



## **3rd Sunday of Lent, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

*Dear Parishioners and Friends,*

This week, our secretary, Deearn Strawbridge, will be leaving her position. We extend our sincere gratitude to Deearn for her service to our Parish. We pray that God grants her and her family abundant blessings for the future.

On a personal note, I ask for your prayers for my father, Francis Kennedy, as he approaches the end of his life. I also ask that you remember my family in your prayers during this difficult time that God may sustain us.

Kind regards,  
*Fr Eamon Kennedy*

### **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. Smaller bags are now available kindly donated by Fresh Choice Papamoa.

### **Diamond Jubilee - The Catholic Parish of Wellington South**

All former and current parishioners are invited to a celebration of several historical milestones on Sunday, 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](mailto:office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org)

**Pilgrimage of Mercy Women's Retreat** with Sr Kat Stone MGL (Melbourne Australia) 29th -31st May 2026. St Francis Retreat Centre, Auckland. Bookings: <https://book.venue.life/stfrancis/register/pilgrimage-of-mercy-womens-retreat>

## Join a group pilgrimage to Medjugorje from 05-18 June 2026

Experience 'Medjugorje In-Depth' with a 10-night stay in the Holy Valley in the company of Our Lady, Queen of Peace. Expressions of interest are welcome.

**Booking now:** [www.mirpilgrimages.co.nz](http://www.mirpilgrimages.co.nz)

Email: [info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz](mailto:info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz)

Phone Patricia on 027 35 25 217 for further information.

## Join our Bishops and other people of faith to explore the Gospels 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](http://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-webinars)



### Come join us for Youth Group!

This Sunday is a social night so come dressed fit for some games and fun!

Who: anyone in year 7 to year 13

When: Sunday weekly from 5pm to 7pm (during the school term)

Where: Saint Mary Immaculate Kitchen area

Parents: Please scan the QR code to register your child

Contact Jess on 0212481133

## Holy Days is out in cinemas

If you are wondering whether it could make a good parish fundraiser, read a review here.

<https://hail.to/catholic-diocese-of-hamilton/article/PuYICXZ>

This review will be included in Clearly for February which is out now.

## Journey with us this Lent!

Our parish is joining the nationwide Lent Webinar Series 2026 with New Zealand's Catholic Bishops. Each session offers guided reflection, insights from Catholic social teaching, and space for prayer and connection.

 11 March  7:30pm – Online 

Theme: The Woman at the Well | I am He with Bishop Steve Lowe

## **Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary Men's Rosary**

Calling all men to gather and pray for the conversion of New Zealand!

**Where:** Steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**When:** Saturday, 7 March 2026, 12:00 pm

**Recurring:** Every first Saturday of the month

**Contact:** Bruce 021 556 227

## **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>

## **Men's Prayer Group**

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous

**MEETING:** STM Parish Lounge every

**Sunday** 6.30–7.30pm. All 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.

## **MARRIAGE PREPARATION:**

Newly engaged? Visit <https://www.cdh.org.nz/marriage> for helpful information, available marriage preparation course dates and to register your interest.

**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) admin@allsaintsbythesea.nz  
9-1 pm Tue-Fri 17 Gloucester Rd, Mt Maunganui 3116.  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Eamon Kennedy freamonkenedy@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:** Churchappsanz – 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 ChurchAppsanz

**MASSES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: Tues, March 10 to Sun, 15 March 2026**

### **STM Church**

9am Tues Olga Kazmierczak- RIP  
9am Wed William, Margaret Hancock & Family-RIP  
9am Thurs Joseph & Catherine Hegan-RIP  
9am Fri Mr & Mrs H.F. Stevens & Family-RIP  
9am Sat  
10am & 5pm Sun Frank Begley-RIP 5PM

### **SUNDAY READINGS 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:1.6-7,10-13, Ephesians 5:8-14 Gospel: John 9:1-41**

### **St Patrick's Te Puke**

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

### **Suzanne Aubert School**

8.30am Sun  
11.30am **Maketū** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of month) & Liturgy (every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of month at 11.30am)

*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.*