's intention."

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:

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

Next Sunday's Readings

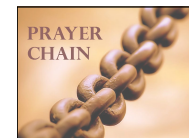
Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

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 27	6pm Vigil 9am Sunday	Darrin Berry (RIP anniversary & birthday) Parishioners' Intentions	26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Monday September 28	NO MASS		St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions; St Wenceslaus
Tuesday September 29	5.30pm	Jo Gavin (RIP Anniversary)	Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels
Wednesday September 30	9am	Special Intention	St Jerome
Thursday October 1	9am	Special Intention	St Therese of the Child Jesus
Friday October 2	12.10pm	Derek Allan (RIP)	The Holy Guardian Angels
Saturday October 3	9am		Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday October 4	6pm: Saturday 9am: Sunday	6pm: Thanksgiving Mass Parishioners' Intentions	27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME St Francis of Assisi

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