



## **Third Sunday of Advent, Sunday 14 December 2025**

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

### **New Parish Secretary**

I am happy to announce that we have a new Parish Secretary, Deearn Strawbridge. Please keep Deearn in your prayers as she begins this important role in the parish and ask that God abundantly bless her and her family. I would also like to thank the Finance Council for assisting me in the appointment process.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Julie Orsler, who has been managing the office while we searched for a new secretary. Thank you, Julie, for your service to the parish, it is very much appreciated.

### **Catechumens**

This weekend, a small group of children who have been preparing to become Catholic will be enrolled as Catechumens as part of their journey of faith during the 10.00 am Mass at St Thomas More. A special thank you to Heidi and her team of helpers who teach and support the children. We cannot run these programmes without such wonderful people.

Kind regards,  
Fr Eamon Kennedy

**SCRIPTURE FOCUS THIS ADVENT:** NZCBC in collaboration with Fr Frank Bird invites you to prepare for Sunday Mass by reading and reflecting on the Scripture we will hear that weekend. Marist priest Fr Frank Bird has for several years been helping people make those preparations through his Living the Word project. As the name suggests, Living the Word is an invitation for Catholics and others to allow the Word of God to shape their lives. You can download the resources, and access other rich content, at [www.livingtheword.org.nz/pray](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz/pray)

**"CALLED BY NAME" CATHOLIC YOUTH CAMP:** for 11-13 year olds. Join us at Waitawheta Camp for a summer adventure. Make friends, deepen your faith and have a break from Mum and Dad! **January 18-21, 2026.** More info and registrations here: <https://www.eventzilla.net/e/called-by-name-2026-2138677969>  
Or text CAMP to 0274279921 for details.

**ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL SURVEY:** We are creating a new strategic plan for 2026 – 2028. To help create this vision, we would be grateful for your voice. As members of wider Catholic whānau, your perspective on what we value and our future aspirations is incredibly important. We warmly welcome your thoughts and ideas. You can complete a hardcopy of our survey and pop it in the collection box in the church foyer, bring it over to the school office, or you can access the survey online: [\[Click Here for our Online Survey\]](#). Consultations close **Fri, 19 Dec**. Thank you for your partnership.

**SITUATIONS VACANT:**

**FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL NZ** is seeking an Operations Manager to support the daily operations of our pro-life, pro-family mission. Ideal for someone with strong organisational abilities, solid business skills, and a heart for service. To express interest contact Michelle Kaufman [michelle@fli.org.nz](mailto:michelle@fli.org.nz) or visit [fli.org.nz/join-our-team](http://fli.org.nz/join-our-team)

**CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE – THREE PART-TIME ROLES:**

The Catholic Enquiry Centre (an agency of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference) is expanding its digital outreach in 2026 and is seeking passionate, faith-filled people to join the team:

- Digital Ministry Specialist (Content & Platform) – oversee CEC’s website and social media, creating content that helps people explore faith.
- Digital Ministry Specialist (Media Production) – create short videos, testimonies, and reels introducing Catholic faith and traditions.
- Resource & Enquiry Support Officer – respond to enquirers and coordinate the dispatch of printed resources across Aotearoa.

All roles are part-time (0.4 FTE) and may be remote or Wellington-based. Expressions of interest to [carly@catholicenquiry.nz](mailto:carly@catholicenquiry.nz) by **Fri 9 Jan 2026**. Roles may be filled sooner for the right candidates.

**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH: CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

The Diocese is looking to recruit a Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to lead a passionate and committed team and be a key strategic partner in shaping the future of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. For a full Candidate Brief please email [applications@cdoc.nz](mailto:applications@cdoc.nz). To apply, click on the following link on [SEEK](#) or attach your cover letter and CV to [applications@cdoc.nz](mailto:applications@cdoc.nz) with ‘Chief Financial Officer Job Application’ in the subject line.

Applications close 11.59pm Thursday 15 January 2026. For more information please phone Annette Pugh on 03 378 3647.

**CARDS/500:** Last day for the year **Wed, 17 Dec at 12.30pm**, restart **Wed, 7 Jan at 12.30pm**. All card players welcome. Further inquires Barbara Jansen 572-4962.

### **CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER FOR ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL:**

Order your Christmas Tree through our School PTFA! Trees will be delivered in the second week of December. The trees range from 5.5ft to 7ft and will be the same price at \$70 each. The trees are lovely and come beautifully shaped. The school will receive \$15 from every tree sold. All proceeds will go towards new chrome books for our students. To order your tree, please email our PTFA - [ptfa@stm.school.nz](mailto:ptfa@stm.school.nz) - thank you for your support.

**MIR PILGRIMAGES TO MEDJUGORJE IN 2026:** Two departures tentatively planned for the first two weeks in **June and October 2026**. Take the opportunity to extend your stay in Europe post-pilgrimage. Expressions of interest are welcome by using the contact form on: [www.pilgrimage.nz](http://www.pilgrimage.nz) or emailing: [info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz](mailto:info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz)

### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025:**

#### **Christmas Eve**

**Please note:** There will be no 9.00am Mass at St Thomas More on 24 December. Christmas Carols will be sung before each Mass.

St Patrick's, Te Puke: Vigil 5.00pm

St Peter's, Maketū LITURGY: 5.30pm with Christmas story. Carols: 5.00pm

St Thomas More, Mt Maunganui: Vigil 6.00pm & 9.00pm

#### **Christmas Day**

Suzanne Aubert, Papamoa: 8.30am

St Thomas More, Mt Maunganui: 10.00am

#### **New Year's Day**

St Peter's Church, Maketū LITURGY: 10:00am

#### **St Peter's Church, Maketū**

Shared lunch after Miha Māori at St Peter's Catholic Church, Maketū is **cancelled**. However, Miha Māori will still occur at 11:30am. All are welcome. God bless, and we look forward to seeing you there.

**LAST 2025 LITURGY Sun, 21 Dec 2025 11:30am**

**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.

**AA:** Do you, or someone you love, have a problem with alcohol? Alcoholics Anonymous meet in the STM Parish Lounge every **Sunday** 6.30–7.30pm. All welcome.

**PARISH OFFICE:** Mrs Julie Orsler      admin@allsaintsbythesea.nz  
9-12pm Tue-Fri Ph 07 575 4807 (Ext 2) 17 Gloucester Rd, Mt Maunganui 3116.  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Eamon Kennedy      [freamonkenedy@gmail.com](mailto:freamonkenedy@gmail.com)  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Sojan Abraham      sojancmf@gmail.com  
**Pastoral:** Mrs Heidi Nield      pastoral@allsaintsbythesea.nz  
**WEB:** [www.allsaintsbythesea.nz](http://www.allsaintsbythesea.nz)      [www.facebook.com/catholiccoast/](http://www.facebook.com/catholiccoast/)

**APP: Churchapps.nz – Allsaintsbythesea**

**St Thomas More Catholic School, Mt Maunganui**      07 574 6782

**Suzanne Aubert Catholic School, Papamoa East**      07 777 0438

**formed.org** is a premier on-line platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, cartoons, audio dramas, ebooks, and talks – and it's **FREE** for every parishioner. Enter parish code GNQDK3 or All Saints by the Sea.

**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:** Wednesday & Saturday 9.30am (after the 9am Mass).

### **READINGS 4th Sunday of Advent, 21 December 2025**

**1. Isaiah 7:10-14    2. Romans 1:1-7    Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

### **MASSES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: Tues, 16 Dec to Sun, 21 Dec 2025**

#### STM Church

9am Tues	Val & Irimie Smith RIP
9am Wed	Fre & Maisie Everson RIP & family
9am Thurs	Mr & Mrs Colin Eglinton RIP
9am Fri	Mr & Mrs Merv Beyers RIP
9am Sat	Ivy Walker RIP

10am & 5pm Sun

#### 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.*