



5th Sunday of Lent, Sunday 22nd March 2026

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and messages following the recent death of my Dad. My family and I have been deeply touched by the love and concern shown by parishioners during this sad time.

A special thank you to Fr Sojan for his support and for stepping in to take care of parish duties, it is very much appreciated.

Rite II Reconciliation for Lent
Wednesday 25th March, 7.00pm
St Mary Immaculate, Tauranga

Kind regards,
Fr Eamon Kennedy

BISHOPS' LENTEN APPEAL: The New Zealand Bishops are encouraging the Catholic community to prayerfully consider how they can contribute to the annual Lenten Appeal. The appeal supports the work of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, which through its global network serves some of our world's most vulnerable and needy communities. The Bishops explain that acts of Christian charity can change the lives of those who benefit from that charity, but also can transform those who give with generosity — according to their own circumstances. Find out more at www.caritas.org.nz/lent

GOSELS OF LENT ONLINE: Parishioners are warmly invited to take part in the Lent Webinar Series 2026, a six-week national online journey with New Zealand's Catholic Bishops. Through prayer, reflection and sharing, Caritas and the Bishops of Aotearoa invite you to join us for a journey through Lent, in the light of the Gospel and the needs of our world. Hear what the Lord is asking of us in our moment of time. Each session includes guided reflection, insights from Catholic social teaching, and moments for quiet contemplation as we prepare our hearts for Easter. **To register, simply scan the QR code on the poster or visit the Caritas website www.caritas.org.nz/lent-webinars**

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Our Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Drive continues. Your kindness makes a real difference to local families.

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN PARISH, GATE PA: Come and join us for a contemplative service based on the music of the Taize Community.
Palm Sunday, 29 Mar at 7pm. 1 Church Street, Tauranga.

DIAMOND JUBILEE - THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF WELLINGTON SOUTH

All former and current parishioners are invited to a celebration of several historical milestones on **Sun, 19 April 2026**. The first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on 17 April 1966, 60 years ago.

The weekend of celebration will also acknowledge 100 years since the opening of the St Madeleine Sophie primary school, the forerunner of the current primary school of St Francis de Sales. A special Mass of remembrance and thanks featuring past and present priests will be followed by a lunch at the Pines Cabaret, Houghton Bay.

Registrations of interest are welcomed by providing contact details at:
office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

BOARD VACANCY CATHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Bishop Richard is looking to fill a vacancy on the Catholic Family Support Services governing board with someone who is passionate about supporting families in need. This is a voluntary governance role. The board meets approximately six times per year and attendance at meetings can be either in person or electronically. Application is by way of an introductory letter outlining your background and experience including any governance experience, although the latter is not essential. **Applications close on Fri, 27 March 2026** and should be emailed to John Coulam at: johnc@cdh.org.nz

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Is held every **Tuesday at 6am** in the Parish Lounge. All men are welcome.

ARE YOU BEING ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL?

If you are admitted to Tauranga Hospital and would like to be visited by a hospital chaplain and or receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know so this can be arranged. Please also ensure you enter on the Hospital Admittance form that you are a Roman Catholic.

EASTER CEREMONIES

Cathedral of Blessed Virgin Mary - Hamilton

Chrism Mass: Tuesday 31st March 1.00 pm

St Thomas More - Mt Maunganui

Holy Thursday (Last Supper) 2nd April 7.00 pm

Good Friday 3rd April 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil 4th April 7.00 pm

Easter Sunday 5th April 10.00 am and 5.00 pm

St Patrick's - Te Puke

Holy Thursday (Last Supper) 2nd April 7.00 pm

Good Friday 3rd April 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil 4th April 7.00 pm

Suzanne Catholic School

Easter Sunday 5th April 8.30 am

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 9am on Mondays (no 9am Mass) & Tuesday to Saturday after the 9am Mass at STM Church.

PUBLIC ROSARY Every Wednesday at 6pm, 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 9am Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is Wednesday & Saturday 9.30am (after the 9am Mass)

PARISH OFFICE: Ph 07 575 4807 (Ext 2)

9-1 pm Tue-Fri

admin@allsaintsbythesea.nz

17 Gloucester Rd, Mt Maunganui 3116.

Parish Priest: Fr Eamon Kennedy

freamonkennedy@gmail.com

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: Churchapps.nz – 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 ChurchApps.nz

MASSES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: Tues, March 24 to Sun, 29 March 2026

STM Church

9am Tues

Mr & Mrs Frank Fearon - RIP

9am Wed

Fergus & Dorothy O'Meeghan - RIP

9am Thurs

Dawn Cole – RIP

9am Fri

Graeme Mercer - RIP

9am Sat

10am & 5pm Sun

SUNDAY READINGS Passion Sunday, 29th March 2026

Procession of Palms: Gospel. Matthew 21:1-11

1st Isaiah 50:4-7, 2nd: Philippians 2:6-11, Gospel. Matthew 26:14-27,66

St Patrick's Te Puke

5pm Sat Vigil (Reconciliation at 4.30pm before the 5pm Mass)

Suzanne Aubert School, Papamoa

8.30am Sun

St Peter's 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.