



# 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](mailto: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.

## 7th September 2025—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time—Yr C

### TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

In today's Gospel (Luke 14:25-33), Jesus speaks very directly about what it means to be His disciple. He tells the crowd that following Him requires giving up everything and taking up the cross each day. His words sound demanding, even unsettling, but they remind us that discipleship cannot be half-hearted. It is not about staying close to Jesus only when it is easy or convenient. True discipleship is a total commitment – remaining with Him always, even when the road becomes difficult.

A disciple is someone who follows the Master for life, striving to live like the Master in all things. For this reason, the disciple must see Jesus as the only model and the one to love above all. That is why the disciple must be ready to renounce everything – not only family ties but even one's own self with personal desires and ambitions. Only then can the disciple follow Jesus, learning to speak like Him, think like Him, and love like Him.

To be a Christian is to carry Christ within us. For Christ to truly dwell in our hearts, we must clear away what does not belong to Him: selfishness, pride, resentment, sinful habits, and attachments that keep us from loving fully. The daily cross is not always a great burden; often it is the small but steady effort to forgive rather than hold a grudge, to choose patience over anger, to serve without expecting reward, and to always choose love. These small crosses slowly shape us in Christ's likeness.

True discipleship is demanding, but it leads to deep freedom. When we let go of what holds us back and allow Christ to be at the centre, He transforms us from within. Then, through our words and actions, we can reflect His presence to the world and discover the lasting joy and peace of following Him.

**Fr Tang Phan**  
Assistant Priest



### THE STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE:

Parish office has moved to the office space at St Mary's Church, 116 Lonsdale Street, New Brighton. We will keep the same land phone number: 03 384 1600. The Parish office has a cell number which can be rung during office hours: 022 101 4039. Tuesday to Friday—9.30 am to 12.30pm

### NEO CATECHUMENAL WAY- CELEBRATION OF MASS

Every Saturday at 7.30pm at St Anne's Hall.  
This is one of our weekend Masses in our parish  
and anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

### 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: 2nd 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  
Diamond Harbour: After Sunday Mass

### PARISH CONTACTS:

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil  
Phone: 022 682 9886  
Email: [frjobs@gmail.com](mailto:frjobs@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](mailto:frtang@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

#### Office Administrator (Temporary):

Joseph Arackal  
Phone: 03 384 1600 / 0221014039  
[parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

#### Pastoral Worker: - Janette Bradbrook

Phone: 03 384 1600  
[janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

#### Finance Administrator:

[accounts@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:accounts@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

## PARISH NOTICES:

**Sunday, 7 August 2025 — 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr C**

Wisdom 9:13-18    Philemon 9-10, 12-17    Luke 14:25-33

**Psalm Response: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

### PARISH DAY: NEXT SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

We celebrate the feast of our Patron Saint "Stella Maris- Our Lady Star of the Sea" on our Parish Day. Let us come together as one family in one place.

**At Haeata Community Campus: 9.30 am to 2.00pm**

240 Breezes Road, Aranui, Christchurch.

**Mass at 9.30 am Sharp**

There will be a screen in the lounge, to watch Mass and the performance, as the auditorium seating will be limited to meet health & safety regulations.

Hymns are sung by the Samoan, Filipino, Tongan and Sumner choirs.

**Performances from our four parish schools and Cathedral College.**

Followed by a shared lunch including a sausage sizzle.

It would be welcoming if you could bring some finger food to share.

After lunch, there will be games for all ages, face painting and bouncy castle.

**Come and join us.**

Our usual Sunday Masses at OLSOS, St Anne's and St Mary's are cancelled.

With the exception of the **Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.00pm at St Anne's.**

**Diocesan notices** are on the notice board and are emailed together with the newsletter.



### Masses Offered this week:

**Please keep in your prayers**

**Jane Andrea S. Boyo-Mole,**

**Rosela Salazar,**

**Fernando Salazar,**

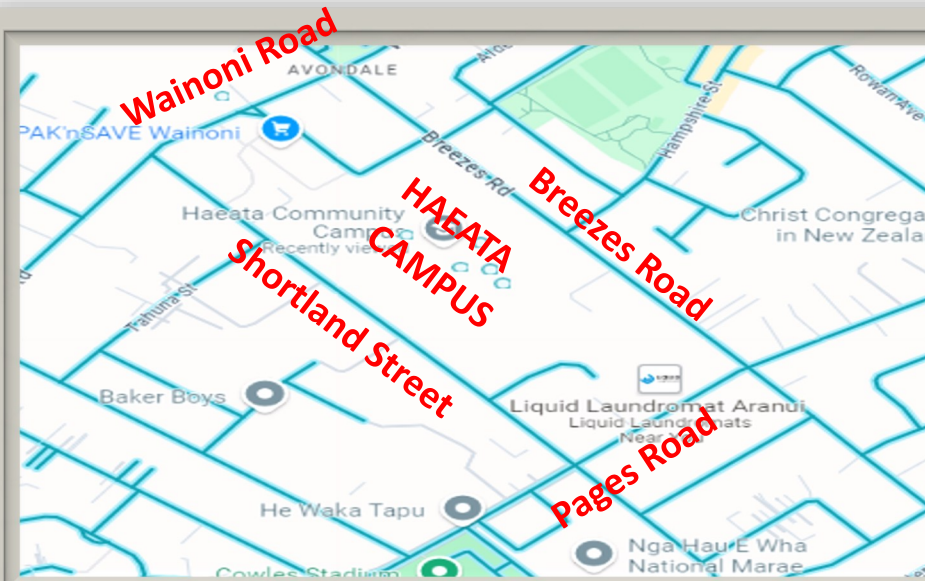
**Fanene Siania,**

**May McHugh,**

**Faletaua Ilalio,**

**whose Death Anniversaries occur this month.**

**May they have eternal rest.**



### 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

Acting Principal: Nicole Buckley

Phone: 03 388 7982

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

**GOLDEN CATHOLICS:** WEDNESDAY 24 SEPT 2025 11:00am Mass at ST MARY'S, NEW BRIGHTON by Bishop Michael with presentation & lunch to follow.

So please RSVP by 19 Sept, 03 366 9869 or [cdf@cdoc.nz](mailto:cdf@cdoc.nz)

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS** are expensive for families- **SVDP can help.** If your family needs a food parcel over the school holidays text your name, address, contact number and details of your family members to Vinnies 0273589400 Someone will contact you for a chat and to arrange a time for collection or delivery.

**ORGANISTS:** St Anne's Church needs Pianists/organists/keyboardists to play the music for the Saturday 6.00pm Mass. Parish would appreciate it if any of you can help at least once a month.

**OCIA/OCIC PROGRAMME WILL BEGIN SOON.** This programme is for someone who is looking forward to becoming a Catholic. It is for the non-Catholics, non-Christian adults and for Children who are above the age of seven. If you know someone who is looking forward to becoming catholic, please introduce them to any of the priests or to the office. A form is kept in the foyer for you to pass it on to them.