Stella Maris Parish

The Catholic Parish of Christchurch East (2020)
739 Ferry Road, Woolston, Christchurch 8023
Phone: 03 384 1600; Email: parish@stellamarisparish.org.nz
www.stellamarisparish.org.nz

15 November 2026 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

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.

LIVING TODAY IN THE LIGHT OF ETERNITY

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, the Church invites us to reflect on the purpose of our earthly journey and our ultimate destiny. In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus through the Parable of the Talents reminds us that life is a gift entrusted to us by God, and one day we will have to give an account of how we have lived it.

The master entrusts different amounts to his servants, expecting them to use what they have received and make it fruitful. The first two servants are praised not because they received more, but because they were faithful. The third servant, however, buries his talent out of fear and returns it unused. His failure was not that he had received less, but that he did nothing with what had been entrusted to him.

This parable challenges us to examine our own lives. God has entrusted us with time, abilities, relationships, opportunities and faith. Are we using these gifts to make a difference in the lives of others? Are we growing in love, generosity, forgiveness and service, or are we allowing fear, selfishness and indifference to prevent us from bearing fruit?

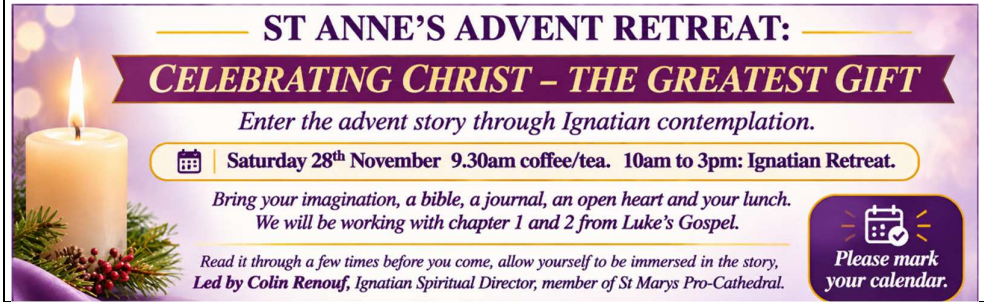
Living today in the light of eternity means recognising that our earthly life is not the final destination. We are journeying towards God. Every day offers us an opportunity to prepare for that meeting through faithful living and loving service.

Ultimately, the Lord desires to welcome us with the words: "Well done, good and faithful servant." May we live each day so that, when we meet Him, our lives will reflect the gifts He has entrusted to us.

Fr. Vincent Barboza
Assistant Priest







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.

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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

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Samoan Mass Times:
Woolston: 1st Sunday 12:30pm
New Brighton: 2nd Sunday 12:30pm

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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

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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

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PARISH CONTACTS:

Parish Priest:
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PARISH NOTICES:

15 November 2026 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr A

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 Mathew 25:14-30

Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

TABLETOP MORNING

Join us in St Anne's hall after Mass on Wednesdays.
Starting Wednesday 25th November at 10am have a cuppa, catch up with other, play a board game. All welcome
From the Parish Leadership Team: River and Anna Clare.

ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP

Wednesdays 2nd, 9th,16th and 23rd December. 7:00 pm at St Anne's hall. We will use the material from Formed "How to Advent". A gentle time to set aside to remind us of the importance of Advent in the midst of the craziness that sometimes surrounds Christmas. Come along, bring a friend.

ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE DIOCESAN PRIESTS

The annual priests' retreat will be held from this Sunday evening until Friday (15–20 November). Father Vincent and Father Job will be attending. Please keep all our priests in your prayers during this time of spiritual renewal. Please note the following Mass cancellations for this week. Thursday 19th : 9:15 am Mass at St Anne's is cancelled. Friday 20th : 9:30 am Mass at St James' School is cancelled.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AFTERNOON

Stella Maris Parish is incredibly grateful to everyone involved in our various ministries. To say thank you, the parish invites all volunteers from all our Mass centres for a 'Volunteer Appreciation Afternoon' on Sunday, 29th November at St Anne's Hall from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Please mark your Calander, please come and join.

THE GRANDPARENT PRAYER MEETING for November is on Saturday, 21st 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.

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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES are on the notice board and are emailed with the newsletter. News & Events - Catholic Diocese of Christchurch.

INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS INFORMATION NIGHT

In September 2028, Sydney will host the 54th International Eucharistic Congress (IEC). The congress consists of a week of activities, talks, events, and processions culminating in a final Mass attended by hundreds of thousands of people, celebrated by Pope Leo XIV. This is a great opportunity for Eucharistic Renewal, and the organizing team are keen to involve New Zealand as much as possible. There will be an information night on Wednesday November 25th beginning at 6pm at St Anne's Hall, Woolston. Matt O'Connell, who is the NZ Bishop's national delegate, will present all the info about this congress, including how individuals and parishes can get involved. For more information and to RSVP please contact the parish office.

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. I encourage every household in our parish be a part of this 5-year pledge.

PROCLAIM SUMMER CAMP 2027 – REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

Stella Maris Parish Youth Ministry invites young people to three days of faith, fellowship and fun, growing closer to Jesus.

When: 15–17 January 2027
Where: Woodend Christian Camp
Who: Students entering Years 8–13 in 2027

Spaces are limited! Register early using the QR code or link: https://stellamaris.elvanto.com.au/form/cdc11025-e864-499d-8bef-dc2431db1cf4

Masses Offered This Week

Please keep in your prayers Jane Andrea Boyo and Fernando Salazar, may their souls rest in peace.



STELLA MARIS PARISH OFFICE: 116 Lonsdale Street, New Brighton.
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	Woolston—St Anne's	New Brighton-New Brighton Catholic	Sumner—Our Lady Star of the Sea
Principal: Rose Firth-Scott	Principal: Dallas Wichman	Principal: Deb Daines	Principal: Dean Isherwood
Phone: 03 982-0009	Phone: 03 384 3073	Phone: 03 388 7982/	Phone: 03 326 5315
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