



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.

5th April 2026 — Easter Sunday — Yr A



THE RESURRECTION GIVES US NEW HOPE

Dear Parish Family,

Happy Easter! Today, after weeks of prayer, sacrifice, and reflection, we arrive at the greatest celebration of our faith—the Resurrection of our Lord. Easter is far more than a beautiful story from long ago; it is a living message for every one of us. It reminds us that God continues to bring light out of darkness, hope out of fear, and new life out of the many “little deaths” we face each day.

Yet we celebrate Easter this year in a world that feels deeply wounded and unsettled. The war in the Middle East and other parts of the world continue to shatter the lives of innocent families who long simply to live in peace. Even in our own homes, we carry our own quiet burdens—worries about health, finances, relationships, and the uncertain path ahead.

In moments like these, the message of Easter becomes even more powerful. The Resurrection does not pretend that suffering is unreal. Instead, it assures us that God enters our pain and begins His work of healing from within. The empty tomb tells us clearly: **God is not finished with us.** When we are discouraged or uncertain, Easter gently whispers, “Do not be afraid. The Lord is alive, and He walks with you.”

As a parish, let us carry this Easter light into our homes, our community, and our world. May we bring healing, comfort and courage to all who feel lost or alone.

A gentle reminder: Our **Alpha Programme** begins on **Wednesday, 8th April at 6.00 pm.** All are warmly invited to join this journey of faith in the Easter season.

On behalf of the **Clergy Team**, we wish you and your families a blessed Easter filled with peace, joy, and renewed hope in the Risen Christ.

Fr. Vincent Barboza
Assistant Priest



ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Through His passion and victory over death, Christ has opened the way to eternal life, filling our hearts with renewed hope and light. May the peace of the Risen Christ dwell in our hearts, homes and families this season.

Happy Easter

Fr Job
Parish Priest

Fr Paulo
Assistant Priest

Fr Vincent
Assistant Priest

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

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

Email: vincentbrb7@gmail.com

Office Administrator/ Finance

Joseph Arackal

Phone: 03 384 1600

parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker: - Janette Bradbrook

Phone: 022 317 4323

janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker: - Jay Reforial

Phone: 022 093 6373

jay@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Local Safeguarding representative

Makarita Fido-Isaako

Phone: 021 082 56819

volunteer@stellamarisparish.org.nz

PARISH NOTICES:

Sunday, 5th April 2026—Easter Sunday — Yr A

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Colossians 3:1-4

Mathew 28:1-10

Psalm Response: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

DAYLIGHT SAVING ending on Easter Sunday morning 05/03/2026 when clocks go backwards 1 hour.

BREAKFAST FOR MEN WITH BISHOP MICHAEL

Saturday April 18 Stella Maris Parish is hosting this 'breakfast for men with Bishop Micheal' with the support from the diocesan team. It is on Saturday 18th April at Catholic Cathedral College, 62 Ferry Road. There will be adoration in the college hall 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.

Registration now by visiting www.cathmen.nz or contact Mike Stopforth at the diocesan office, phone 366 9869 or 027 5398 542. Fr Vincent and Sone are the coordinators from our parish. We need 12 men to support this event.

Please contact **Sone Nafoi** or Fr Vincent email: FrVincent@stellamarisparish.org.nz

ALPHA COURSE: STARTING THIS EASTER WEDNESDAY

Join us this Easter Wednesday, April 8th, at 6:00 PM for Alpha Course. In this Easter season, this is a powerful opportunity to strengthen your own faith and also invite a neighbour, friend, or family member to explore life's big questions in a warm, welcoming space. Please sign up online today and help us spread the word—your simple invitation could be the light that leads someone to Christ. Let's be bold in our mission and prepare our hearts to welcome everyone to this programme.



NEW SETS OF PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES The envelopes for the year 2026-2027 are in the foyer in all three Mass centres in alphabetical order of surnames. If you are in the Planned-Giving program, you may take your envelopes from the foyer to use, starting from this weekend. Those who are not in the planned giving program and wish to join, either by automatic payment or by envelopes. please contact the parish office Phone: 033841600 email: parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

JOSEPH, THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR will be on leave from Tuesday 7th April to Friday 10th April. For any urgent enquiries or requests, please contact the parish office via email at parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz.

CARITAS LENTEN APPEAL: there are Giving Envelopes for donations to the Caritas Lenten Appeal in the porches of the churches. Alternatively, you may make a deposit in the Caritas Bank Account via the website: <https://www.caritas.org.nz/ways-to-give> Money from the Lenten Caritas Appeal goes towards the Catholic Church's Relief and Development Programmes.

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 Stella Maris Parish, please make yourself known to one of our priests, fill out the parish form to be found in the foyer and place it in the collection basket and you will be contacted.

PREFERENCE FORM FOR THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

Those who are seeking a preference form may request it through the parish website or by scanning the QR code displayed in the church foyer or at school. Office staff will be in touch with you once we receive the request and one of our priests will contact you to make an appointment with the parents.

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



REMINDER: 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.



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