



# 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](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.

**26th April 2026—4th Sunday of Easter -Yr A**

## GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY LISTENING TO THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

Today we celebrate **Good Shepherd Sunday**, a beautiful reminder that Christ walks with us, knows us by name, and leads us with a shepherd's heart. His voice still echoes in the Church today, calling each of us to follow Him more closely and to discover the vocation that brings us to the fullness of life.

Our Diocese marks this day as a **Day of Prayer for Vocations**, inviting us to pray intentionally for those whom the Lord is calling to priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and committed service in the Church. We also join the wider Church as we begin **National Vocations Awareness Week**—a time to deepen our appreciation for all vocations and to encourage a culture where God's call can be heard and joyfully embraced.

Vocations grow where the Good Shepherd's voice is honoured. Families, parishes, and faith communities all have a role in nurturing this call. Every supportive word, every opportunity to serve, every example of faithful Christian living helps create an environment in which young people can ask courageously, "*Lord, what do You desire for my life?*"

Our Church today faces many challenges—loneliness, secularism, suffering, and deep searching for meaning. More than ever, we need shepherds who will walk with God's people, preach the truth with love, celebrate the sacraments with reverence, and accompany the broken and searching.

Let us pray for our priests, who carry the shepherd's mantle with generosity and sacrifice. Let us also pray for those whom God is calling right now—that they may not be afraid to follow His voice.

Fr. Vincent Barboza  
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

#### 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: frvincent@stellamarisparish.org.nz

##### 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

##### Admin Support volunteer: Kathi Ryder

Phone: 03 384 1600

kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz



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

## VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK -APRIL 27TH – MAY 2ND

Bishop Michael is inviting every parish, family, school, class, prayer group, and community to pray three Hail Mary's a day for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, along with a prayer to Our Lady, during this week.

## PARISH NOTICES:

26th April 2026—4th Sunday of Easter -Yr A

Acts 2:14,36-41

1 Peter 20:20-25

Luke 10:1-10

Psalm Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**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](mailto: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 1/3<sup>rd</sup> rebate on your donations. Please contact: Kathi [kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

**WE 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 Masses: Greeters, 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@stellamarisparish.org.nz](mailto:volunteer@stellamarisparish.org.nz)

**TAX RECEIPTS** for the financial year ended 31st March 2026 are available in the narthex of the mass centres in alphabetical order of the 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](mailto:kathi@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.

### **CATHOLICISM4CATHOLICS - FAITH FORMATION SERIES**

A programme designed to help us understand the richness of our Catholic faith more deeply. This ongoing series will explore what we believe as Catholics and why we believe it, through clear, practical, and engaging weekly sessions. The programme will be held every Thursday from 7th May at 7:00 PM in St Anne's Hall, and all parishioners—those new to the faith and those long on the journey—are warmly invited to participate.

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

There is an increasing demand for beds and other furniture and kitchen items and linen. People move from transitional housing into Kaiang Ora or similar rental properties which contain no household items. If you can help please contact SVDP who will arrange a date and time for collection. Phone 389 7484 – you may need to leave a message – or mail [volunteer@svdpcanterbury.nz](mailto:volunteer@svdpcanterbury.nz). If you have smaller items and have transport please deliver to the Vinnies Shop 265 Stanmore Rd. Or you can call Anne Nicholls on 021527741.

### **OUR SAMOAN YOUTH BINGO FUNDRAISER – THIS MONDAY - ANZAC DAY!**

Join us this Monday at St Anne's Hall for a fun Bingo night hosted by our Samoan Youth Group! \$10.00 to play, with Grocery Item prizes up for grabs from 12pm to 2pm. This group is passionate about helping NZ-born Samoan youth stay connected to their culture and language, so the calling will be in Samoan, with numbers also called in English—everyone is welcome! The group is fundraising to travel to Samoa for an evangelisation trip, following an invitation from the Archbishop of Samoa during his visit to Christchurch last year. Come along and support our youth!

### **Masses Offered this week:**

We pray for the soul of Fernando Salazar, Jane Andrea Boyo, Basilio Salazar and Ines Ortillo.  
May they 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

Principal: Rose Firth-Scott

Phone: 03 982-0009

[principal@stjames.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjames.school.nz)

New Brighton—New Brighton Catholic

Principal: Deb Daines

Phone: 03 388 7982

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