



Pentecost Sunday, 24th May 2026

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

PENTECOST

The feast of Pentecost reminds us of our need to call on the Holy Spirit to help us in our daily lives. The Holy Spirit wants us to call on Him for assistance and guidance, as we pray the ancient prayer: *"Come, Holy Spirit."* It is a very powerful prayer to say over and over again. This prayer invites the Holy Spirit to come into our lives and into our hearts.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR CHILDREN

This Sunday, on the feast of Pentecost, at the 10.00 am Mass at St Thomas More, a small group of children will receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. Let us pray for these children and their families, and that many more children will begin their journey of faith and grow into full and active members of the Church.

A big thank you to Heidi Nield for coordinating the Sacraments of Initiation for Children programme, and to the team of helpers who have taught these children throughout the year.

FR SOJAN IS GOING ON HOLIDAY

Fr Sojan Abraham is heading away this week for a well-deserved holiday back home to see family and friends. We wish Fr Sojan a restful and peaceful holiday and look forward to welcoming him back in seven weeks' time. God bless you, Fr Sojan.

FINANCIAL REPORT

This Sunday the Finance Council presents the financial report for the Parish. Many thanks to parishioners who generously give each week and support the Parish financially. We are very grateful, and the Parish is totally dependent on your generosity.

We also thank the members of the Finance Council, who meet monthly and generously give their time and talents in service to the Parish. Thank you for your dedication and support.

NEW SECRETARY

This week we welcome Maria Lucia Da Silveira as our new secretary. We also thank Mary-Pat Kengmana, who has been relieving in the parish office since Easter, and Julie Orsler, who has also helped in managing the office. I am very grateful to you both and thank you for your assistance. It has been very much appreciated.

Kind regards,
Fr Eamon Kennedy

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.

WANTED CATECHISTS – RCIC (Sacraments of Initiation)

Are you interested in joining a ‘team of catechists’ in helping teach children in the Catholic Faith? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Heidi for further information at pastoral@allsaintsbythesea.nz

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. 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

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.

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

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Young Catholic lady 35years of age starting a job on 25th May, 2026 at 15th Avenue in Tauranga, is looking for accommodation/ fully furnished room or unit. Thank you FYI- Rent, electricity and water included as her budget is only \$250. Please contact Lisa 021 2061515

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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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, 26th May to Sun, 31st May

St Thomas More Catholic Church

9 am Tuesday Special Intention
9 am Wednesday Marion Drake & family (RIP)
9 am Thursday Linton Wright & Family (RIP)
9 am Friday Patricia Friedman (RIP)
9 am Saturday Josephine Fernandes (RIP)
10 am and 5 pm Sunday

Sunday readings: Pentecost Sunday, 24th May 2026

Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 104, 1st Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13, John 20:19-23

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.