



Stella Maris Parish

Catholic Parish of Christchurch Diocese

739 Ferry Road, Woolston, Christchurch 8023

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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.

18 October 2026 | 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

DUAL CITIZENSHIP

A Gospel Reflection: Whatever makes us good Christians ultimately makes us good citizens. We are, by nature, citizens of two worlds: the tangible world around us and the heavenly world which is unseen. Just as our heavenly citizenship binds us in duty to God, our earthly citizenship calls us to serve our fellow human beings. As Jesus beautifully commanded: *"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and give to God what is God's."*

While we pray that our dual allegiances never clash, history reminds us that they sometimes do. If faced with such a trial, we must look to St. Thomas More. When forced to choose between the laws of man and the laws of the spirit, St Thomas More resolved the conflict by remaining fiercely faithful to God.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2026 OCTOBER 18

One Century of Faith in Action: This weekend, around 1.422 billion Catholics across the globe unite to observe the historic **100th World Mission Sunday**.

Established a century ago in 1926 by a papal decree from Pope Pius XI, this annual observance remains a cornerstone of our faith. Since 1926, every October, the Universal Church pauses to pray, reflect, and re-ignite its missionary heart. This milestone celebration reminds us that no matter how different our personal circumstances may be, we are bound to the global Church, collectively charged with carrying forth the light of Christ.

In his official message for World Mission Sunday, Pope Leo XIV beautifully reminds us: "The more united we are in Christ, the better able we will be to carry out together the mission that He entrusts to us."

Let us embrace our shared missionary calling today. We can champion the Church's global work through three powerful actions: **living transparent Christian lives, offering fervent prayers, and contributing generous donations.**

Fr Job Thyikalamuriyil
The Parish Priest



Next Sunday, 25th October 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: 3rd 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: frjobts@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Father Paulo Filoialii

Assistant Priest:

Fr Vincent Barboza

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Office Administrator/ Finance:

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Pastoral Worker:

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Local Safeguarding Representative:

Makarita Fido-Isaako

Phone: 021 082 56819

volunteer@stellamarisparish.org.nz

Admin Support Volunteer:

Kathi Ryder

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PARISH NOTICES:

18 October 2026 | 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Mathew 22: 15-21

Psalm: Give the Lord glory and honour

MISSION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 18TH 2026

On the Mission Sunday, the Catholics around the world take up a collection for the Pope to support the Church's mission. Planned Giving envelopes will have an envelope marked "**MISSION SUNDAY**". Find out more at: <https://missio.nz/>

ALL SOULS DAY: MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2026

All Soul's Day Mass at 9.15am and 7.00pm at St Annes Church.

COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2027 is available for sale: \$14. Please contact the parish office or Pauline Colette at St Anne's or Helen Bamber at Sumner.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR BUILDING THE NEW

CATHEDRAL: Bishop Michael has launched the campaign for building the new Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. See more information: <https://cdoc.nz/news-events/plans> - Bishop Michael is asking for pledges - gifts paid over 5 years that allow you to make a lasting impact without financial strain. If/when you make your donation/pledge use this form:

<https://blessedsacrament.nz/donate/> - and nominate Stella Maris Parish.

PROCLAIM CAMP 2027 – Registrations Opening Soon!

Join us **15–17 January 2027 at Woodend Christian Camp** for three days of faith, friendship, fun and encountering Jesus! Open to students entering **Years 8–13 in 2027**. Registrations open **Friday, 16 October at 6 pm**. Spaces are limited! **All our Parish Youth Groups are back for term 4 on the 16th October in St Anne's Hall. Years 5–6: 3:15–4:00 pm, Years 7–13: 4:30–6:00 pm.**

Donations Welcome! Help cover camp fees and support more young people to attend.

Parish Account: 03-1592-0207535-020

Name: Catholic Parish East | **Reference:** Youth Camp.

THE GRANDPARENT PRAYER MEETING for October is on Saturday, 17th 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.'

ST ANNS ADVENT RETREAT:

CELEBRATING CHRIST - THE GREATEST GIFT

Enter the advent story through Ignatian contemplation.

When: Saturday 28th November 9.30am coffee/tea. 10am to 3pm: Ignatian Retreat.

Bring your imagination, a bible, a journal, an open heart and your lunch.

We will be working with chapter 1 and 2 from Luke's Gospel.

Read it through a few times before you come, allow yourself to be immersed in the story.

Led by Colin Renouf, Ignatian Spiritual Director, member of St Marys Pro-Cathedral.

Please mark your calendar .

RENTAL HOUSES ARE NEEDED FOR TWO FAMILIES

Star of the Sea School Parish family urgently looking for a rental in Sumner.

2-3 bedrooms, tenancy starting anytime from now to the start of December. Single mother and two sons who both attend Our Lady Star of the Sea School in Sumner. Their current tenancy has unexpectedly ended. Please call or message Sophie on 021 502102 if you can help in any way.

Anna Clare is looking for a rental house. 4 bedrooms house needed for 4 adults and two cats. Anna is one of the members of the Parish Leadership, OCIA and Alpha Team. Woolston area preferred but any considered. Anna Clare 02108577404.

DIAMOND HARBOUR MASS CHANGE

Starting from the Month of November 2026, Sunday Mass at Diamond Harbour will be on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 5.30pm. On other Sundays, the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be celebrated at 5.30pm with the permission of the Bishop.

ORGANISTS: St Anne's Church is still looking to have someone to play keyboard or piano or organ for the Saturday 6.00pm Mass. We also need an organist to play the organ on the fifth Sunday at 10.30am.

Masses Offered This Week

Please keep in your prayers Jane Andrea Boyo and Basilio 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