



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

### **CONDOLENCES**

With sadness we inform you that Fr Eamon's beloved father, Francis Kennedy, passed away on Sunday, 8 March. The Funeral Mass was held at St Joseph's Church, Morrinsville, on Thursday, 12 March.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Fr Eamon and his family and keep them in our prayers during this time of grief. May the Lord grant eternal rest to Francis.

### **LENTEN RITE II RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

During the season of Lent, the Church invites us to return to God with sincere hearts. In his Lenten message Pope Leo XIV reminds us that reconciliation is a path of renewal, where we experience God's mercy and begin again with hope. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful opportunity to receive God's forgiveness and healing love. As a parish family, let us take this grace-filled time of Lent to reflect, repent, and return to the Lord. Confession brings peace to the soul and restores our relationship with God and one another. Everyone is warmly encouraged to take part in this sacrament during Lent.

**Date: Friday, 20 March**

**Time: 7:00 PM**

**Venue: St. Thomas More Church**

**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)**

**CWL BRANCH MEETING: Thu, 19 March at 10am.** Report from Gisborne Conference. Please bring an item for upcoming raffles and money for a raffle.

### **SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**

Making a Difference This Lent. Because of your support, 80 families received nutritious food boxes this week through the Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Drive. Thank you for helping us live our Lenten call to charity - please take a bag after Mass to keep helping those in need.

**WORKING BEE AT ST PATRICK'S TE PUKE: Sat, 21 Mar at 9am.** Bring your garden and cleaning tools to wash down outside paintwork, tidy garden and paved areas, clean windows, mop floors, high dusting and brass cleaning. Bring tough gloves if you are able to assist with rearranging pews on St Joseph's side of the church. Thank you.

**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](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.

## **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 27 March** and should be emailed to John Coulam at: [johnc@cdh.org.nz](mailto:johnc@cdh.org.nz)

## **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 meet 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.

**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) admin@allsaintsbythesea.nz  
9-1 pm Tue-Fri 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:** 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, March 17 to Sun, 22 March 2026**

**STM Church**

9am Tues Ernest Rossiter - RIP  
9am Wed Guy & Mary Reece - RIP  
9am Thurs Agnes Janissen – Special Intention  
9am Fri  
9am Sat  
10am & 5pm Sun

**SUNDAY READINGS 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Ezekeil 37:12-14, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 8:8-11, Gospel: John 11: 1-45**

**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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of month) & Liturgy (3<sup>rd</sup> 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.*