

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm
 Sunday 9.00am
 Vietnamese Community 11:30am
 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

Pastoral Council Chairperson: Leonard Casey

SACRAMENTS / DEVOTIONS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Fri & Sat 8.00am – 9.00am

Divine Mercy prayer:

Friday 8.30am

Rosary:

Saturday 8.30am

Novena:

Saturday 9.25am

(Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

Parish Office Administrator:

Bambi Lee

Ph. 579-5458

Email: icpellerslie@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9:00am -1:00 pm

Hall Hire: Ph. 579-5458

St. Mary's Catholic School:

Website: <http://www.stmary.school.nz/>

Mass Roster

	6-Jan-24	7-Jan-24	13-Jan-24	14-Jan-24	20-Jan-24	21-Jan-24	27-Jan-24	28-Jan-24
		The Epiphany of the Lord		2nd Sunday of Ord Time		3rd Sun of Ord Time		4th Sun of Ord Time

Commentator &
Prayers of
Faithful

1st Reader

2nd Reader

Communion
Minister

Altar Servers

Collectors

Musicians

Laptop
Operator

Offertory Group

Counters

Church
Cleaning

Flowers group

There are no assigned duties in January.

*If you are able to assist,
 please contact Theresa Stowers at
theresa_stowers@hotmail.com.
 Subject title: Volunteering Mass Roster*

If you wish like to volunteer on a regularly basis in our Liturgy Committee, please email Parish Office,
 Theresa Stowers theresa_stowers@hotmail.com and Andy Tibbitts andytibbittsnz@outlook.com

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.

PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ELLERSLIE

Parish Priest:

Fr. Joseph V.J., C.Ss.R

Assistant Parish Priest:

Fr. Sijo John, C.Ss.R

Vietnamese Comm:

Mr.Tu Ngo 021851746



66 Main Highway, Auckland NZ

(09) 579-5458

icpellerslie@gmail.com

www.ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Parish

Ellerslie

The Epiphany of the Lord 6 / 7 JANUARY 2024

Searching for the King

There is a legend that says there were not three but four Magi. The name of the fourth was Artaban. He too saw the star and decided to follow it, taking with him a sapphire, a ruby, and a pearl as gifts for the new King. His three friends, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar were waiting for him at an agreed spot. However, on the way there he came upon a man lying wounded by the roadside. He brought the man to an inn and had him taken care of. When he finally got to the agreed meeting place he found that his friends had left. Needing a camel and supplies to get across the desert, he sold the sapphire to buy them. When he reached Bethlehem, once again he was too late. Joseph and Mary had taken the baby and fled into Egypt to escape Herod's killers. In the house where he was staying there was a year-old baby boy. The mother feared for the life of her child. One evening soldiers came to the door. Artaban went out to meet them. With the ruby he bribed the captain not to enter, and the child was saved. The mother was overjoyed. Artaban, however, was sad because now he had only the pearl left as a gift for the King. During the years that followed he searched in many places for the King. But he always seemed to be late. Some thirty years later he came to Jerusalem. He was now old and weary and dispirited. A number of crucifixions were taking place the very day he arrived. He was horrified to hear that Jesus was among those who were being executed. He hurried towards the hill of execution. Perhaps with the pearl he could save his life. However, on his way to Calvary he met a girl who was fleeing from a band of soldiers. The girl's father had incurred large debts, and she was being sold into slavery. Artaban took out his pearl, gave it to the soldiers, and the girl was allowed to go. But now he had to face his King empty-handed. Just then the sky began to get dark. An earthquake shook the ground. Houses began to rock. Roof tiles began to fly. One of them hit Artaban on the head. Mortally wounded he struggled onwards. But he died before reaching the hill of execution. He never quite succeeded in catching up with his King.

Yet in a sense Artaban always had his King. All those years he had carried him in his mind and heart. The King had inspired in him deeds of love and generosity, and had illuminated all his journeying with meaning and hope. Artaban had found his God, because the person who is genuinely searching for God has already found him. Artaban is a model of faith. Those who believe in and love Jesus are changed; they act and live differently.

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.

Family Visits

Dear Parishioners,

May the Peace and Blessings of the Lord be with you all.

We are thrilled to announce the 'Family Visit' Initiative in this parish.

As your Pastors, we believe that knowing you not only within the walls of our church but also in the comfort of your own homes is a vital part of fostering our shared faith and fellowship.

These visits would be an opportunity for us to meet you personally, hear your stories, share a prayer and blessing for your home, and simply get to know you better.

If you are interested in arranging a family visit, please contact the parish office at (09) 579-5458 during office hours or email to icpellerslie@gmail.com.

Your participation is entirely voluntary. You are always in our thoughts and prayers regardless of your decision.

May God bless you and your families.

With love and prayers in Christ,

Fr. Joseph V.J., C.S.S.R.

Fr. Sijo John, C.S.S.R.

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading: Is 60:1-6: The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

2nd Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6: The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12: We have come from the East to worship the King.



Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading: 1 Sam 3:3-10, 19:

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening.

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20: Your bodies are members of the body of Christ.

Gospel: John 1:35-42: They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him.

~UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER~

26th Dec. – 31st Jan 2024 -

Weekday Masses @ 9.00 am

8th Jan – The Baptism of the Lord (1st week of Ord time)

29th Jan – Auckland Anniversary (Public Holiday)

Sacramental Programme for 2024



Parents of Year 5 baptised students can now register ONLINE for our parish 2024 Sacramental programme via our parish website:

<https://ellersliecatholic.org.nz/sacramental-programme-2021/sacramental-programme/>

Applications strictly closes on 25th Feb 2024.

Planning a new years resolution?

Why not consider volunteering at our Parish?

If you would like to volunteer at Mass Services, contact Theresa Stowers

theresa_stowers@hotmail.com

If you have a passion to grow our children's faith, Reach out to Anne Casey tradebox.annecasey@yahoo.co.nz OR Judy judymacmen@gmail.com (Sacramental prog)

Or if you would like to help out in other areas like music, choir, ushering, altar serving, flower arrangement, church cleaning, hospitality or in the Alpha programme?

Email the Office and you will be directed to the right persons.

Food bank Co-Coordinator wanted

Anyone still interested to share the role of Food bank coordinator with Evelyn in her food bank duties.

Contact Evelyn on 0274 722117 or email sandeleeach@gmail.com



Titipounamu Study & Joy
has been set up to motivate and inspire.

- Articles, reflections and input for your daily life
- Weekly radio programme Muffin Talk – Interviews
- YouTube video clips on Community initiatives and Bible courses
- Online workshops, seminars, presentations
- Online day retreats and reflections and much more...

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

2024 NZ Bible Diary \$20.00

2024 Columban Art Calendars \$12.00

Are now available to purchase from Parish Office.

NZ Catholic magazine \$4.00 – Avl. at the church foyer.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Lily Chua, Carrie Canapi, Janilyn Novelas, Jumer Cosme, Nigel Casey-Poole, Valerian Luis, George Tooman, Joan Luis, Gary Chen, Rowena Edgeworth, Ems Pengosro, Alvyne Rose R. Eslava, Connee Robertson, Josie Pearson and all those recovering from surgery or needing our prayers.

We remember those who have died and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

*William Griffin, Charles Turner, Theo Jacobsen, Mary McNamara, Thomas Gardiner, Jim Edwards, Fr. Dennis Farrell, Linda E C Tunupopo, Joe Coleman, Margaret Webb, Tom Coybe, Carol Pringle, Helen Barnett, Ella Godwin, Torrence McAnnully, Owen O'Brien, Ron Beckett, Morris Connor, Elsie Taylor, Mary J Snelgar, Orlando Uy, Sis. Afra Rnom, Cora Forde, Mary Wyke, Richard Coombe, George Tooman, Jim Clarke, Vera Handford, David Skeen **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 Office***

Last Sunday's collection: \$1567.00 (excl Cash Collection)

Prev newsletter revision: Sunday/ Christmas incl. Cash Collection: 3633.50

Thank you so much for your kind generosity. Kindly note our bank account details are as below:

BNZ 02-0108-0706777-00.