

PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ELLERSLIE



Parish Priest:
Fr. George Areeckal, C.Ss.R
Assistant Parish Priest:
Fr. Majesh (Thomas) Kurian, C.Ss.R
Vietnamese Community,
Pastoral Council Chairman:
Mr. Tu Ngo
Mobile: 0211851746

Parish Address:
66 Main Highway, Auckland NZ
Phone: (09) 579-5458
Parish Email:
icpellerslie@gmail.com
Parish website:
www.ellersliecatholic.org.nz
Facebook: @icparishellerslie

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm
Sunday 9:00am
Vietnamese Community 11:00am
Syro- Malabar Community 2:15pm
5:00pm
Monday 8.00am
(Liturgy of the Word & Communion)
Tuesday to Thursday 8.00am
Friday 9.00am
Saturday 9.00am
Public Holidays 9:00am

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturdays 9.45am onwards or by appointment

St. Mary's Parish Hall Hire
Ph. 579-5458

Parish Secretary: Evelyn Leech
Ph. 579-5458

Newsletter: icpellerslie@gmail.com

Parish Finance Administrator:
Margaret Burke QSM
Ph: 579-5458

Parish Office Hours:
Tuesday – 9.00am to 1.30 pm
Wednesday 9:00am to 12:00 pm
Thursday- Friday 8:30am to 12:00 pm

Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:
Leonard Casey

St. Mary's Catholic School:
Website: <http://www.stmary.school.nz/>

SACRAMENTS / DEVOTIONS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday & Saturday 8.00 – 9.00am

Rosary: Saturday - 8.45am

Novena - 9.25am (Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

Divine Mercy prayer: Friday 8.30am

ROSTER 2023

	18 th March 4 th Sunday of Lent Saturday 5:30pm	19 th March 4 th Sunday of Lent Sunday 9am	25 th March 5 th Sunday of Lent Saturday 5:30pm	26 th March 6 th Sunday of Lent Sunday 9am
Commentator	Mercy Edward	Leonila Teodoro	Charmaine D'lima	Sine Foulger
1st Reading	Russell D'Lima	Andy Tibbitts	Mercy Edward	Rizallee Galvez
2nd Reading	Michael Manuel	Margaret Burke	Deepak Jesudas	Akilla Sivathanan
Communion Ministers	Theresa Bennett	Sheila d'Souza	Jacinta Chow	Andy Tibbitts
Altar Servers	Mischa and Damien Budiono Joshua Fernandez	Taiaopo and Vincent Lafaele Robert Liu	Rachel Ann and Aaron D'lima	Killian Casey Zhen Ng Benjamin Lo
Collectors	Theresa and John Bennett	Lotofusi Tuisaemo Margaret Burke	John Bennett Michael Manuel	Amanda Yuen Lo Margaret Burke
Offertory	Bennett family	Fuimaono family	Domilies family	Yuen Lo family
Musicians	Chow family	Martin Ng	Lara Miranda	Tongan Community
Data Projector	Jacinta Chow	Volunteer needed	Brendan Liddington	Tongan Community
Counters		Sarah Ulmer Andrew Sue		Tony Morcom Aaron Fernandez
Church cleaners	Tongan Comm, Rizallee Galvez, Joleen Millard		Vietnamese Community	
Flowers	Tongan Comm Rizallee Galvez		Vietnamese Community	

Last Sunday's collection: \$1,013.40

Thank you so much for your kind generosity. You can send your pledge to the parish by automatic payment: Ellerslie parish Account: BNZ 02-0100-0120958-20.

The Parish is served by Redemptorist Missionaries
www.cssr.com, www.cssr.org.au

We welcome any visitors and new parishioners to our parish. If you would like to register, forms are available in the foyer or send an email to icpellerslie@gmail.com for the form.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: We, the Parish of Immaculate Conception Ellerslie are God's people seeking God's purposes and fulfilling them through service, inspired by the Holy Spirit, assisted through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

4th Sunday of Lent

18/19 March 2023

REFLECTION:

The question of human suffering was a big problem in Biblical times. It still is a big problem.

An Old Testament view saw a connection between suffering and sin. Suffering was seen as God's punishment for sin. Suffering served as a stark reminder to people of this side of God. But this left them with a very negative image of God. It made God out to be spiteful and vindictive. And, by and large, this was the view that prevailed. Hence, when the apostles saw the blind man they immediately concluded that his blindness was the result of sin. But there still remained the problem: for whose sin he was suffering-his own or his parents'? So, hoping that Jesus would solve the problem for them, they asked him, 'Why was this man born blind? Who sinned? Was it the man himself or his parents?'

Jesus said, 'Neither this man nor his parents, but in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.' Thus, he rejected the connection between suffering and sin. The man's blindness was not a punishment from God. God does not do evil.

Jesus went on to say, 'This is an opportunity for me to show you what the works of God are really like.' Then he proceeded to heal the man. So the man's blindness did reveal something about what God is like. It showed God's

compassion in the face of human suffering.

Talking about a problem will never solve it. Action will. Evil is a reality. The best response to it is to do good. What this man needed was not a lecture on the origins of evil but healing. Thus, what was a problem for the apostles became an opportunity for Jesus- an opportunity to do the work of God.

Jesus went on to say that the days of his earthly life was drawing to a close; the night of death was fast approaching. The time for works of love and mercy was limited. 'As long as the day lasts, I must carry out the work of the one who sent me.'

The suffering of others is an opportunity for us too – an opportunity to show that we care. We shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that we can do, or any kindness that we can show, to any human being, let us do it now; let us not defer it or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again.

**WAY OF
THE CROSS**
Every
Friday in
Lent at
6:00 p.m.

29 March
Reconciliation
7pm
Lenten
Reconciliation

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

01 April – 5:30 pm	Blessing of Palms followed by Holy Mass
02 April – 9:00 am	Palm Sunday <i>Blessing of the Palms at the Grotto followed by procession to the Church then the Holy Mass</i>
03-05 April	8:00 am Mass
06 April – 11am-12pm	Common Adoration
– 7:00 pm	Thursday of the Lord's Supper
07 April Friday of the Passion of the Lord	
– 1:30 pm	The Way of the Cross
– 3:00 pm	Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
08 April – 7:00 pm	The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
09 April – 9:00 am	Easter Sunday

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Saturday Vigil Ministries

As Holy Week draws near and you have been rostered for ministries for our Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday masses OR are part of the music ministry, we are needing Ministers of the Word for Holy Thursday (2 people), Good Friday (2 people and for Gospel 2), Easter Saturday Vigil (3 people for the readings from Old Testament), Eucharistic Ministers, Commentators for the General Intercession on Good Friday (2 people), Cantors for Easter Saturday Vigil Exsultet, psalms (2 people), Litany of the Saints. Collectors for Holy Thursday and Easter Saturday vigil.

If you are available, please contact **Theresa Stowers by Friday 24 March 2023 - theresa_stowers@hotmail.com**

Solemnity of Saint Joseph - 20th March
There will be mass at 8:00 am

This Sunday's Readings:

Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

Psalms 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Ephesians 5:8-14

Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you

John 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

Rite of Christian Initiation into the Catholic Faith

Please continue to pray for Archie, Mia, Lily, Priscilla and Angelina who will be going through their final preparations before their Sacraments of Initiation at our parish Easter Saturday vigil mass.

Candles for Easter Saturday Vigil

Please bring your own candles for our Easter Saturday Vigil mass. Ensure that you have a candle holder to capture wax. At Palm Sunday masses a member of the Liturgy committee will show what can be used as candle holders. Candles will not be made available. Thank you.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday

Adoration will begin on Holy Thursday after the Syro Malabar service. Father will announce time on Holy Thursday when Adoration will begin and finish.

Adoration or Veneration of the Cross Good Friday

Due to Health and Safety, we are taking precautions to keep members of our parish safe. Adoration or venerating of the cross on Good Friday we ask everyone not to kiss the cross. You could touch the cross and bow your heads when during adoration or veneration.

DONATIONS AND PLEDGE GIVING



If you wish to make a DONATION to the parish but you have NO CASH? No problem.

We have now an EFTPOS machine with PayWave that accepts all cards, except Amex and Diners, located in the church foyer. You can choose the amount you would like to donate. This can be done **before or after** Mass. If you are considering pledging a regular amount to the parish via automatic payment or envelope, please email icparishellerslie@gmail.com or ring the office. There are also forms in the foyer. The benefit of this is the 33% rebate available from IRD.

Join us for the MOST important pro-life and pro-family conference of 2023!

We're living in a time of confusion and chaos with false freedom being extolled as the sure path to happiness. But there still is hope!

23 – 26 MARCH 2023 (Thursday- Sunday)

Novotel, 72-112 Green Lane East, Ellerslie Auckland

Opening Mass on 23rd March at St Michael's Catholic Church, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera

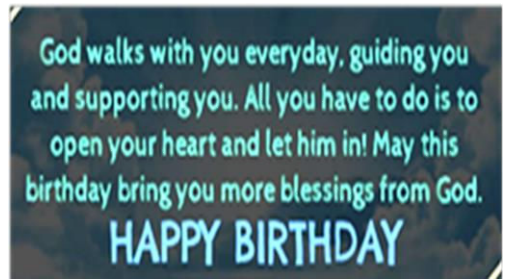
To register and for more information, go to <https://fli.org.nz/conference2023/>

NZ CATHOLIC \$4 - March 11-25 issue is out now. Some headlines for this issue: Needs shift for Cyclone Gabrielle flood victims. Parish renewal is an adventure which brings new life. Agent selling St Gerard's has personal connection. Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2023. Giant window brought back to life in Methven.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially: *Nigel Casey-Poole, Valerian Luis, Joan Luis, Alma Mar, Gary Chen, Rowena Edgeworth, Ems Pengosro, Alvyne Rose R. Eslava, Micah, Connee Robertson, Jocelyn Lardizabal Liberato Ramos, Andrew Oryan and all those recovering from surgery or needing our prayers.*

We remember those who have died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: *Fr. Mario Dorado, Anthony Prendeville, Lance Fallow, Dorothy Walker, Albert Agnew, Andrew Casey, Alice O'Meagher, John Moore, William Smith, Lillian Mansor, Joe Malloy, Barisa Lovich, Matilda Carter, Sr. Alexis, Hazel Murphy, Bill Maxwell, Edgar Hossack, Bernard Miskell, Maude Fitze, Merv Baker, Laura Gilbert, Albert Bayer, Doris Hart, Rona Turnock, Bob Gherardi, Maria Gubatan Sr. Maria Szczepanski, Leonard Corless, Catherine Furey, Nimal Silva, Jose Rosales, Simone Taumohaapai Haungatai, Desmond Turnock. Michael Collins, Paula Bayao. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. For additions or amendments to the Prayers for the Sick or Anniversaries please e-mail the parish.*

Wishing everyone celebrating their birthday this week a very Happy Birthday. God bless



Kids Korner and Parent Pondering.

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Fourth-SUNDAY-of-LENT.pdf>
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/JESUS-GREAT-LOVE-THROUGH-THE-STORMS-OFLIFE.pdf>

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of Attendance Dues with preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic schools in the Auckland Diocese Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest or the ACFL Operations Manager on 09-360-3069 at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland for further information. Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website: https://www.auckland_catholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/