



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.

19th April 2026—3rd Sunday of Easter -Yr A

EACH OF US HAS A STORY TO TELL, THE STORY OF OUR LIFE.

To tell one's story is to own it. To own it is to accept it in all its entirety, good and bad, bright and dark side alike. When life is good, we find it easy to accept and tell our story. It bubbles out of us like water from a boiling pot. But when life is sad, the opposite happens. We tend to close up and cut ourselves off. Yet it is especially in the dark moments, that we need to tell our story to a sympathetic ear. To tell one's story is to say: 'Look, this is the sort of person I am'.

Today's Gospel is all about storytelling. Those two disciples, going to the *Emmaus*, have a story to tell, one full of disappointment and disillusionment. Jesus joins them as a stranger. People often find it easier to unburden on a stranger. He creates a climate in which they feel like talking. And they did talk and poured out their sad story to him. Then Jesus began to tell his own story. He helped them to find a meaning in their story by showing them the meaning he had found in his own. **He leads them through the scripture, through breaking of bread**, opens their eyes, and **brings them back their lost hope and joy**. Thus he enabled them to turn their lives around.

Our Lord is a living God and is active in our lives. In moments of our discouragement, he walks by our side, works in our hearts and brings back our joy. The surest ways of experiencing Jesus are: prayerful **reading of the scriptures, meaningful celebration of the Eucharist and loving service**. May we have our own story with Jesus and not hesitate to tell our own story.

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil

The Parish 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: vincentbrbz7@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



*"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness." (Psalm 100)*

**Next Sunday, 26th April 2026, at St Anne's Church,
9:30am—10:15am—Come early for Mass and join us.**

PARISH NOTICES:

19th April 2026—3rd Sunday of Easter -Yr A

Acts 2:14,22-33

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

Psalm Response: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

ST MARY'S AND ST ANNE'S HALL BOOKINGS Will be administered by Kathi Ryder, who is a member of the Finance Committee and an Administration Support Volunteer. Kathi will arrange a meeting of those who have already arranged bookings and explain the expectations of hall use. Including availability, cleanliness, tidiness and disposal of rubbish. Parish programs will have priority over any bookings taken. There will be a Koha for bookings, if the bookings are not for parish activities. Kathi can be contacted by Email: kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz

CATHOLICISM4CATHOLICS – FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMME

Join Fr Vincent Barboza for Catholicism4Catholics, a weekly series exploring the "what" and "why" of our faith. All parishioners are welcome for these practical, engaging sessions to deepen our community's understanding and love for Church teachings.

- When: Thursdays from 7th May, 7:00 PM
- Where: St Anne's Hall
- Who: All welcome

NEED VOLUNTEERS AT ST ANNES AND ST MARY'S CHURCH

Both St Annes Church and St Mary's Church need volunteers for the 10.30am Mass: Greeters, Overhead projector operators, Sacristans, Sunday collectors, and Altar servers. If you can help with one of the Sundays of each month, please contact Makarita Fido-Isaako who is the parish ministry coordinator volunteer: volunteer@stellamarisparish.org.nz

NEW SETS OF PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for the year 2026-2027 are held in the foyer in all three Mass centres in alphabetical order of surnames. If you are in the Planned Giving Program, please take your envelopes from the foyer and there is a set of envelopes for the special collections for those who are on automatic payments.

TAX RECEIPTS for the financial year ended 31st March 2026 are available this weekend in the narthex in alphabetical order of surnames of the planned givers. Those who would like to get the tax receipt by email, please contact Kathi , the Admin Support Volunteer: kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz

BUILDING OUR MISSION TOGETHER Our parish is a family of 844 households this year, each playing a vital role in our vibrant community. Currently, 236 households sustain our mission through Planned Giving and some through Sunday loose cash. While we are not running a formal renewal program this year, we invite you to prayerfully consider joining this core group.

By choosing **Automatic Payments**, you provide the steady foundation our parish needs to bring the Good News to all. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Automatic payment is convenient: No need for envelopes or cash: Tax Benefits: Claim 1/3rd rebate on your donations.

Please contact: Kathi kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz

FRIENDLY AFTERNOON:

St Anne's, Woolston—Friday, 24th April after 12:00 noon Mass. Come along for an afternoon of friendship and FUN. Bring your own lunch, and a few \$\$\$ for raffles. All welcome.

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 kept in the foyer and place it in the collection basket. You will be contacted.

VINNIES/SVDP - BRING A CAN TO MASS!

Thank you for recent food donations and financial donations. Easter food parcels for families all included Easter treats due to your generosity. Our food shed got a real boost with over 160 cans from the recent OLSOS Young Vinnies 'Can Drive'!! Thank you to the staff, students and parents for this great support!. This month we are asking parishioners to bring a can, toiletry item or packet of dry food to Mass each Sunday. Clients are really struggling with the increase in fuel and food costs - and power bills are getting higher also. Bless you all. And please contact Anne Nicholls if you have any questions or feedback - 021527741

DIOCESAN NOTICES are on the notice board and are emailed with the newsletter.

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