



Stella Maris Parish

Catholic Parish of Christchurch Diocese

739 Ferry Road, Woolston, Christchurch 8023

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.

6 September 2026 | 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

CORRECTING IS AN ACT OF DEEP RESCUE

We often mistake silence for kindness. In a world that tells us to "live and let live," we are conditioned to believe that minding our own business is the ultimate form of charity. We stay quiet to avoid conflict, calling it tolerance, while looking the other way as people we care about slowly lose their way.

The readings for this Sunday shatter this comfortable illusion. God's word reveals a challenging truth: when it comes to the spiritual well-being of our neighbours, silence is not kindness—it is irresponsibility.

In the First Reading, God warns the prophet Ezekiel that a watchman who sees danger and fails to speak out is accountable for the ruin of others.

Jesus reinforces this in the Gospel, giving us a clear blueprint for what the Church calls "fraternal correction." He instructs us to go directly and privately to the person who has strayed, not to condemn them, but to win them back.

Remaining silent while a fellow parishioner or loved one destroys their life, or relationship with God is not love; it is apathy. True Christian love demands the courage to speak up.

This week, let us reject the safety of silent indifference and choose Christ's courageous, healing truth. Correcting done with genuine humility and gentleness, is an act of deep rescue.

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil

The Parish 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.**

CANCELLATION OF PO BOX 19625 SERVICE

Following the closure of the **NZ Post Private Box Service** at the Woolston location on 18 June 2026, and its relocation to the city centre, the parish has decided to cancel its PO Box service. If you currently use this PO Box number, please send all future mail directly to the parish physical address:
Stella Maris Parish, 739 Ferry Road, Woolston, Christchurch 8023.

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

Email: frjobts@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Father Paulo Filoialii

Assistant Priest:

Fr Vincent Barboza

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Office Administrator/ Finance:

Joseph Arackal

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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:

6 September 2026 | 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

Ezekiel 33: 7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Mathew 18: 15-20

Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

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, come and celebrate our heavenly Patron's Day.
Mass, performances from the school, food, and games.

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.

The parish is coordinating with the Samoan, Filipino and Indian communities to arrange shared food after the performances. There will be a free sausage sizzle, and the parish kindly encourages everyone to bring some finger food to share. After lunch, everyone can enjoy games for all ages, face painting and a bouncy castle. Come and join the fun!

"Our Lady Star of the Sea (Stella Maris) Pray for us"

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 STARTS THIS WEEK. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) program begins this week. 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 or Janette Bradbrook (OCIA Co-ordinator). Please keep the Candidates, Catechumens, and the OCIA team members in your prayers.

THE GRANDPARENT PRAYER MEETING for September is on **Saturday, 19th at 3 pm at St Mary's New Brighton Community Centre.** Please join us to pray for our children and grandchildren. Come early for a 'cuppa' before we start. Contact: Sandy on 021 180 4445 for details.

MISSION SUNDAY 100TH CELEBRATION: The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on October 18. The day is set aside to pray for the Church's mission and to support those who carry the Gospel to places where hope is fragile, where faith is young and where believers often face hardship or persecution. That support can be financial and through prayer. Find out more at: <https://missio.nz/>

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

Masses Offered this week:

We pray for the speedy recovery of **Wayne Hollands, who is seriously ill.**
We pray for the repose of the souls of **Jane Andrea Boyo and Rosela Salazar.**
May their souls rest in peace. .



STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday 2.00pm to 4.00pm, 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