



Stella Maris Parish

Catholic Parish of Christchurch Diocese, New Zealand
739 Ferry Road, Woolston, PO Box 19625, Christchurch 8241
Phone: 03 384 1600; Email: parish.stellamaris@gmail.com

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.

2nd February — The Presentation of the Lord, Year C

We Are Called to Be Christ's Candles

Today is 40 days after Christmas when we celebrate the feast of presentation of the Lord. This feast marks the day when Mary and Joseph, in obedience to the Law of Moses, presented the infant Jesus in the Temple, offering Him to God. Mary carried Jesus, the light of the world in the flesh, to the temple so that the world may have light.

It is at this moment that Simeon recognises Jesus and proclaims, *"My eyes have seen the salvation which the Lord has prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel"*. The practice of blessing and distributing candles and holding a candlelight procession on this day are drawn from Simon's words in the Gospel for this feast.

The candle represents Christ. The blessed candles symbolize the light of Christ that shines in the darkness. The blessing of the candles emphasizes Christ's role as the Light of the Nations. The blessed candles are distributed to the faithful, symbolizing the sharing of Christ's light with the world.

Just as Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to the Lord, today's feast invites us to present ourselves to God. We are called to be living offerings, dedicating our lives, our joys, and our sufferings to His will. Just as Mary carried the light of the world in the flesh to the temple, today's feast invites us to carry the light of Christ to the world. We are called to be Christ's candles.



The World Day for Consecrated Life

The World Day for Consecrated Life is celebrated on February 2nd, which is also the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. This day was instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1997 to commemorate the Feast of the Presentation and to highlight the importance of consecrated life in the Church.

On this day, the Church recognizes and honours the dedication and commitment of men and women in consecrated life, priests, monks, nuns, friars, and sisters, who have devoted their lives to serving God and others.

Waitangi Day: Thursday 6th February

There will be Holy Mass at St Anne's Church, Woolston and Our Lady Star of the Sea Church Sumner 09.15am

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.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES (ENGLISH):

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

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.

RECONCILIATION:

Woolston: Friday 11:15am-11:45am

Saturday 10:30am-11:00am

New Brighton: After Sunday Mass

Sumner: After Thursday Mass

PARISH CONTACTS:

Parish Priest:

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil

Phone: 022 682 9886

Email: frjobts@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Father Paulo Filoialii

Phone: 027 955 7989

Assistant Priest

Fr Tang Phan

Phone: 027 920 1720

Email: frtang@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Office Administrator:

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

Masses Offered this week:

Please keep in your prayers those whose death anniversaries occur at this time. May they have eternal rest.



PARISH NOTICES:

THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE LOGO: EXPLAINED



The Jubilee Logo 2025 includes the following elements

FOUR PERSONS: Representing all of humanity, they come from the four corners of the Earth. Their embrace signifies unity and love in Christ, while their varied colours highlight cultural diversity.

THE CROSS: A symbol of our Lord's passion, through which He triumphed over sin and death, opening the gates of Paradise. Each time we worthily make the Sign of the Cross, we proclaim our Christian Catholic faith to the world.

WAVES AND ANCHOR: The waves represent the storms and trials that challenge both the Church—the Boat of Peter—and our personal lives. The anchor, extending from the Cross, signifies Jesus Christ as our refuge and protector.

THE WORDING: "Pilgrims of Hope" conveys the spiritual theme of the Jubilee Year. It is printed in green, the colour of hope.

JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May the same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed be glory and praise for ever. *Amen.*

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer Service will be held at St Faith's Church, corner of Hawk Street and Shaw Avenue, New Brighton

Friday 7th March at 10 am

Contact Number 0273926914

Please Mark Your Calendar

Lenten Retreat: Saturday 8th March

10am to 3.00pm:

Fr Zania is leading this retreat.

Ash Wednesday: 5th March

Welcome to Recent Arrivals

We welcome to our diocese Fr Viet Thai, who arrived this week and Fr John Walls SM. Fr Viet will be ministering in the Cathedral parish as he settles in to life in Aotearoa.

Exodus men's and women's programme for Lent

As a diocese, I have invited men and women to participate in Exodus 40 during LENT 2025. **What is Exodus 40?** It's a 40-day journey through the Book of Exodus, learning about the similarities we share with the ancient Israelites - and finding the path to freedom from the 'Modern Pharaohs' holding us back from true unity with God. **How does it work?** For 40 days, we focus on three core pillars: prayer, asceticism, and fraternity - a model witness to us centuries ago by the desert fathers in the early Church. Meet on Wednesdays at 6.00am for adoration in parishes across the diocese, followed by designated group sharing afterwards. See attached <https://cdoc.nz/news-events/exodus-40>

RESTRUCTURING OF THE PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM.

The parish is looking forward to restructuring the Leadership Team. The focus of the Parish Leadership Team is on Evangelization. If you are interested in becoming a member of this team, please contact Fr Job to find out what is involved.

DIOCESAN NOTICES:

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Pilgrimages are an important element of the Jubilee Year. The designated pilgrimage sites for our diocese are:

- St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch.
- St Patrick's Church, Akaroa
- The St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Catholic Parish of Opihi, Temuka.
- Sanctuary of Fourviere & Shrine of Mary, Mother of Light, Leithfield.

For more information on these sites visit <https://cdoc.nz/news-events/jubilee-year-pilgrimage-sites-announced>

GOLDEN CATHOLICS

The next Golden Catholics event will be hosted by Fr Pat Breeze and Fr John O'Connor on **18th February** at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish, 70 Spencer St. This will begin with Mass at 11am followed by lunch and a presentation by Fr John on 'Hopeful Living', in keeping with this year's Jubilee theme. Please RSVP by 13th February, including any dietary requirements, to cdf@cdoc.nz or calling 03 366 9869. A donation towards lunch on the day would be appreciated.

BREAKFAST FOR MEN WITH BISHOP MICHAEL

We have had two very successful men's breakfasts and this one promises to be as equally popular! This is to be held on Saturday 1st March, at St Bede's College, Main North Road.. There will be adoration in the school chapel from 6.30am with breakfast at 7.30am. Suggested koha of \$5 to cover the cost of a cooked breakfast. Come and be with other men of the diocese for food and encouragement. Registrations open soon by visiting www.cathmen.nz or contact Mike Stopforth at the diocesan office, phone 366 9869 or 027 5398 542

THE GIFTS OF HEALING

Christ the Redeemer Parish is offering a Training Day on "The Gifts of Healing" on Saturday 15 February 2025, 9.30am - 4pm at the Lamb of God Centre, Thames Street. Morning tea and a light lunch provided. Please advise any dietary requirements. Suggested koha of \$30.

Presenters will include: Fr John Rea SM (via pre-recorded video interviews and talks) and Michael Powell (Wellington) and Brendan and Judith Woodnutt. This course is aimed at those wanting to develop and sharpen their gifts in the area of healing. To register please complete form on www.christchurchnorth.org.nz (Healing Day) or for more information email Judith on pastoral@christchurchnorth.org.nz

NEXT SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS

Tuesday February 11th – Safeguarding Workshops
Online at 1pm & 7pm.

Register with Clodagh on cward@cdoc.nz. A link to the workshop will be sent to all who register on February 10th.

1pm: Safeguarding Workshop Online at 1pm - 2.15pm -
MS Teams | Safeguarding

7pm: Safeguarding Workshop Online at 7pm - 8.15pm -
MS Teams | Safeguarding

All volunteers/staff in Catholic entities regardless of role are required to attend a Safeguarding Workshop every three years.

SISTER EVELEEN RETREAT HOUSE

Need to pause and to retreat? You are warmly invited to join us and experience the hidden treasure on the hill -
Sister Eveleen Retreat House:

Coming Home to the Fathers Loving Embrace -

facilitators: Carol & Colin Renouf,
Date: 7-9 March 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

The Contemplative Gaze - facilitators: Donald & Janis Scott,

Date: 4-6 April 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

A Pilgrims Soul- facilitator: Elinor Galbraith, Date: 2-4 May 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

Reflect and Create - facilitator: Glenda Joy, Date: 9-11 May 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

Creative Writing Retreat - facilitator: Eddie O'Connor,
Date: 7-8 June 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

Praying with St. Ignatius - facilitator: Colin Renouf,
Date: 23-25 June 2025- [Follow this Link](#)

VACANCY - CLERGY HEALTH COORDINATOR

The Bishop has an oversight over the wellbeing of his priests. On his behalf, the Clergy Trust Fund seeks to employ a Health Coordinator to ensure their medical welfare and general well-being are supported.

A vacancy now exists for this part-time position with the ability to be flexible with his / her time to be able to provide an adequate service. This is an important position in the care of our priests. Having an affinity with the Catholic faith, the Coordinator will have the ability to relate to the priests in their overall health needs. The Clergy Health Coordinator will visit and meet with clergy to make assessments and to provide the necessary support, advice and guidance. A position description can be viewed on our diocesan website or available from Mike Stopforth, Cathedral House, phone 027 5398 542.

PARISH NOTICES:

Sunday, 02 February 2025 — The Presentation of the Lord Year C

Malachi 3:1-4,

Hebrews 2:14 –18

Luke 2:22-40

Psalm Response: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Answer the call – Use your gifts for God's glory!

God calls us to use our gifts to serve others and build His Kingdom. *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* – 1 Peter 4:10.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our following ministries ...

Sacramental Programmes

We are looking for dedicated volunteers to support our Sacramental Programmes. If you have a willingness to serve in this ministry, your talents can make a difference in preparing candidates for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Youth Leaders Needed!!

Gen 1– Year 5-6 Youth Group

Gen 1 , are looking for enthusiastic volunteer leaders to help run sessions, engage with the kids, and create a welcoming space for them to grow in their relationship with God.

STAY – Year 9-13 Youth group

Are you 18 or older and passionate about mentoring young people in their faith? We are looking for a committed male volunteer leader to join our Snr youth group team.

Alpha Programme

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help run our upcoming Alpha Programme. Whether you can assist with hospitality, small group discussions, or behind-the-scenes support, your help will make a difference!

If you feel called to assist in any of these ministries,

Please contact Janette: Ph: 03 3841 600 or email:

Janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz.

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT PARISH WEBSITE.

Why can't we be smart?

Most of us are on smartphones and email. To apply for a preference certificate for catholic schools, register for baptisms, join the parish and planned giving, making enquiries, all you need to do is just focus on the QR code on your smartphone camera, click on the link, complete the form and submit. It saves your time and saves the time of the admin staff.

Preference Applica-



Parish Enrolment



Planned Giving



Contact office



Looking for Members to Join the Finance Committee

I would like to get two more members to join our parish finance committee. Please let me know if you know someone who can help with this committee.

Fr Paulo and Fr Tang: Holidays

Fr Paulo has returned from his holiday this Friday 31st January and Fr Tang will return Saturday 8th

STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE: 739 Ferry Road, Woolston

PARISH OFFICE OPEN HOURS:

Tuesday—Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm

Stella Maris Parish Schools

Aranui—St James

New Brighton—New Brighton Catholic

Sumner—Our Lady Star of the Sea

Woolston—St Anne's

Principal: Rose Firth-Scott

Principal: Deb Daines

Principal: Adele Greig

Principal: Dallas Wichman

Phone: 03 982-0009

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