

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	29/03/2025 Sat 17:30pm	30/03/2025 Sun 09:00am	05/04/2025 Sat 17:30pm	06/04/2025 Sun 09:00am
Name of Week		4th Sunday of Lent		5th Sunday of Lent
Commentators & PoF	Sabrina Freitas	Junior Youth	John Szczepanski	Filipino Community
1st Reader	Anitha D'Souza	Junior Youth	Ming Lai	Filipino Community
2nd Reader	Volunteer Req	Junior Youth	Russel D'Lima	Filipino Community
Communion	Rasika Kalaha Wattega	Albert Wolfgram & Heather Kelly	Theresa Bennett or Rasika Kalaha Wattega	Heather Kelly & Andy Tibbitts
Altar servers	Shavidhu Fernando	Jojo Taylor	Aaron & Rachelann D'Lima	Maya MacMenigall, Olivia Bridge
Collectors	Bennett Family	Junior Youth	Theresa & John Bennett	Lotofusi Tuisaemo & Tina D'Souza
Musician	Volunteer Req	Tongan Comm	Emmanuel Group	Filipino Comm & Bambi
Laptop	Volunteer Req	Tongan Community	Lara Miranda	Filipino Community
Offertory	Finau Family	Junior Youth	Taliauli Family	Filipino Community
Counters		as arranged		Andy Tibbitts & Ian McCombe
Church Cleaning	St Marys Parents		St Marys Parents	
Flower Arrangements	Volunteer Req		Filipino Comm	
Morning Tea		Liturgy and Finance		

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

Last week's collection (incl Auto Payments): \$2175.90

Total Caritas collection to date: \$1080.00

Thank you so much for your kind generosity.

Kid's Korner Links

[4th Sunday of Lent](#)

[Story of Forgiveness](#)

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

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 Auckland NZ
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icpellerslie@gmail.com

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

The 4th Sunday of Lent

29/ 30 Mar 2025

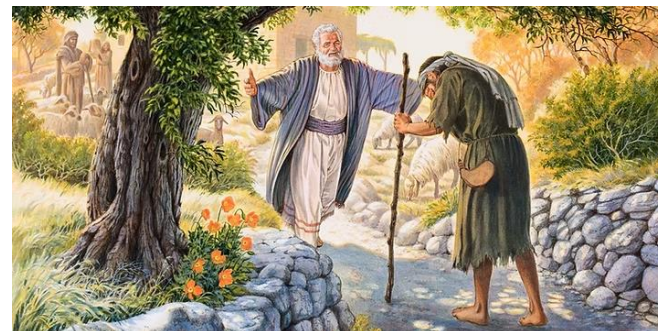
God's Attitude to Sinners.

Gandhi, at fifteen, stole a small piece of gold from his brother. Overwhelmed with guilt, he confessed to his ailing father. He wrote a note detailing his transgression, seeking forgiveness and promising reform. His father, instead of anger or punishment, responded with tears and a loving embrace, deeply impacting Gandhi's understanding of unconditional love. This experience illustrated a profound truth: true love is most powerful when extended to those who have erred.

This act of forgiveness mirrors the parable of the prodigal son, where the father's lavish welcome signifies God's boundless love for repentant sinners. Jesus uses this story to show that God's love is not reserved for the perfect, but is most profoundly felt by those who acknowledge their shortcomings. Unlike the judgmental older brother, representing the Pharisees, God's compassion exceeds mere acceptance, offering a generous and heartfelt embrace.

Ultimately, the story highlights the universal human condition of imperfection and the transformative power of divine mercy. Through our sins, we come to understand God's forgiveness and love, a truth that saints and sinners alike can attest to. This recognition of our need for mercy, rather than strict justice, reveals the depth of God's compassion and the importance of extending that same compassion to others.

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



Mass Readings

<https://universityofauckland.nz/auckland/1300/mass.htm>

1st Reading

Joshua 5:9-12: The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

Resp Psalm

Ps 33:2-7: R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading:

2 Cor 5:17-21: God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! (Lk 15:18)

Gospel:

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32: Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

PARISH NOTICES

Parish Administration Notice: Temporary Cover

Bambi Lee, our Parish Administrator, is currently away visiting her father in Malaysia due to health concerns. During her absence, Margaret Burke will be helping out in the parish office. We thank Margaret for her generosity in helping.

Joint Committee Meeting and Shared Meal

There will be a joint committee meeting on **Thursday, 3rd April, at 7:30 pm.** in the parish hall, followed by a shared meal. All members of the PPC, Liturgy Committee, Finance Committee, Parish History Committee, Marian Mothers, and Youth Group are invited to attend the meeting and shared meal. Please bring a dish to share.

120th Anniversary Celebration Conclusion

Our Church's 120th Anniversary celebration will conclude with a School Mass on **Friday, 4th April, at 9:00 am.** *Monsignor David Tonks* will be the Main Celebrant for that Mass. All are welcome.

Parish Lenten Renewal

As part of our Lenten Renewal, we invite you to a Parish Retreat on **Wednesday, 9th April, from 6:30 pm. to 8:00 pm.** The evening will begin with Mass at 6:30 p.m., followed by a talk at 7:00 p.m. and conclude with Adoration until 8:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend this time of reflection and prayer.

Lenten Reconciliation Service

The Parish Lenten reconciliation service will be held on **Thursday, 10th April at 7:00 pm.** All are encouraged to make their confessions in preparation for the Easter.

Parish Working Bee will be on **Saturday, 12th April.** Spare a couple of hours to help spruce up the church in time for Easter. It will start at 10.30am till 1.30pm.

Pledge Envelops are now ready for collection in church foyer.

Tax receipts for Apr 2024 – March 2025 will be available by end of April/ early May. Thank you for your patience.

OTHER NOTICES


The **Diocesan Pastoral Council** met for the first time this year on 8 March. You can keep up-to-date with their meeting (and play where is Leonard our PPC Chairman?) in the newsletter website/ link below.

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/March-25-Newsletter.pdf>

Retreat for Women 'Prayer and the Interior Life', Fri- Sun | 9 -11 May | from 6pm Fri to 3pm Sun - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. All women are welcome. There will be sessions on Prayer, Humility and Forgiveness. Early bird registration and details here: <http://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz>

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3rd Apr – Joint Committee Meeting and Shared Meal
- 4th Apr – 120th Anniversary Celebration Conclusion – School Mass
- 9th Apr – Parish Lenten Renewal
- 10th Apr – Lenten Reconciliation
- 12th Apr – Parish Working Bee
- 12 – 21 Apr – Refer to Holy week schedule
- 25th Apr – Anzac Day



Interested in the Children's Liturgy or Gospel activity sheets for your kids?

Email, contact Deborah (deborahw@cda.org.nz) OR go to the Auckland Catholic Diocese website for details <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/liturgy-of-the-word-with-children/>



Marriage Preparation Course

The CDA provides courses for couples planning to wed. For more info, you can go to CDA website or contact Gerry on gerrys@cda.org.nz

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday Vigil – 12th April

Sat – 5.30pm

Blessing of the Palms at the Grotto followed by a procession to the Church, and then the Holy Mass

Palm Sunday – 13th April

Sun – 9.00am

Blessing of the Palms at the Grotto followed by a procession to the Church, and then the Holy Mass

Holy Thursday – 17th April

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose until Midnight

Good Friday – 18th April

2.00 pm The Way of the Cross

3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

The Easter Vigil Mass in the Holy Night - 19th April 7:00 pm

Please Bring a candle with a wax catcher

Easter Sunday Mass – 20th April

Sun – 9:00 am

Easter Monday Mass – 21st April

Mon – 9:00 am



Altar Servers Needed for Holy week (17-20th Apr)

We are seeking Altar Servers to assist during Holy week, leading up to Easter weekend.

Altar servers, kindly look at the dates below and indicate your availability. Contact **Andy Tibbits on 027 568 272 by Friday, 11th April.** (Please note that this falls during the first week of the school holidays). Duties will be assigned based on the number of servers available for each time slot. We ideally require a total of 12 altar servers (6 seniors and 6 juniors) for this period.

Dates and time servers are needed:-

17/4 Holy Thursday – 6.15pm.

Min. 6 servers needed

18/4 Good Friday services

Stations of the Cross – 1.15 pm

Min. 6 servers needed

Passion of our Lord – 2.15pm

Min. 6 servers needed

19/4 Easter Vigil Mass - 6.00pm

Min. of 6 servers needed

20/4 Easter Sunday Mass 9 a.m.

Min. 2 servers needed

Altar Service Recruitment:-

Children who have completed the Sacramental Programme and are interested in becoming altar servers, please contact Andy and a separate training can be organized.

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:

*Frank Baulcombe, Louise Tillyer, Edna Pearce, Charles Bonner, Fr. Brian Sherry, Harold Bartley, Bill Nicholls, Robert Beattie, Mary McCarthy, Eliza Lorrigan, Fred Carroll, Bernadette Turnock, Vladas Gregoollurvas, Elizabeth Burton, Eileen Jorgensen, Frisca Gapas, Pauline L McGuire, Shirley Doyle, Johanna Seth, Agnes Wilson, Pope John Paul II, Neville Sheehan, John O'Donohue, Pat McCarthy, Joan Reiher, Michael Patrick, James Murphy, William Pitts, Samuel Go, Julia George, Cliff Casey **their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. For additions or amendments, please e-mail the Office***

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