



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.

27 September 2026 | 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

REFLECTING ON OUR 2026 PARISH DAY SUCCESS

Our recent **Parish Day** was a magnificent testament to the vitality of our community. This joyful event served to gather us in fellowship while celebrating our beloved Patron Saint, **Stella Maris – Our Lady Star of the Sea**.

The success of the celebration was anchored in meticulous preparation, which started a month ago. We owe an immense debt of gratitude to the dedicated volunteers who spent hours setting up the campus for the Mass, food, entertainment, and ensuring every detail was perfectly in place.

At the core of our day was the **Holy Mass**, the true spiritual centre of our gathering. We thank God and our Patron for gracing us with beautiful weather. The liturgy was profoundly elevated by our **Samoan, Filipino, Indian, and School communities**, who sang the parts of the Mass and hymns with remarkable, reverent voices.

Following Mass, the energy moved to the stage with outstanding **performances and singing from our three schools**. The spirit of unity seamlessly extended into lunchtime, featuring an incredible array of cultural foods generously shared by our **Samoan, Filipino, Indian, Bangladesh, Italian, and Stella Maris** parish communities. Alongside these traditional dishes, families enjoyed **sausage sizzle**, while children were delighted by **face painting and a bouncy castle**. The anticipation of the **raffle** added an extra layer of excitement to the afternoon.

My profound thanks go to **Sone Nafai**, our Main Co-ordinator, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to steer this entire event to success along with other coordinators. Many thanks to **Sone Nafai**, again who sponsored to hire 200 chairs in the hall which made a big difference this year's Parish Day.

A big thank you to **Dhanu** for excellently operating our light and sound system. Special thanks to **Joy Kochakkal** (free photography), **Jeffery** (livestream and screen display), and **Janette and her team** (activities and RAM).

To everyone who contributed: Thank you.

May **Our Lady Star of the Sea** continue to guide and bless you all.

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil
The Parish Priest



This Sunday, 27th September 2026, at St Anne's Church,
9:30am—10:15am—Come early for Mass and join us.

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

Assistant Priest:

Fr Vincent Barboza

Phone: 0225596472

Email: frvincent@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Office Administrator/ Finance:

Joseph Arackal

Phone: 03 384 1600 / 022 1014039

parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Pastoral Worker:

Janette Bradbrook

Phone: 022 317 4323

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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Ezekiel 18: 25-28

Philippians 2:1-11

Mathew 21: 28-32

Psalm: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

MISSION SUNDAY 100TH CELEBRATION

The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on **18 Oct.** 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/>

CENTENNIAL OF VENERABLE SUZANNE AUBERT

Sunday, 4 October 2026

Sanctuary of Fourviere, 67 Leithfield Road, Leithfield

You are warmly invited to celebrate the **Centennial of Venerable Suzanne Aubert** at the Sanctuary of Fourviere. **Holy Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am**, followed by a procession to the "Red Shed". Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy fellowship in the Sanctuary gardens. **All are welcome.**

The Beatitudes Community – Sanctuary of Fourviere NZ

COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2027 is available for sale: \$14. Please contact the Parish Office.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY:

October is designated as the Month of the Holy Rosary to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary through praying the Rosary, which consists of meditations on the mysteries of Christ's life. The church encourage us all to recite the Holy Rosary at home and in the church.

YOUTH GROUPS – SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAK

Our Youth Groups will be taking a break over the school holidays. All youth groups will return on Friday 12 October. Have a safe and wonderful holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back for another great term!

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – 2027 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

We are looking for volunteers to support our 2027 Sacramental Programmes, including:

- OCIC (Order of Christian Initiation of Children)
- Reconciliation & First Holy Communion
- Confirmation
- Marriage Preparation

Experience working with children, young people or couples would be wonderful and a passion for supporting others in their faith journey. If you would like to be part of helping our children, young people, families and couples grow in their faith and prepare for these important stages of their faith journey, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Janette via the Parish Office or email Janette@stellamarisparish.org.nz.



PROCLAIM
SUMMER CAMP
2027

FAITH | FRIENDSHIP | ADVENTURE



GROW
IN YOUR FAITH



BUILD
REAL FRIENDSHIPS



EXPERIENCE
NEW ADVENTURES



15TH – 17TH
JANUARY 2027



YEAR 8 – 13
(2027)



WOODEND
CHRISTIAN CAMP
WOODEND, CANTERBURY

REGISTRATIONS OPEN
at the start of Term 4!



DONATIONS WELCOME

to help with camp fees and support more young people to attend.

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, 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