

MASS TIMES

Sunday 9:00 am
 Sun Vietnamese Community 11:30 am
 Sun Syro- Malabar Comm 7.00 am, 1.45 pm & 5.30 pm

Monday to Thursday (during Lent) 8.00am
Friday 9.00am
Saturday 9.00am
 Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm
 Public Holidays 9:00am

SACRAMENTS / DEVOTIONS

Confession/Reconciliation:
 Saturdays 9.45am onwards or by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
 Fri & Sat 8.00am
Divine Mercy prayer: Friday 8.30am
 Way of the Cross: Friday 6 pm.
Rosary: Saturday 8.30am
Novena: Saturday 9.25am
 (Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

Pastoral Council Chairperson: Leonard Casey

Parish Office Administrator: Bambi Lee
 Phone: 579-5458
 Email: icpellerslie@gmail.com
 Office Hours: Tue to Friday 9:00am -1:00 pm
 Hall Hire: 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	15/03/2025 Sat 17:30pm	16/03/2025 Sun 09:00am	22/03/2025 Sat 17:30pm	23/03/2025 Sun 09:00am
Name of Week		2nd Sunday of Lent		3rd Sunday of Lent
Commentators & PoF	Charmaine D'Lima	Evelyn Leech	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	St Marys School
1st Reader	Russel D'Lima	Tina D'Souza	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	St Marys School
2nd Reader	Tilla Miranda	Taiaopo Lafaele	Theresa Bennett	St Marys School
Communion	Rolinda D'Souza	Andy Tibbitts	Jacinta Chow	Andy Tibbitts & Sheila D'Souza
Altar servers	Rachelann D'Lima	Vincent Lafaele, Ragnar Ordono & Robert Liu	Christian D	Zhen Ng, Benjamin Lo & Toby Leech
Collectors	<i>Volunteer Req</i>	Katrina & Amanda Yuen Lo	Domilies Family	St Marys School
Musician	Chow Family	Christian D & Theresa	Lara Miranda	St Marys School
Laptop	Jacinta Chow	Theresa Stowers	Brendan Liddington	St Marys School
Offertory	Bennett Family	Fuimaono Family	Domilies family	St Marys School
Counters		Sarah Ulmer & Andrew Tsue		Tony Morcom & Aaron Fernandez
Church Cleaning	Tongan Comm		Vietnamese Comm	
Flower Arrangements	Tongan Comm		Vietnamese Comm	

Please refer to the email with One Drive file for updates and changes.

Last week's collection (incl Auto Payments): \$1585.80

Thank you so much for your kind generosity.

Our bank account **BNZ 02-0108-0706777-00**

Kid's Korner Links

[2nd Sunday of Lent](#)

[Encourage Someone for Lent](#)

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.



OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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, Ellerslie,
 Auckland NZ
 (09) 579-5458
icpellerslie@gmail.com

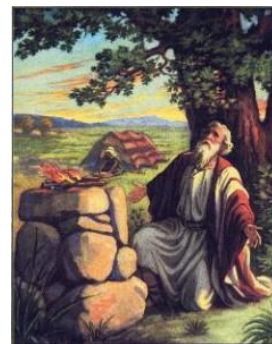
www.ellersliecatholic.org.nz
<https://www.facebook.com/icpellerslie>

The 2nd Sunday of Lent

08 / 09 Mar 2025

The Covenant of God

The concept of a "covenant" differs significantly from a "contract." While a contract is a legal, interest-driven agreement, a covenant is rooted in love and friendship, representing God's relationship with humanity. In the Bible, God's covenant with his people, exemplified by the one with Abraham, illustrates this bond. Unlike a contract based on fear, God desires love-driven obedience. This covenant, ratified through ancient rituals involving animal sacrifice, highlights God's unilateral commitment to a lasting relationship.



The covenant with Abraham is a pivotal Old Testament event, establishing the foundation for God's ongoing relationship with his people. God initiated this relationship, promising Abraham numerous descendants, a homeland, and the blessing of all nations through the Messiah.

Despite human failings, God remained faithful, fulfilling his promise in Jesus. Jesus, in turn, established a new and eternal covenant, sealed with his blood, elevating believers to God's family.

This new covenant, led by Jesus, guides Christians toward the "promised land" of eternal life. Like Moses, who led the old people of God but never reached the earthly Promised Land, Christians journey in faith and die in hope, anticipating the fulfilment of God's promise in heaven.

McCarthy Flor, New Sunday and holiday liturgies Year C Dominican Publications 2012



Mass Readings

<https://universalis.com/nz.auckland/1300/m.ass.tm>

1st Reading

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18:
 God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Resp Psalm

Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14:
 R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading:

Phil 3:17 - 4:1: Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! (Mt 17:5)

Gospel:

Lk 9:28-36: As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass on Mondays - During Lent, there will have Mass (not just Liturgy of the Word) on Mondays at 8.00 am.

The Way of the Cross - The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at **6.00 pm**.

Emerald Cedar fir leaves requests for Palm Sunday

We're seeking donations of *Thuja Smaragd/ Thuja Plicata* leaves used for parishioners to hold on Palm Sunday. If you can assist, please message Theresa (Theresa_Stowers@hotmail.com).



Pledge envelopes

Anyone wanting to change their pledge tithing from envelopes to direct banking (Auto Payment/ Direct Debit), please inform Parish Office by 23rd March.

Announcements will be made once the envelopes are available for collection in church foyer.

Tax receipts for April 2024 – March 2025 are expected to be ready by end of April 2025.

St Mary's School House Mass is on 23rd March. Please be extra careful and patient as the carpark and church will be more packed than usual. **If weather is good**, presbytery field grounds will be open for additional parking.

Youth Group invites all youth for the Stations of the Cross and Kai (Fish & Chips) above. **on 21st March from 6.00pm**. If interested, please RSVP to Tai - taiaopo774@gmail.com

Junior Youth Mass volunteers (in primary schools)

Any primary school children who are interested in participating in the **Junior Youth Mass on 30th March** are invited to take part. Parents who would like their child to be involved, please send an email to Alekhya alekhyakondaveeti2003@gmail.com by Friday, 21st March. This will help us coordinate roles for the Junior Youth Mass. Please let me know if you need any additional details.

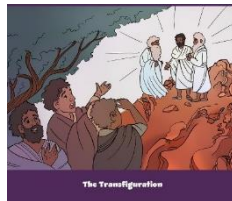
FSG (Faith Sharing Group) fellowship

FSG gathers on alternate Saturdays. All are welcome! Next meeting is held on **Saturday, 29th March @ 9.45am - 10.45am** at the Presbytery deck meeting room.

Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025

Lent is a time for fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. The New Zealand's Catholic Bishops invite us to contribute to the needs of the poor through the work of Caritas. Money raised helps Caritas fund both development and emergency relief work around the world. **Envelopes are provided at the back of the church for this purpose.** You may either return your donation envelope during the parish offertory collection or send it directly to Caritas. Thank you for your generous support.

To learn more or donate visit Caritas.org.nz.



[Click on picture for the Lenten Reflection](#)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

17th March – St Patrick's Day

19th March – Solemnity: St Joseph, (Mass @ 8.00 am)

21st March – Stations of the Cross @ 6.00pm

23rd March - St Mary's School House Mass (St Patrick House)

Stations of the Cross and FOOD

Attention all youth!

Come along on Friday March 21st 6:00pm for Stations of the Cross and fish and chips afterwards! Bring \$5 please

**Friday 21st of March
6:00pm - 8:30pm**

*Please email
taiaopo774@gmail.com to RSVP*

Prayer and pondering during Lent

Pope Francis' Letter to us all on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Wed | 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar | 7.00 -7.30pm on Zoom.

Wake Up and Pray Meditation Mornings in Lent through Easter
5th March – 20th of April, 6.15 – 6.45am on Zoom

Prepare Ponder Pray with the Gospels. Saturdays in Lent 7 – 7:30pm on Zoom.
For more info, contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

This retreat offers a beautiful opportunity for healing to anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The next Retreat will be held at Mary McKillop Centre, April 11-13, 2025. For more information Contact Wendy Hill on 027 2549222 or wendy@rachelvineyard.org.nz

Can U pray this Lent with small Pro-life group??

Wed | 10-11am | Greenlane & Manukau Road. Interested? Ph: Tony 09 4864418

SUMMIT | Young Leaders

Weekend 28-30 March 2025
Youth ministry and young adult ministry leaders, get ready for an incredible weekend of formation, fellowship and being spiritually filled!
Featuring engaging keynote sessions, workshops equipping you with practical ministry skills, plenty of opportunities to pray and to be RENEWED, a whole community of fantastic leaders to connect with, mass, adoration, campfires and a whole lot more!

This year, we are very excited to announce that our guest speakers are Mark Lysaght, the Director of NET Ministries in Australian and New Zealand, and Kym Keady, the Director of Ignite Youth.
Earlybird registrations are \$120 until Wednesday 12 March 2025.
Standard registration is \$140.
Register here:
<https://SUMMIT25.eventbrite.com>
Please note this is an 18+ event.

Healing of the Family Tree Seminar conducted by Fr Rory Morrissey

Weds | 19/3 & 26/3 | 7.30 – 9.00pm | on Zoom

Register here to get the zoom link.
bit.ly/ACCPGN-HFT

For More info, email aucklandccr@gmail.com

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

Divine Mercy Novena Group – Sheila D'Souza
celinsheilds@gmail.com

Faith Sharing Group
Raphael Ng
ngahthong@gmail.com

Food Bank Delivery
Evelyn Leech
sandeleech@gmail.com

Marian Mothers Grp
Anne Casey
tradebox.annecasey@yahoo.co.nz

Parish History Group
Claudia Forycki
cforycki@water.co.nz

Jnr & Snr Youth Group
Anne Casey
tradebox.annecasey@yahoo.co.nz

RCI and Sacramental Prog
–Theresa Stowers
Theresa_Stowers@hotmail.com

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Raphael Ng, Daniel Bridge, Wilma Smith, Catherine Ng, Edward Salvatore Fleming, Lily Chua, Carrie Canapi,,Jumer Cosme, Valerian Luis, Joan Luis, George Tooman, Gary Chen, Rowena Edgeworth, 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:

David Lynch, Patrick Quinlan, John Furey, Mary Naughton, Fr. Matt Brady, Isabella Courtney, Kathleen Dovey, Thelma Donaldson, Molly Fletcher, Veronica Webb, Annie V Snelgar, Michael Collins, Terry Ritchie, Leonard Corless, Catherine Furey, Nimal Silva, Jose Rosale, Simone T Ha'ungatau, Desmond T Turnock, Lance Fallow, Dorothy Walker, Albert Agnew, Andrew Casey, Anthony Prendeville, Alice O'Meagher, John Patrick Moore, William Smith, Lilian Mansor, Joe Molloy, Barisa Lovich, Matilda Carter, Sis Alexis, Hazel Murphy, Bill Maxwell their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.