

**MASS TIMES**

**Sunday** 9:00am  
 Sun Vietnamese Community 11:30am  
 Sun Syro- Malabar Comm 2:00 pm & 5.00pm  
**Monday** 8.00am  
*(Liturgy of the Word & Communion)*  
**Tuesday to Thursday** 8.00am  
**Friday** 9.00am  
**Saturday** 9.00am  
 Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm  
 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  
**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](mailto:icpellerslie@gmail.com)  
 Office Hours: Tue to Fri 9:00am -1:00 pm  
 Hall Hire: Ph. 579-5458

**St. Mary's Catholic School:**  
 Principal: Mrs. Sue Kubala  
 Website: <http://www.stmary.school.nz/>  
 Ph: 09-579 8937

**Mass Roster**

Date/ Time	24/08/2024 Sat 17:30pm	25/08/2024 Sun 09:00am	31/08/2024 Sat 17:30pm	01/09/2024 Sun 09:00am
<b>Name of Week</b>	21st Sunday in Ordinary time	21st Sunday in Ordinary time		22nd Sunday in Ordinary time
<b>Commentators &amp; PoF</b>	Rolinda D'Souza	St Mary's School Mass	Eugene Miranda	Filipino Community
<b>1st Reader</b>	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	St Mary's School Mass	Rolinda D'Souza	Filipino Community
<b>2nd Reader</b>	Lourdes Domilies	St Mary's School Mass	Cyrus Jesudas	Filipino Community
<b>Communion</b>	Jacinta Chow	Andy Tibbitts & Sheila D'Souza	Rasika Kalaha Wattega	Leonila Teodoro & Heather Kelly
<b>Altar servers</b>	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	Zhen Ng, Benjamin Lo & Toby Leech	Rachelann D'Lima & Cheryl Jesudas	Maya MacMenigall, Benjamin Fuimaono & Menula Silva
<b>Collectors</b>	Lourdes & Christian Domilies	St Mary's School Mass	Taliauli Family	Lotofusi Tuisaemo & Tina D'Souza
<b>Musician</b>	Lara Miranda	St Mary's School Mass	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	Filipino Comm & Bambi
<b>Laptop</b>	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	St Mary's School Mass	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	Filipino Community
<b>Offertory</b>	Domilies family	St Mary's School Mass	Bennett Family	Filipino Community
<b>Counters</b>		Tony Moroom & Andy Tibbitts		Andy Tibbitts & Ian McCombe
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Vietnamese Comm		St Marys Parents	
<b>Flower Arrangements</b>	Vietnamese Comm		<i>Volunteer Req</i>	
<b>Morning Tea</b>		Parish Food Festival		Father's Day- Mothers and Women of Parish

For any roster changes, please email Parish Office and Andy Tibbitts [andytibbittsnz@outlook.com](mailto:andytibbittsnz@outlook.com)  
*As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10 (RSV)*

**Last Sunday's collection: \$2325.80**

Thank you so much for your kind generosity.  
 Our bank account as below Or scan the QR code  
**BNZ 02-0108-0706777-00**



**Kids' Korner Links**  
[21st Sun of Ord Time](#)  
[My Busy Day](#)

The Parish is served by Redemptorist Missionaries  
[www.cssr.com](http://www.cssr.com), [www.cssr.org.au](http://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](mailto: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.

**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  
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 Facebook: Immaculate Conception Parish Ellerslie

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 24/ 25 August 2024**

**Freedom to choose**

In recent years, we have witnessed the proliferation of cults. One of the most disturbing aspects of these groups is the hold they have over their members. The leaders are invariably people who crave control, while the members are often insecure and vulnerable individuals, easy prey for such manipulators.

There is a stark contrast between Christ's approach and that of cult leaders. Unlike the cult leaders who seek to control their followers, Jesus encouraged his disciples to exercise their free will.



We see a prime example of this in today's Gospel. The cross was already looming over Jesus. His disciples faced a crucial decision: to stay with him or to abandon him. Some remained loyal only during his time of prosperity, but at the first sign of hardship, they betrayed him. Others had come to him for personal gain, but when asked to suffer for him or give to others, they faltered.

Yet, a faithful remnant remained. Peter spoke for them, saying, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." His decision to stay was rooted in his personal loyalty to Jesus and his belief in Jesus' teachings. Even though he didn't understand everything, he knew that Jesus had the path to eternal life.

If we follow Christ, we will always be free. Our freedom lies not in doing whatever we please, but in doing what is right. When we align our actions with what is right, we become instruments that are played as intended.

## Mass Readings



**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Josh 24:1-2,15-18: We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

**Resp Psalm 33:2-3, 16-23: R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Eph 5:21-32: This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

**Gospel:** Jn 6:60-69: Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

## ~UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER~

25<sup>th</sup> Aug – St Mary's School House Mass

25<sup>th</sup> Aug – Parish FOOD FESTIVAL

29<sup>th</sup> Aug – Passion of John the Baptist

1<sup>st</sup> Sept – Father's Day

Father Sijo is going for his home holidays in India this week. He will be away for a month. Let us pray for his safe journey home to India and may he have a restful time and good catch up with his family and friends.



## PARISH NOTICES

**LINE DANCING ANYONE?** Anyone of any age, who is interested in learning LINE DANCING in our parish, are invited to contact Mabel Fernandez on 022 172 9694 or email [mabelfernandesnz@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:mabelfernandesnz@yahoo.co.nz) . or Ralphael ng on 022 1936579/ 09 2811557/ [ngalthong@gmail.com](mailto:ngalthong@gmail.com)

## MORNING TEA FOR FATHERS DAY – NEXT SUN, 1ST SEPT

We will have morning tea after 9am Sunday Mass. Please come and join us for Sunday morning tea to celebrate the occasion with the father figures in our lives.

## ANNUAL PARISH FOOD FESTIVAL

Come join us for our **Food Festival in the parish hall** this Sunday after Mass and tantalise your pallet with food cuisines from Asia, Pacific Island and some Kiwiana favourites.

All proceeds will contribute to the Youth group's funding for the 2027 World Youth Day in South Korea.

Cash and EFTPOS will be available.



## DIOCESE NOTICES

### Young Adults Ball Sat | 14 Sept | 7pm | McHugh's of Cheltenham

Back by popular demand, we are excited to bring you The Young Adults Ball 2024! Themed 'Wonderland'. Here's your chance to put on your best formal attire and fall down the rabbit hole and into a world of whimsy, where the fantastical realm of Alice in Wonderland awaits! Indulge in canapes fit for a tea party, and select some of your favourite beverages available at the bar (With one free drink included in your ticket). Don't be late for this very important date! - secure your tickets now: tickets \$120 (Ticket sales close 31st August or if sold out). \*This is an 18+ event. Tickets: [https://Young\\_Adults\\_Ball.eventbrite.com](https://Young_Adults_Ball.eventbrite.com)

### Ever wanted to know something about the Holy Land? Wed | 28 Aug | 9.00pm on ZOOM

Let us be ecumenical (unite in our various Christian faith) by joining in our friends of the Armenian Church to an interesting online ZOOM lecture about the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem**. Prof Roberta Ervine, from New York, will give us a virtual tour/talk of the Church and it is free to register. Email Deacon Nishan on [nishanbasmajian@gmail.com](mailto:nishanbasmajian@gmail.com) for the ZOOM link

## Trafficking and Modern Slavery is happening in New Zealand.

A talk by Sis. Karen Brill and Siss Margaret O' Neill, members of TKANZ , Talitha Kum Against Trafficking (TK) **Wed | 28 Aug | 10.30am | St. Joseph's Church, Orakei** Catholic Women's League, Orakei – Eastern Suburbs, invites you to their event starting with Mass at 10.30am followed by Morning Tea and talk at 11.00am, then a hot lunch and sweet treats. Cost: \$20 (All goes to charity). For more details and RSVP: Call Tina Raines on 021 940 950/ 09-5212499 [tinairaines@orcon.net.nz](mailto:tinairaines@orcon.net.nz)

## Women of St Peter's evening

**Tues | 6 Sept | 5.30pm | St Peters School Hall** The St Peters College Old Boys and Friends Association, and the College would like to invite and honor all women in association with St Peters College, past or present to this event which honours their contribution. Free entry and cash base operating. Nibbles provided RSVP to [oldboys@stpeters.school.nz](mailto:oldboys@stpeters.school.nz)

## A Taste of Theology - "Christian identity, life and mission in Lumen Gentium, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

**Tues | 3 Sept | 5.30-6.30 on Zoom.** Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is holding Lecture 6 in the series led by Rev Dr Merv Duffy. For \$60, you get access to all 9 courses in this lecture series and join the remaining live sessions. To register go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology)

## Volunteer Opportunities - English Teachers, Youth Workers & Youth Ministers

The Cagliero Project is an initiative of the Australia-Pacific Province of the Salesians of Don Bosco, providing overseas volunteer experiences for Australians and New Zealanders who wish to work with young people in the Asia-Pacific region.

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for January 2025 departure for a 6-12 months and are centered around working with young people in educational settings.

We are currently recruiting for volunteers for Cambodia, Samoa, Timor Leste, Mongolia and the Solomon Islands. We aim to utilise the skills and talents of our volunteers to provide the best possible contribution to the host community. Our aim is to walk in solidarity with young people and for volunteer and host to have a mutual learning experience. We are also present in host communities to be role models - people that young people can aspire to be.

For more information, or to send us an enquiry, follow this link: <http://cagliero.org.au/>

Applications close October 31st, 2024.

Contact: Lauren Hichaaba, Director of the Cagliero Project ([lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au))

## The Churches of Auckland Celebrate Christian Unity.

**Sun | 25 Aug | 5:00pm | St Elias Melkite Catholic Church, 5 Mt. Lebanon Crescent, The Gardens Manurewa.** Join us at this annual Prayer Service and Light Refreshments will be provided.

## CDA CONNECT (DIGITAL MAGAZINE)

What's been going on in the diocese?

Click on Header or visit <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

## Parish Activities

To foster community, spiritual growth, and shared fellowship, please come along to our small group activities that we have in this parish:-

**Alpha Programme**  
Graeme White  
[alphaellersliecatholic@gmail.com](mailto:alphaellersliecatholic@gmail.com)

**Divine Mercy Novena Group** – Sheila D'Souza  
[celinsheids@gmail.com](mailto:celinsheids@gmail.com)

**Faith Sharing Group**  
Raphael Ng  
[ngalthong@gmail.com](mailto:ngalthong@gmail.com)

**Food Bank Delivery**  
Evelyn Leech  
[sandeleech@gmail.com](mailto:sandeleech@gmail.com)

**Marian Mothers Grp**  
Anne Casey  
[tradebox.annecasey@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:tradebox.annecasey@yahoo.co.nz)

**Parish History Group**  
Claudia Forycki  
[cforycki@water.co.nz](mailto:cforycki@water.co.nz)

**Jnr & Snr Youth Group**  
Cyrus Jesudas  
[cyrusjesudas@gmail.com](mailto:cyrusjesudas@gmail.com)

**RCI and Sacramental Prog** –Theresa Stowers  
[Theresa\\_Stowers@hotmail.com](mailto:Theresa_Stowers@hotmail.com)

## Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

*Catherine Ng, Raphael Ng, Edward Salvatore Fleming, Lily Chua, Carrie Canapi, Janilyn Novelas, Jumer Cosme, Valerian Luis, Joan Luis, George Tooman, 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:

*Antonia Orsulich, Gus Williams, Valentina R Thomas, Ellen Briston, Frank Quin, Edmund O'Donoghue, Alisi Vea, Brian Turnbull, Walter Gee, Tory Dyer, Rita Moore, Charles Hawkins, Despina Pavletich, Stela Patton, Mary & James Quinn & Family, Vitolina Ah Fook, Ivan Armstrong, John McGrath, Petar Lavas, Edward Borland, Eileen F Tooman, Ashley Jones, Mrs. Lynch, K McMullen, Albert J Gordon, Muriel Maxwell, Graham Shore, Conchita Quenano, Dionaldo, Annie McGrath, Florence Armstrong, Francis Lunny, Patricia Lind, Arnold Thorpe, Irene Gudsell their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. For additions or amendments, please e-mail the Parish Office*