



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.

8th February 2026—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time —Yr A

SALT AND LIGHT

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time is all about the importance of salt and light in our human life, day and night. What would happen to life in our world today if there was no salt and light...

When Jesus said to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world," what does he mean?

In the ancient world, salt was one of the most important necessities of life, especially for preserving and seasoning food. So too was light, for obvious reasons. Both are vitally important in today's world too.

When Jesus used these two images, he was telling his disciples and us, his followers, that we have a vital role to play in the world we live in today, through our good deeds. When religious practice is divorced from life, a vital element is missing. It is like salt that has lost its taste, or a lamp that no longer gives light. But when religious practice leads to deeds, a very effective witness is given.

Today, Jesus asks us, his followers, to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. What does this imply? It doesn't mean that we have to leave our jobs, rush out, and get involved in a whirlwind of good works, but it means that we are called to practice our Christianity. For example, coming to Mass on Sunday is not enough to be the salt of the earth or the light of the world, but we need to go out into the world, in whatever situation we happen to find ourselves. In our baptism, we were given the light of Christ. When we share this with others, we help them to see more clearly and make our world a better place. Jesus is telling us to be the people that we were made to be.

St. Theresa of the Cross said: "It is not what we say that is important, but what we live and practice that matters."

May God bless all families in our parish, Stella Maris, this New Year.

Fr Paulo Filoialii—Assistant Priest



STELLA MARIS PARISH CULTURAL DAY

FROM MANY LANDS, ONE HOME

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

Where: St Annes School Ground, 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 song 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

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

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, 8th February 2026—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Yr A

Isaiah 58:7-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Mathew 5:13-16

Psalm Response: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

LENT BEGINS ON 18TH FEBRUARY 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2026

Blessing of the ashes and Mass

9.15am: St Annes, Woolston

9.15am Our Lady Star of the Sea, Sumner

7.00pm: St Annes, Woolston

7.00pm St Mary's, New Brighton

LENTEN RETREAT:

Saturday 21st February 2026: 10.am to 1.00pm

Led by Christine and Bryn Sparks

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

LENTEN MISSION AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

17th, 18th and 19th March 6.30 pm to 8.00pm

Led by Fr Vincent Barboza- All Welcome

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.

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.

PREFERENCE FORMS FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

Parishioners may request a form through the parish website or by scanning the QR code displayed either in the church foyer or at school. The parish website has the requirements to meet the criteria. After submitting your request online, follow the instructions and one of our priests will contact you to make an appointment to issue the preference form. Please ensure that you are enrolled in our parish.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Information Evening:

22 February | 3:30–4:30pm

St Anne's Hall

Forms available in church foyers or register online via QR code.

Enquiries:

Pastoral Worker Janette Bradbrook

janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz



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 Alan Keith, recently called to eternal life. May he Rest In Peace.

Funeral service will be at St Anne's Church Tuesday 10th February at 1.00pm



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

Principal: Rose Firth-Scott

Phone: 03 982-0009

principal@stjames.school.nz

New Brighton—New Brighton Catholic

Principal: Deb Daines

Phone: 03 388 7982

office@nbc.school.nz

Sumner—Our Lady Star of the Sea

Principal: Adele Greig

Phone: 03 326 5315

principal@ourladystar.school.nz

Woolston—St Anne's

Principal: Dallas Wichman

Phone: 03 384 3073

principal@stannes.co.nz