



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.

10 May 2026—6th Sunday of Easter -Yr A

THE FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT: A CALL TO CONFIRMATION AND FAITH

The first reading this Sunday (Acts 8:5–8, 14–17) highlights a beautiful and essential truth about our sacramental life. We hear about the fruitful ministry of Philip in Samaria. The people listened eagerly, were moved by his preaching, and were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Yet Scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon them. It was only when the apostles Peter and John travelled to Samaria, prayed over them, and laid their hands on them that they received the Holy Spirit in fullness.

This moment in the early Church is the foundation of what we today call the Sacrament of Confirmation. The apostles were the first bishops appointed by Jesus, and their successors—our bishops—continue this same apostolic practice. Though we receive the Holy Spirit at Baptism, this grace reaches its fullness at Confirmation, when the bishop lays hands on the candidate, completing what Baptism began.

In our own parish, many young people are baptized but have not yet been confirmed—for various reasons. Dear parents, I encourage you to reflect seriously on this: Why deprive our children of the fullness of the Holy Spirit’s blessing? Enrolling them for Confirmation gives them strength, courage, and spiritual maturity for the journey ahead.

Alongside the sacraments, we have also begun our Faith Formation Series to help parishioners grow in the knowledge of the faith. We had an encouraging response to the first session. Please join us for the next talk this Thursday at 7 pm in St. Anne’s School Hall. You will not regret attending. Let us grow stronger in faith—learning together and praying to the Holy Spirit who abides with us always.

Fr. Vincent Barboza
Assistant Priest



CATHOLICISM4CATHOLICS – FAITH FORMATION SERIES

A programme designed to help us understand the richness of our Catholic faith more deeply. The sessions will be conducted by Fr. Vincent Barboza every Thursday at 7:00 PM in St. Anne’s Hall.

This Thursday’s talk will be on:

“Is the sacrifice of the Mass the same sacrifice as Christ’s, or a different one?”

Please note that from next month, the talks will be held every Tuesday, beginning on 9th June. All parishioners—those new to the faith and those long on the journey—are warmly invited to participate.

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

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parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker: - Janette Bradbrook

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janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker: - Jay Reforial

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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

PARISH NOTICES:

10 May 2026—6th Sunday of Easter -Yr A

Acts 8:5-8,14-17

1 Peter 3:15-18

John 17:1-11

Psalm Response: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

ATTENDANCE DUES are no longer collected by the parish. Invoices are sent from the diocese, and the fees are to be paid to the bank account mentioned in the invoice. If any of the school parents have made an automatic set up with the parish, the automatic set up has to be changed. Some of the parents/sponsors are still paying to the parish.

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
Contact number: 0274 830 299

ST. ANNE'S HALL: Our dedicated cleaners of St Anne's have stepped down from these duties. We thank Arlyn and Ronnell for their time and devotion. Could we ask for volunteers to undertake these important duties. Email: kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz to get further details.

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 33.33% rebate on your donations. Please contact: Kathi kathi@stellamarisparish.org.nz

NEW SETS OF PLANNED GIVING 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, 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 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

THE GRANDPARENT PRAYER MEETING for May is on **Saturday, 16th at 3 pm at St Mary's New Brighton church hall.** Please join us to pray for our children and grandchildren. Come early for a 'cuppa' before we start. Contact: Sandie on 021 180 4445 for details"

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.



REMINDER—Catholic Parish of Christchurch East—Parish App:

How to set up the app

Step 1: On your phone, 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



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

Masses Offered this week:

We pray for the soul of Jane Andrea Boyo and Felimon Boyo. May they Rest In Peace.

Thanksgiving mass offered for Imelda Vissia Bout



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