



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

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.

1st February 2026—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time —Yr A

THE SECRET OF TRUE HAPPINESS

Everyone wants to be happy. We work hard, make plans, save money, and look for comfort and security. Yet even with all this, happiness often feels temporary. In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus addresses this deep longing for happiness by offering the Beatitudes. He teaches that real happiness is not found in success, but in **surrender** to God.

A Heart Open to God

True happiness begins with a heart that knows it needs God. The poor in spirit rely on His strength more than their own. Those who mourn are not afraid to bring their pain to Him, and in this honesty, they find His comfort. The meek do not push or dominate; their calm trust in God becomes their strength. Happiness grows when we stop pretending to be in control and allow God to lead.

A Heart Hungry for Goodness

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness want to live with integrity and grace. Their hearts are pure — not perfect, but sincere. Because of this, they notice God's presence in daily life. Their happiness comes from desiring what God desires.

A Heart That Shares God's Love

Merciful people forgive quickly and carry light hearts. They are peacemakers who build understanding rather than walls. Wherever mercy and peace are practiced, joy naturally follows, because love always creates space for happiness.

Jesus shows that happiness does not begin with perfect circumstances, but with a heart open to God. When we trust Him, forgive others, live simply, and work for peace, we discover a joy that the world cannot take away. This is the true happiness Jesus wants for us.

Fr. Vincent Barboza
Assistant Priest



WAITANGI DAY: FRIDAY 6TH 2026:

Mass at St Annes will be at 9.15am

The office will be closed and there is no Midday Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY: 18th February 2026

LENTEN RETREAT: Saturday 21st February 2026: 10.am to 3.00pm

All welcome to attend the Lenten retreat at St Annes Hall.

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 Thyikalumuriyil
Phone: 022 682 9886
Email: frjobs@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Father Paulo Filoialii
Phone: 027 955 7989

Assistant Priest:

Fr Vincent Barboza
Phone: 0225596472
frvincent@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Office Administrator

Joseph Arackal
Phone: 03 384 1600
parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker: - Janette Bradbrook

Phone: 022 317 4323
janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Finance Administrator:

accounts@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Local Safeguarding representative

Makarita Fido-Isaako
Phone: 021 082 56819
volunteer@stellamarisparish.org.nz

PARISH NOTICES:

Sunday, 1st February 2026—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Yr A

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Mathew 5:1-12a

Psalm Response: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

VACANCY – STELLA MARIS PARISH

Stella Maris Parish is seeking a passionate, organised, faithfilled, Parish Event & Evangelisation Coordinator to support parish life through coordinating events, promoting parish activities, building relationships with ethnic and school communities, and leading evangelisation initiatives such as Alpha. An ideal candidate would be a committed Catholic who is organised, confident working with people, comfortable speaking publicly, and able to coordinate volunteers. A full NZ driver licence is required. This is a part-time role – 20 hours per week. Please email frjobs@gmail.com for a full role description. To apply, please send your CV and cover letter to the above email with *Parish Event and Evangelisation Coordinator Job Application* in the subject line. Applications close on Friday, the 20th of February 2026.

STELLA MARIS PARISH CULTURAL DAY

When: Friday 13th February 2026 at 5.30 pm to 9.00pm

Where: St Annes School Grounds, Woolston

All Welcome: Bring your own chairs

The parish invites the members from various ethnic communities in our parish to celebrate this day with cultural dance, singing cultural songs and bringing cultural food to share. If you can contribute a cultural program for this day, please contact Fr Job or Fr Vincent:

FrVincent@stellamarisparish.org.nz

NEW PARISHIONERS: A warm welcome is offered to new parishioners. If you have moved into our parish area or have started attending Mass in any of our Mass centres in the Stella Maris Parish, please make yourself known to one of our priests, fill out the form found in the foyer and place it in the collection basket.

ALPHA 2026

Fr Vincent invites everyone who has attended the Alpha Programme and would like to be part of the team for **Alpha 2026**, to a meeting on Thursday 5th February at 6.30 pm in St. Anne's Church Hall.

PREFERENCE FORM FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

Parishioners may request it through the parish website or scanning the QR code displayed either in the church foyer or at school. You will find in the parish website the requirement to meet the criteria. After submitting your request through online, follow the instructions and one of our priests will be contacted to meet the applicant and will issue the preference form. Please ensure that you are enrolled in our parish.

YOUTH MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Parish Youth Ministry is growing, and we are seeking volunteers to journey alongside our young people as mentors, supporters, and faith witnesses. If you have a little time, a listening ear, or a passion for helping young people encounter Christ, we would love to hear from you. Training and support are provided. Contact: Janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz for more information.

OUR PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO FORMED:

All of our parishioners have access to this amazing resource.

It's very easy - to log on and sign up
– Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
– Search for Catholic Parish of Christchurch East
– Enter your name, and email address
– Then you have access to a whole range of fabulous resources.



Catholic Parish of Christchurch East—Parish App:

Please download the parish App where you will find: the Newsletter, weekend readings, Rosters, Mass Centres, Mass timings, Contacts and Events.

How to set up the app

Step 1: 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



Masses Offered this week:

We pray for Jean Rogers , recently called to eternal life.

May she Rest In Peace.



STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE: 116 Lonsdale Street, New Brighton

PARISH OFFICE OPEN HOURS: Tuesday 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Wednesday 8.30am to 4.00pm, Thursday 9.00am to 4.00pm, Friday 8:30am to 4.00pm

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

Acting Principal: Nicole Buckley

Principal: Adele Greig

Principal: Dallas Wichman

Phone: 03 982-0009

Phone: 03 388 7982

Phone: 03 326 5315

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