



# Stella Maris Parish

## Catholic Parish of Christchurch Diocese

739 Ferry Road, Woolston, PO Box 19625, Christchurch 8241

Phone: 03 3841600; Email: parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

[www.stellamarisparish.org.nz](http://www.stellamarisparish.org.nz)

### OUR PARISH VISION:

Our Stella Maris Parish will grow an inclusive welcoming faith community which supports one another to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ and by our actions and words, encourage others to join our faith journey.

8th September 2024 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

## THE DEAF HEAR AND THE DUMB SPEAK

Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. We need God to touch our ears in order to be able to hear his word, and we need God to touch our tongues in order to be able to profess our faith.

Jesus performed this miracle in Gentile territory. The faith response of the Gentiles contrasts sharply with that of many of his own people. In Mark's mind, Jesus was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah – "the ears of the deaf will be unsealed, and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy (First reading). Yet James in the Second reading today warn us, that we must treat everyone equally, because we are brothers and sisters. In the time of our baptism, we are called children of God. In other words, Jesus is the one who brings salvation to Israel.

The miracle is the only cure in the Gospel of Mark this Sunday, which is described as taking place gradually. Mark saw it as an illustration of growth in faith. It is what happens to every Christian at baptism. Christ touches our ears so that we can hear his words and touches our tongues so that we can profess our faith. Hence, we too can say " He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak." May Jesus Christ touch our tongues that we may go out and proclaim the good news of God's kingdom to our parish of Stella Maris and to our Diocese of Christchurch.



Fr Paulo Filoialii

### PARISH CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

A Parish consultation document regarding our property matters was released last weekend. **Thank you** to the members of the Parish Leadership team and the Finance and Management team who have done an amazing job in making this document. The parish leadership team is aiming to begin a detailed consultation within three-week's time. If you haven't got a copy of the document, please grab a copy from the church foyer. Copy is also available on our Facebook page and Parish App. It will be emailed today together with the Newsletter.

All parishioners are encouraged to attend the consultation meeting. Please email the parish office and register your interest to take part in the discussion. So far 6 people have registered to take part in the discussion.

### JUBILATE 2024 CHRISTCHURCH EAST: STELLA MARIS PARISH

Our Parish had a great night last Tuesday at Pro-Cathedral. It was great to see the children, teachers and parents from our four schools for an hour of sacred singing. Our children from the Cathedral college, Samoan and Tongan choirs were also part of this. Many thanks to all who attended this Jubilate.

### PARISH INFORMATION

#### MASS CENTRES

**Woolston:** St Anne's  
739 Ferry Rd.

**Sumner:** Our Lady Star of the Sea  
42 Dryden St.

**New Brighton:** St Mary's  
116 Lonsdale St.

**Diamond Harbour:** St Andrew's  
85 Marine Dr.

#### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

**Woolston:** Tues, Wed & Thurs 9:15am  
Friday 12:00pm

**Sumner:** Thursday 9:15am

**New Brighton:** Thursday 11:15am

A Funeral Mass replaces the week-day Mass.

#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**Woolston:** Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
Sunday 10:30am

**Sumner:** Sunday 9:00am

**New Brighton:** Sunday 10:30am

**Diamond Harbour:** 1st Sunday 5:30pm

#### Samoan Mass Times

**Woolston:** 1st Sunday 12:30pm

**New Brighton:** 2nd Sunday 12:30pm

#### Tongan Mass Time

**Woolston:** 1st Sunday 3:30pm

#### RECONCILIATION

**Woolston:** Friday 11:15am-11:45am  
Saturday 10:30am-11:00am

**New Brighton:** After Sunday Mass

**Sumner:** After Thursday Mass

**Diamond Harbour:** After Sunday Mass

### PARISH CONTACTS

#### Parish Priest

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil

Phone: 022 682 9886

Email: frjobs@gmail.com

#### Assistant Priest

Fr Paulo Filoialii

Phone: 027 955 7989

Email: paulo.filo0173@gmail.com

#### Assistant Priest

Fr Tang Phan

Phone: 027 920 1720

Email: frtang@stellamarisparish.org.nz

#### Office Administrator - Alicia Ledesma

Phone: 03 384 1600

parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

#### Parish Liaison - Siobhan Rooney

Phone: 022 101 4039

parishliaison@stellamarisparish.org.nz

#### Pastoral Worker - Janette Bradbrook

Phone: 03 384 1600

janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz

#### Finance Administrator

accounts@stellamarisparish.org.nz

#### PARISH OFFICE OPEN HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

9:30am - 12:30pm

## PARISH NOTICES:

### Masses Offered this week:

Please pray for the eternal repose of Julia Weenink who died recently.  
Please keep in your prayers Salio Ilalio on his death anniversary and those whose death anniversaries occur at this time. May they have eternal rest.



### Sunday, 8th September 2024 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Isaiah 35:4-7

St James 2:1-5

Mark 7:31-37

**Psalm Response:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

### PARISH/SCHOOL HISTORY-HELP!

St Anne's School is developing a history wall in their entrance. This area will show the history of the school, parish, the Woolston area, and also the Mission Sisters. If you have any information, stories or photos that could be of use, we would love you to make contact. Either pop in to school with it (we can make copies) or email [clara@stannes.co.nz](mailto:clara@stannes.co.nz)

### **MANY THANKS TO PETER KENNEDY AND DR PHILIPPA RYAN**

Peter Kennedy has resigned from the Parish Leadership Team in April 2024. On behalf of Stella Maris parish, I thank Peter for the time he spent to attend meetings and for all the support he gave to the parish. I also thank Dr Philippa Ryan for joining the Leadership team.

### MISSION SISTERS' ANNUAL APPEAL

The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions (Mission Sisters) invite you to share in their missions in Odisha, India and in N'Dondol, Senegal, by donating to their 2024 Mission Appeal. Details are in the pamphlets being distributed across the diocese. They thank you in advance for your ongoing support and prayer.

### DATE CLAIMER: JP2 ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

We welcome you to join us in praying for life - that every human life may be respected from conception until natural death. **Friday, 20th September**, 7pm. St Theresa's Parish, Riccarton. Mass will be followed by Adoration until 9pm.

### Catholic Parish of Christchurch East—Parish App

How to set up the app

Step 1: On your phone, go to Google Play or Apple Play

Step 2: Search for ChurchAppsNZ

Step 3: Install ChurchAppsNZ

Step 4: Search and choose the Catholic Parish of Christchurch East



### PARISH DAY

Preparations are under way for this year's Parish Day on **22<sup>nd</sup> September** at Haeata Community Campus in Aranui. Mass followed by entertainment by our four schools, shared kai, fun games for all ages, free sausage sizzle, face painting, bouncy castle. Please mark your calendars.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK: 8-14 September 2024

Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year we are looking at the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation for building lasting peace. Join us in reflecting on these values. **Sumner: Thursday, the 12th at 1pm; Lyttelton Sunday, the 8th, 5.30pm** at Holy Trinity Church, Winchester St.

**NEXT SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP** - for those that could not attend the last one....

**ZOOM - Tuesday September 24th at 7pm - 8.15pm**

Email - [cward@cdoc.nz](mailto:cward@cdoc.nz) to register

LIMITED SPACES

### **YOUTH GROUP MOVIE NIGHT**

For Year 7-13 students!

Next **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September: 4pm-6pm** in St Anne's Church Hall.

BYO movie snacks to share, supper will be provided.

### **GRANDPARENTS PRAYER GROUP**

Commencing Soon – Watch this space!

Aim to be an intercessory prayer force for our kids and grandkids.

St Joachim & St Anne pray for us

### 2025 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The 2025 Columban calendars are now available to purchase - \$13 each.

### Stella Maris Parish Schools

Aranui—St James

Principal: Rose Firth-Scott

Phone: 03 982-0009

[principal@stjames.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjames.school.nz)

New Brighton—New Brighton Catholic

Principal: Deb Daines

Phone: 03 388 7982

[office@nbc.school.nz](mailto:office@nbc.school.nz)

Sumner—Our Lady Star of the Sea

Principal: Adele Greig

Phone: 03 326 5315

[principal@ourladystar.school.nz](mailto:principal@ourladystar.school.nz)

Woolston—St Anne's

Principal: Dallas Wichman

Phone: 03 384 3073

[principal@stannes.co.nz](mailto:principal@stannes.co.nz)



## *Stella Maris Parish*

The Catholic Parish of Christchurch East  
739 Ferry Road, Woolston, PO Box 19625, Christchurch 8241  
Phone: 03 384 1600; Email: [parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz)  
[www.stellamarisparish.org.nz](http://www.stellamarisparish.org.nz)

### **Parish Property Consultation – Property for the Future 31<sup>st</sup> August/1<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

#### **Introduction**

As indicated in recent Mass announcements the Parish Leadership Team is preparing to consider building and property related issues across the whole of Stella Maris Parish. For consideration of these matters Bishop Michael encourages that

- Any new buildings or projects that we undertake should be centred on prayer
- During our planning and decision-making processes we should prioritise resources for mission rather than just buildings
- Overall, our call is to prioritise evangelisation and the development of our faith community

Bishop Michael has also emphasised the need for consultation with parishioners on all property matters as they work to define their future property needs. This newsletter is the beginning of that work.

#### **The Stella Maris Parish Property Situation**

In Stella Maris our many properties come under a number of categories

Active churches and Mass centres at Woolston, New Brighton, and Sumner

**Note:** St Andrews Church in Diamond Harbour is also an active Mass centre, though it is owned by the community, not the Parish. A hire fee is paid

Sites of previous churches and presbyteries, some now bare land, others with buildings still on, some of which are rented out

Residential and other properties rented out

We need to decide which properties we want to retain, in present or revised condition; and what to do with the others. We also need to consider whether we want to acquire other property.

#### **The Stella Maris Parish Financial Situation**

Our Parish is a combination of several smaller predecessors which have brought together a raft of people, histories, personalities, property assets, and financial positions. In our new configuration of Parish, we wish to emphasise that “We Are One”. A number of property projects have been undertaken since the earthquakes. To the extent that the combined cash reserves of the previous parishes have not been sufficient, these projects have been funded by the Diocese. The expectation and the requirement are that the Parish will repay this amount in due course; which in current language means as soon as possible; and before other major property projects are undertaken within the parish. That is the first challenging reality.

Within Stella Maris Parish this debt to the Diocese is \$1,397,508 as at April 2024. This debt arises from:

1. Development work undertaken in Lyttleton, including the subdivision of land, work on retaining walls, land remedials, and preparation of property titles for possible sale. This included creation of the pocket of land for establishment of the permanent memorial to the significant former St Joseph the Worker Church and Parish.
2. Aranui Presbytery ground and general improvements prior to Healthy Homes upgrade, and subdivision work in preparation for eventual sale.
3. St Marys New Brighton church development debt – remaining balance.

While the above paragraphs deal briefly with the capital funding situation, we must remain aware of operational funding. Parishioners have recently been advised of operational finances in Fr Job's update provided with Planned Giving receipts. This was also available on request from the Parish offices, as advertised in our Parish newsletter. The reality is that the Parish is running at a deficit; this is a chronic situation that must be corrected. The other reality is that a useful amount of parish income is derived from property rental. This simply means that if the parish sells property that is rented out the income of the parish will go down, the operating deficit will increase. That is another challenge to be overcome.

The responsibility to provide both capital and operational funds rests with the Parish, not with the Diocese.

### **Our Properties and What Might be Done with Them**

#### **1. Those for which no change or consultation is envisaged within the foreseeable future**

- New Brighton-St Mary's Church
- Woolston: The houses at 729 Ferry Road, one publicly rented house (upgraded to Healthy Homes standard) and Fr Paulo's Pad, parish office at 733 Ferry Road, Sister's house at 733A Ferry Road.
- Lyttleton: 14 and 16 Exeter Street Lyttleton; site of the former primary school, now rented out commercially to Busy C's pre-school; produces good rental income.

#### **2. Those for which change, or attention must be considered subject to more research**

- Church, former presbytery and school property at Sumner

In February 2023 the Diocesan property team and Catholic Education Office supported a proposal developed by the Parish and School BOT for future use of the school and church property. Briefly this involved a limited land swap between parish and school entities, a repurposing of some Parish property, and the release of subdivisible land for the benefit of the Parish. Consideration of this proposal was put on hold due to the Canonical Challenge and must now be re-activated, involving both parishioners and the school community.

- St Annes Church and associated buildings

The precinct of St Anne's Church is established as the central point of Stella Maris Parish. As such there is an expectation of having at the site a main Parish church, a decent parish centre and administration facilities, and suitable accommodation for a number of priests. In addition to the adjacent St Anne's Primary School and the houses mentioned above, the properties here are:

St Annes Hall – 739 Ferry Road  
 The presbytery – 739 Ferry Road  
 The church of St Anne's – 739 Ferry Road

The church is the major item here. Following earthquake damage some repair and strengthening work was carried out. This was sufficient to allow the church to be reoccupied, albeit with some limit on numbers. While the building is not earthquake prone it is at a lower level of structural strength compared to New Building Standard than is typically aimed at in refurbishment projects.

In addition to structure there are other issues to be considered e.g. – chronic heating and lighting issues, the condition of the roof and various architectural features. Current investigation work aims to have reached a good understanding “in broad terms” of the building and its issues, along with improvement/refurbishment opportunities, within two months. Consultation in regard to this precinct should in due course also cover other facilities that have been mentioned over the years, e.g. a fit for purpose parish centre and office facilities.

### **3. Those for which change must be considered and for which reasonable information is already to hand, or is imminent.**

These are properties for which sale is the key option to consider. Typically, they are vacant producing no income, or occupied and producing low income. The last page provides some idea of possible values.

- 18 Winchester Street, Lyttleton – the vacant site of the former St Joseph the Worker Church
- 21 Exeter Street, Lyttleton – the former presbytery; house still remains, though not up to Healthy Homes standard

**Note regarding** the Lyttleton properties. – prior to the Canonical Challenge these properties were already approved by the Bishop for sale so strictly speaking consultation is not required. Nevertheless, they are being included for the sake of completeness of information and consideration.

- 1 Carisbrooke St together with 12 Sandown Crescent, Aranui – the site of the former Aranui church and presbytery. The deconsecrated former church is rented out as a hall, while the house upgraded to Healthy Homes standard is rented out. This large property is on one title, with frontages onto two streets

**Note regarding** the Aranui property – as with Lyttleton this property was previously approved for sale by the Bishop, and nevertheless is still being included within current consultation. On the one hand there is no pressing need to sell this property as it is producing income. However there has been an approach from a prospective buyer, hence sale is at least topical. The sale option can be reviewed in due course based on economic considerations.

- 118 Lonsdale Street, New Brighton. Adjacent to St Mary’s Church. A standard residential sized property, occupied by a highly modified former house, previously rented out to Ferndale School, currently vacant.

### **Consultation Process in More Detail**

Following the issue of this newsletter detailed consultation, with invitations to provide feedback or attend meetings as appropriate, will begin within four weeks. Updates and invitations will be provided regularly via the parish newsletter and website. An important point to make is that regardless of which property is being considered the invitation to be involved in consultation is available to all parishioners in our Parish.

In the meantime, in order to help the planning of the consultation detail, it would be helpful if the Committee could get a feeling for how many people are interested in taking part in consultation events, e.g. meetings.

To this end you are encouraged to email the parish office and register your interest, indicating whether this is a general interest, or whether your interest relates to something specific (please say which).

### **Early Numbers**

Formal market appraisals or registered valuations have yet to be completed for possible sales, and formal estimates have yet to be sought for possible projects. Nevertheless figures have been “quoted” in the past by people of some knowledge in these areas. Because some people like to have numbers these are **tentatively** repeated in the schedules below to help parishioners understand the size of the issues. Note that GST may be payable on some sales.

### **Possible Sales, less sale costs and fees**

Lyttleton: 18 Winchester St - \$600,000 approx.

Lyttleton: 21 Exeter St - \$600,000 approx

Aranui: 1 Carisbrooke St (Church) and 3 Carisbrook St (House) - \$700,000 approx.

New Brighton: 118 Lonsdale St - \$500,000 approx.

Sumner: 45 Colenso St - \$1,700,000

### **Possible Projects, estimated costs exclude GST, all approximate**

Pay off debt to Diocese - \$1,400,000

Projects associated with any school remodelling - \$1,000,000

St Anne’s Church, structural upgrade to 67%NBS - \$2,750,000

St Anne’s Church, architectural refurbishment - \$1,000,000

Other works on St Anne’s church precinct, parish centre, offices, fit for purpose presbytery etc– not assessed, but could be up to say another \$2,000,000 depending upon scale; hall not included in these figures.

**(Document prepared by the members of the Parish Leadership Team and Finance Committee)**

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil  
Parish Priest.