

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 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

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)
Pastoral Council Chairman: Leonard Casey
Parish Office Administrator: Bambi Lee
 Phone: 579-5458
 Email: office@ellersliecatholic.org.nz
 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

	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun
Date/ Time	21/03/2026 Sat 5:30pm	22/03/2026 Sun 09:00am	28/03/2026 Sat 5:30pm	29/03/2026 Sun 09:00am
Name of Week		5th Sunday of Lent		Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Commentators & PoF	Ming Deng	Greg Carl	Jacinta Chow	Junior youth
1st Reader	John Szczepanski	Alekhyia Kondaveeti	Eugene Miranda	Junior youth
2nd Reader	Charmaine D'Lima	Margaret Bourke	Lourdes Domilies	Junior youth
Communion	Rolinda D'Souza	Andy Tibbitts & Sheila D'Souza	Jacinta Chow	Albert Wolfgram & Sr Bridget
Altar servers	Rachelann D'Lima, Miguel Pereira & Tiana Thilakarathne	Vito & Mele Haungatau, Nevon Narangoda & Toby Leech	Shavidhu Fernando, Ramona & Simona Fernandes	Zara MacMenigal, Alvin & Edwin Tiby, Ragnar Ordone & Gemma Aldrich
Collectors	Taliauli Family	Haungatau family	Lourdes & Christian Domilies	Junior youth
Musician	Robert & Claudia	Tongan Comm	Lara Miranda	Junior youth
Laptop	Jacinta Chow	Tongan Community	Miovez & Esmeria	Junior youth
Offertory	Bennett Family	Kafa Family	Domilies family	Junior youth
Counters		Tony Morcom & Denis Dsouza		Andy Tibbitts & Ivan Dsouza
Church Cleaning	Vietnamese Comm		St Marys Parents	
Flower Arrangements	Vietnamese Comm		<i>Volunteer Req</i>	
Morning Tea				PPC

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.

Last week's collection (Inc. AP): \$2139.70
 Bishop's Lenten Appeal: \$300.00
 Thank you so much for your generosity.
 Immaculate Conception Ellerslie
 BNZ 02-0108-0706777-000

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.



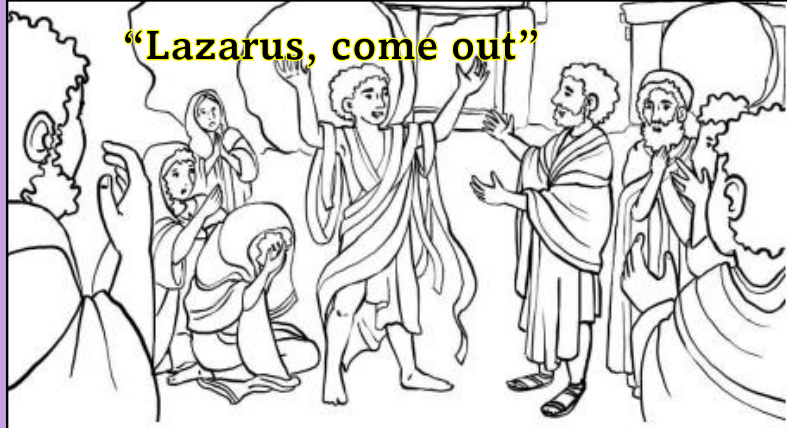
OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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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 Ellerslie, Auckland NZ
 ☎ (09) 579-5458

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

The 5th Sunday of Lent 21 / 22 Mar 2026



Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, illustrated by Fran Denton.

The story of Lazarus in John 11:1-45 carries immense theological weight, centering on the identity of Jesus as he nears his own Passion. By traveling to Bethany—dangerously close to the religious leaders who seek his life—Jesus intentionally risks death to save a friend. Lazarus' resurrection serves as a definitive sign of Jesus' power over death and acts as a direct precursor to his own upcoming resurrection.

Despite this divine power, the narrative emphasizes Jesus' profound humanity. He shares a deep, personal bond with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, reacting to their grief with authentic solidarity. He meets them where they are: engaging Martha in a theological dialogue of the "head" while offering Mary a compassionate response of the "heart," eventually weeping alongside them.

Jesus' approach to this miracle is one of mutual participation rather than solitary action. He involves the community in the process of liberation by commanding them to "take away the stone" and "unbind" the restored man. By requiring human effort to remove the heavy physical barriers of death, Jesus demonstrates that the work of freedom is a shared responsibility.

Ultimately, the story proves that even from the deepest darkness and the "end of all things," new life can emerge. It reminds us that while certain barriers serve a purpose for a time, there comes a moment when they must be rolled away. We are called to work together, moving the "stones" of despair to allow hope and light to break through



Mass Readings

1st Reading:
 Ezek 37:12-14: I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

Resp Psalm.
 Ps 129: R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

2nd Reading:
 Rom 8:8-11: If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glorify to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
(Jn 11: 25, 26)

Gospel:
 Jn 11:1-45: I am the resurrection and the life.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- 21st Mar – ICP Lenten Pilgrimage @10.00 am
 24th Mar – Alpha Prog @ 6.30pm
 26th Mar – Lenten Reconciliation @7.00 pm
 28th Mar – Working Bee @ 10.30am
 29th Mar – Palm Sunday
Holy week schedule refer RHS
 5th Apr – Easter Sunday

Kids Korner

Children's Liturgy is ON this Sun. We encourage your kids forward when priest calls out for their session in the Presbytery meeting room.

Interested in Gospel activity for your kids? Click below:



Planning to get Married?

The Auckland Catholic Diocese has an approved Marriage Preparation course for couples. Book your course early – 1 yr for NZ, 18 mths for overseas weddings. Register and Book HERE: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>

For more info, contact Gerry Gerrys@ceda.org.nz M:021 0224 7442

2026 HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday Vigil – 28th March

Sat – 5.30pm

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

Palm Sunday – 29th March

Sun – 9.00am

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

Holy Thursday – 2nd 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 – 3rd 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 – 4th April

Sat – 7:00 pm

Please Bring a candle with a wax catcher

Easter Sunday Mass – 5th April

Sun – 9:00 am

Easter Mon Mass – 6th April

Mon – 9:00 am

Altar Servers

Needed for Holy week (2nd -6th 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, 27th March**. (Please note that this falls during the first weekend 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:-

2/4 Holy Thursday – 6.15pm.

Min. 6 servers needed

3/4 Good Friday services

Stations of the Cross – 1.15 pm

Min. 6 servers needed

Passion of our Lord – 2.15pm

Min. 6 servers needed

4/4 Easter Vigil Mass - 6.00pm

Min. of 6 servers needed

5/4 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.

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

Alpha@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Baptism Course (<7yo)

Baptism@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Divine Mercy Novena

Sheila D'Souza

celinsheilds@gmail.com

Faith Sharing Group

Office@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Food Bank Delivery

lenorafoliaki@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

Taiaopo Lafaele

taiaopo774@gmail.com

RCI Programme

RCI@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Sacramental Prog

SacraProg@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Complaints

Complaints@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Safeguarding

Safeguarding@ellersliecatholic.org.nz

Bishops' Lenten Appeal 2026

Donations can be made to Caritas directly via

- 1) direct debit. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is 03-0518-0211216-003. Code: Lent and Particulars: Your first and last name
- 2) or credit card through the Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand website <https://www.caritas.org.nz/ways-to-give>.
- 3) Freepost envelopes are available at Mass throughout Lent. Post them, OR **hand in cash in the envelopes provided** during the parish offertory collection.

Any donations received in the Caritas office after April 1st will be sent a receipt for the 2026/27 tax year. Thank you. For more info, email: caritas@caritas.org.nz or call 0800 22 10 22.

Parish News

ICP Lenten Pilgrimage: Join us on **Saturday, March 21**, for a special Lenten Pilgrimage. We will walk and pray the Stations of the Cross together as we head to the top of **One Tree Hill (Maungakiekie)**. This is a powerful way to follow the Lord's journey and be together as a parish family. **Please RSVP to Robert on 021 929 500.**

We will meet at the **parish car park at 10:00 a.m.** All are welcome! Remember to wear walking shoes and bring water.

Youth Activity, Karaoke Time! All youth are welcome to join us for a Karaoke Activity taking place on **Sunday, 22 March**, after Sunday Mass in the Presbytery Meeting room. Cost: \$10.00. Come along for a fun afternoon of karaoke, fellowship, and short talks. It will be a great chance to connect, share, and enjoy time together. All youth are welcome – we hope to see you there!

Monday Mass at 8:00 am will continue until further notice.

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday at 6:00pm during Lent.

Lenten Reconciliation will be on **Thursday, 26th March, 7.00pm**. All are encouraged to make their confessions in preparation for the Easter.

Parish Working Bee will be on **Saturday, 28th March, 10.30am**. Spare a couple of hours to help spruce up the church in time for Easter. It will start at 10.30am till 1.30pm. Light lunch will be provided after.

2026-27 Pledge Envelops are now ready for collection in church foyer.

Donation Tax receipts for Apr 2025 – March 2026 will be ready by **end of April/ early May**. Thank you for your understanding and patience.