



Sixth Sunday of Easter, 10 May 2026

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

This Sunday at St Thomas More, the children preparing for the Sacraments will celebrate their Second Reconciliation in preparation for next Sunday (17th May), when they will receive their First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers as they continue this important journey of faith.

REST IN PEACE, FR SOJAN'S UNCLE

Please also remember in your prayers Fr Sojan's uncle, Joseph, who has died in India. May he rest in peace and come to see God face to face.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

On Pentecost Sunday at the 10.00 am Mass at St Thomas More, a small group of children will receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Let us also pray for these children and their families, and that many more will begin their journey of faith and grow into full and active members of the Church.

Kind regards,
Fr Eamon

SEMINARY APPEAL 2026

You will find a brochure in the foyer titled Seminary Appeal 2026 – Hope Grows Here, which explains how you can contribute and why your support is so important. At present, we have four seminarians in formation, and your generosity helps make their journey possible. Thank you in advance for your prayerful and financial support in helping to form future priests for our diocese.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND TAX RECEIPTS

Planned Giving envelopes are now available for collection from the foyer at St Thomas More. If your envelopes are missing, please contact the Parish office by email or phone.

Tax receipts have been emailed out. If you have not received yours, please contact the Parish by email.

MESSY FAMILY PROJECT

We are so excited to be welcoming Mike and Alicia Hernon from the Messy Family Project to our diocese this May. If you've ever wondered how to build a strong family life in the middle of the everyday mess... this is for you. Their talk on Growing a Family Culture is all about the reality of family life — how the small, often unseen things in our homes shape our children, our relationships, and the kind of family we become. Not through perfection, but through intention. They'll be sharing five key elements that help create a family culture that is strong, faith-filled, and lived out day by day.

St Thomas More Catholic School Gathering Space, Mount Maunganui – Thursday 14 May, 7.00pm

Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Hall, Hamilton – Friday 15 May, 7.00pm. All are welcome - no registration required.

GROUP OF PARISHIONERS VISITING RESIDENTS

At Bishop Richard's encouragement in the **Easter Kete Kōrero**, you are invited to consider becoming part of a group of parishioners who visit residents in one of our local care homes.

This is a new initiative, involving approximately two hours a week, or as you are able. Many residents in care homes have few, if any, visitors, and their interactions with staff are often brief and practical. The aim is simply for volunteers to spend time in the lounge, perhaps sharing a cup of coffee and chatting with those who are present in a quiet and respectful way. A listening ear is the only requirement.

If you are interested, please call 027 227 8325 or email dobsoncl@xtra.co.nz to express your interest. Lorraine Dobson.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR CHILDREN

This programme is for families who are interested in their children becoming members of the Catholic Church. It is designed for children over the age of 9 who have not been baptised as Catholics.

Lessons will begin Sunday June 21st and will run through until after Easter 2027. If you are interested in enrolling your child or learning more about this programme, please contact Heidi at: pastoral@allsaintsbythesea.nz

500 CARDS

We play 500 each Wednesday in the Church centre 1 pm – 4 pm. You are welcome to join us. Contact Barbara 572 4962 or 027 216 9066.

CALLED AND GIFTED

The Holy Spirit has gifted each of us with charisms – spiritual gifts given for the service of others and the mission of the Church.

Called and Gifted is a prayerful and practical process that helps participants discern how God is inviting them to serve through the unique gifts He has given them. Rooted in Scripture and the Church's tradition of discernment, this workshop offers time for prayer, teaching, reflection and discussion.

We are excited to gather at St Mary Immaculate Church, Tauranga, on 25 June 2026. Contact alisonc@cdh.org.nz

RCIA – RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Have you or someone you know asked about 'Becoming a Catholic'?

Do any of these describe you?

- . Are you interested in learning more about Christianity and the Catholic Church?
- . Are you a baptised Catholic who has not yet received First Holy Communion or Confirmation?
- . Are you married to a Catholic and attend Mass, but just do not know what the next step may be in becoming Catholic?
- . Would you like to better support your children at a Catholic school?

Come and join us. Please express your interest by contacting Heidi Nield (Faith Formation Coordinator) 5754807 Ext 6 or Email: pastoral@allsaintsbythesea.nz

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Is held every **Tuesday at 6.00 am** in the Parish Lounge. All men are welcome.

AA: Do you, or someone you love, have a problem with alcohol?

Alcoholics Anonymous meet STM Parish Lounge every **Sunday 6.30–7.30pm**. All welcome.

FORMED.ORG: A premier, online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, cartoons, audio dramas, eBooks and talks – and it is FREE for every parishioner. **Please Note:** New Parish Login **Search: Parish of St Thomas Aquinas, Tauranga, New Zealand**

ROSARY is held at 9.00 am on Mondays (no 9.00 am Mass) & Tuesday to Saturday after the 9.00 am Mass at STM Church.

PUBLIC ROSARY Every Wednesday at 6.00 pm, outside STM Church. For more information, please see <https://public-rosary.org/https://t.me/NZPrays>

ADORATION & BENEDICTION is held on Wednesday at STM Church after the 9.00 am Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is Wednesday & Saturday 9.30 am (after the 9.00 am Mass)

PARISH OFFICE: Ph 07 575 4807 (Ext 2)

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Parish Priest: Fr Eamon Kennedy

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Assistant Priest: Fr Sojan Abraham

sojancmf@gmail.com

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Heidi Nield

pastoral@allsaintsbythesea.nz

WEB: www.allsaintsbythesea.nz www.facebook.com/catholiccoast/

APP: Churchappsnz – Allsaintsbythesea

St Thomas More Catholic School, Mt Maunganui 07 574 6782

Suzanne Aubert Catholic School, Papamoa 07 777 0438

Donations to: R.C. Bishop of Hamilton – Mt Maunganui Parish 02-0342-0050016-001
Or via ChurchAppsNZ

Masses for this coming week: Tues, 12th May to Sun, 17th May

St Thomas More Catholic Church

9 am Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Leo Warn (RIP)
9 am Wednesday Sr. Alba Grace (Final Vows)
9 am Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lovatt (RIP)
9 am Friday
9 am Saturday
10 am and 5 pm Sunday

Sunday readings: Sixth Sunday of Easter, 10th May 2026

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17, Psalm 66, 1st Letter to Peter 3:15-18, John 14:15-21

St Patrick's Catholic Church Te Puke

5.00 pm Saturday Vigil

Suzanne Aubert School, Papamoa

8.30am Sunday

St Peter's Catholic Church Maketū

11.30am (2nd Sun of month) & Liturgy (3rd Sun of month)

If you wish to have a Mass offered, contact the parish office & if you have a particular date that you would like the Mass offered, please "book" the Mass well in advance.