



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.

30 August 2026 | 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

"THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP"

In the First Reading, we see Jeremiah's faithfulness to his God-given mission and what that faithfulness cost him. In Jeremiah 20:7-9, the prophet recounts how he allowed himself to be persuaded by God to proclaim His message. Jeremiah's task was to warn the people of Jerusalem of the imminent disaster that would befall the city and the Temple, and of the people's deportation into exile. This was a difficult message for Jeremiah to proclaim; nevertheless, he remained faithful to his mission.

In this Sunday's Gospel from Matthew 16:21-27, Jesus tells his disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, suffer and be put to death at the hands of the Jewish authorities, and rise again on the third day. The disciples find this difficult to accept. Peter tries to persuade Jesus not to embrace the Cross, and Jesus responds firmly, saying, **"Get behind me, Satan."**

Being a disciple of Jesus is not always easy. There are times when suffering may come our way because we respond faithfully to God's call. Yet, suffering is not the end. God sees us through our trials and brings about a greater good. Pain and death do not have the final victory; through the Resurrection, there is hope, new life, and salvation.

All those who say **"yes"** to God and seek to do His will are called to discipleship. It requires sacrifice, trust, faith, and hope. At times, we may even become obstacles to God's plan through our own fears, desires, or lack of faith. In such moments, we need to turn back to God and allow His will to guide us.

May God bless all the families of our Stella Maris Parish, especially the sick and those in need. May He strengthen us in our faith and help us to carry our crosses faithfully as true disciples of Christ.

Fr Paulo Filoialii
Assistant Priest



NEO CATECHUMENAL WAY- CELEBRATION OF MASS

Every Saturday at 7.30pm at St Anne's Hall.
This is one of our weekend Masses in our parish
and anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

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

Samoa 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

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Assistant Priest:

Father Paulo Filoialii

Assistant Priest:

Fr Vincent Barboza

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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

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:

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Jeremiah 20: 7-9

Romans 12:1-2

Mathew 16: 21-27

Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

URGENT APPEAL: St Anne's Church needs Pianists/organists/keyboardists to play the music for the Saturday 6.00pm Mass. At present, we have no one available to play the organ. The Parish would greatly appreciate it if anyone could help, even once a month. We also need an organist to play the organ at the 10.30am Mass on the fifth Sunday.

OCIA PROGRAM STARTING SOON Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) program is about to begin. **Start Date: 8th September. Who it is for:** Non-Christians and Non-Catholic Christians desiring to become Catholic. **Next Steps:** If you or someone you know is intending to become Catholic in the near future, please reach out for more information. **Contact Details:** Fr. Job and Janette Bradbrook (OCIA Co-ordinator)

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.



SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT PARISH WEBSITE.

Why can't we be smart?

Most of us are on smartphones and email. To apply for a preference certificate for catholic schools, register for baptisms, join the parish and planned giving, making enquiries, all you need to do is just focus on the QR code on your smartphone camera, click on the link, complete the form and submit. It saves your time and saves the time of the admin staff.

Preference Application



Parish Enrolment



Planned Giving



Contact office



STELLA MARIS PARISH DAY

When: Sunday 20th September 2026 at 10.00am to 2.30pm

Where: Haeata Community Campus, 240 Pages Rd, Aranui.

Please mark your Calander and make yourself to be a part of this parish gathering. One this day we gather as one parish family to celebrate the feast of our heavenly patroness once a year. The Celebrations will start with Mass at **10.00am**, followed by Entertainment from our four schools, Food and Fun Family Games for all.

There will be a vigil at St Annes at 6.00pm for those who can not make this parish family gathering. Other than that, there will be only one Mass on the parish day.

Masses Offered This Week

Please keep in your prayers all those who have recently passed away, as well as those whose death anniversaries occur this month. May their souls rest in peace.



STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday 2.00pm to 4.00pm (St Anne's 739 Ferry Road, Woolston)

Wednesday to Friday 9:am to 3.00pm (St Mary's 116 Lonsdale Street, New Brighton)

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: Dean Isherwood

Phone: 03 326 5315

principal@ourladystar.school.nz

Woolston—St Anne's

Principal: Dallas Wichman

Phone: 03 384 3073

principal@stannes.co.nz