

PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 21/22Sep 2024

First Reading: Wis 2:12, 17-20 Second Reading: James 3:16-4:3 Gospel: Mk 9:30-37

Embracing the faith communities of St Mary's Buderim, St Peter's Coolum, Stella Maris Maroochydore and St Catherine of Siena, Sippy Downs.

STELLA MARIS CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Parish has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk are paramount.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a key program within the Catholic Church that is designed to guide individuals who wish to explore the Catholic faith and ultimately receive the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. At Maroochydore Parish, this year marks a significant milestone, as 35 individuals are currently participating in the RCIA program. This milestone reflects the vibrant community we have built together and shows how eager we are to deepen our faith and commitment to Christ.

The RCIA process is rooted in the teachings of the Church, emphasising the importance of community and catechesis. As Pope John Paul II articulated, the parish is not merely a collection of individuals but a living community that embodies the Mystical Body of Christ. It is within this community that the faithful are formed for evangelisation and works of Christian love. Our parish illustrates this by fostering an environment where new members can feel welcomed and supported throughout their spiritual journey.

The RCIA program consists of several stages, beginning with inquiry, where participants ask questions and learn about the Catholic faith. This is followed by the catechumenate phase, where deeper teachings on the faith are provided, including the sacraments, the Scriptures, and the teachings of the Church. As noted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, RCIA is a process that gradually introduces catechumens into the knowledge of the mystery of Christ and the Church.

At Maroochydore Parish, the 35 participants come from diverse backgrounds, each with unique stories and experiences. This diversity enriches the program, allowing for a variety of perspectives and insights into the faith. The parish community plays a crucial role in this journey, as members are encouraged to support and accompany the catechumens through prayer, mentorship, and fellowship. Pope Benedict XVI highlighted the importance of community involvement, stating that the parish is a place where the content of Catholic tradition is passed on.

The program culminates in the celebration of the sacraments later this year. It will be a profound moment for both the catechumens and the entire parish community. This year, the anticipation is clear as the parish prepares to welcome these new members into full communion with the Church. The celebration of the sacraments not only marks a significant milestone for the individuals but also revitalises the parish community, as it reflects the ongoing mission of evangelisation and the growth of the Church.

Moreover, the RCIA program here at Maroochydore Parish is not just about the initiation of new members; it is also an opportunity for the entire community to renew their own faith. As the parish engages with the catechumens, long-time members are reminded of the beauty and depth of their own baptismal promises. This mutual exchange of faith and support fosters a stronger, more vibrant parish community, echoing the sentiments of Pope John Paul II, who emphasised the need for parishes to be centres of renewal and evangelisation.

In conclusion, the RCIA program at Maroochydore Parish is a testament to the living faith of the community. With 35 individuals embarking on this transformative journey, our parish stands as a beacon of hope and a model of Christian initiation. As the community prepares to celebrate the sacraments with these new members, it is a reminder of the Church's mission to invite all into the fullness of life in Christ. The journey of faith continues, and the Maroochydore Parish community is excited to walk alongside these new members as they take their first steps into a deeper relationship with God.

Fr Isaac Falzon

We wish Fr Isaac and the youth and young adults of our parish attending the annual Ignite Youth Conference in Brisbane this weekend safe travels and a great and lasting spiritual experience.

At Your Service

Fr Peter Brannelly
Fr Isaac Falzon
Deacon Michael Khoury
Bishop Brian Heenan
Bishop Emeritus



Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church
Office Hours 9am—2pm Weekdays
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Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

THE WEEK AHEAD

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which our communities celebrate liturgies and live out our faith.

We pay respects to leaders past, present and emerging. May their example of stewardship be reflected in our lives.

Monday, 23 September *St Pius of Pietrelcina*

- ◆ Benediction (5.15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday, 24 September

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, S M Primary School Chapel, all welcome)

Wednesday, 25 September

- ◆ **Mass** (7.00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am St Catherine of Siena)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Latin Prayer Group (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

Thursday, 26 September

- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am St Peter's Church)
- ◆ Rosary (2.00pm Stella Maris Church)

Friday, 27 September *St Vincent de Paul*

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Stella Maris Craft Group (Stella Maris Bliss Room)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm Stella Maris)

Saturday, 28 September

- ◆ Reconciliation (8.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ El Shaddai group (11.00am Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 29 September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am St Peter's Church) Baptism of Patrick Joseph Till
- ◆ **Mass** (8.00am St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am St Mary's Church)
- ◆ Wedding Susana Oliveira Casagrande & José Pericles Saldanha
- ◆ **Mass** (5.00pm Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Young Adults 6.00pm (Stella Maris)

Gluten-free hosts are available. To arrange, simply contact the sacristan or Mass coordinator before Mass. The priest will always distribute the gluten free host at communion.

Half way through the school holidays, we especially welcome all families enjoying the school vacation on the Sunshine Coast – thanks for celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend.

So whether you are up here on the weekend or for the following week or if you are simply stopping on your travel around Australia—**welcome.**

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark in your Diary



To mark the 20th anniversary of the opening and blessing of St Catherine of Siena Church at Sippy Downs

Archbishop Mark Coleridge

will preside at the 8.00am anniversary Mass on **Sunday 13 October.**

This is a celebration for the entire Parish and all parishioners are invited to join the Sippy Downs community.



The annual Women's Retreat will be at Stella Maris Primary School on Saturday, **23 November.** Once again we will welcome women from across our Parish Family and the wider Sunshine Coast to a day of fun, friendship & formation.



Traditionally here at Stella Maris, we have celebrated the **nine day novena** leading up to Christmas called *Simbang Gabi*. This year, plans are well underway and we are incorporating the many different groups that make up our Parish Family. This year, the Mass will be at 6.00am 22 December culminating in the great celebration on the morning of 24 December.

All Welcome.

ON THE JOURNEY—WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,

Olivia Hargreaves, Harrison Hoare, Hudson Hoare, Charlie McCall, Kaia McCall and Sophia da Silva who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Carmel Boyce, Anita Rhodes, John Miller and Pamela Jacob.** Anita's memorial was held last week at Stella Maris. Carmel's funeral rites will be celebrated on Friday 4 October 11.00am at St Peter's Church.

May all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

ONE DAY BLOKES RETREAT OCTOBER 26, 2024



Retreat Director
Deacon Peter Pellicaan

 **8.30AM - 6.00PM**

 **SUNSHINE COAST HOCKEY CLUB
176 BALLINGER ROAD
BUDERIM**

SCAN



COST \$40

For five consecutive Mondays beginning on the 14th of October, St Peter's Coolum will be the venue for this year's Ignatius Retreat. If you have a desire to deepen your relationship with God and find God's presence in your everyday life, then this could be a retreat for you! **Where are you**

now is where God is waiting for you! There are no special requirements to attend.



**Jesuit and
Ignatian
Spirituality
Australia**

This First Spiritual Exercises retreat runs over four weeks in daily life. It guides you in prayer and reflection for 30mins each day. The retreat is for anyone who desires to

grow in their relationship with God.

The retreat was composed by Michael Hansen SJ and is based on the Spiritual Exercises by St Ignatius of Loyola. Come and experience this journey into divine friendship in your everyday life through a program of personal prayer and attending a weekly gathering of guided spiritual conversation.

What's Involved

Participants pray at home for 30 mins each day, and meet together with retreat guides within a group once a week for 90 mins, for listening, prayer and spiritual conversation. There are five 90 min group meetings. These sessions are guided by trained providers of the First Spiritual Exercises.

Your Commitment

- ◇ Spend 30 minutes daily in personal prayer.
- ◇ Willingness to commit to four weeks of the retreat and attend five weekly group meetings.
- ◇ Willingness to participate in group sharing. *To register or for more information contact info@jisa.org.au*

Last Tuesday our school holiday programme **Fun days With God** was held at Stella Maris. The perfect weather, energetic adults and NET team were the essential ingredients for the 30 young parishioners to have a great day. Thanks once again to Bernie Ballie for coordinating the programme – just a reminder to all primary school children – *our **Junior Ministers** youth group resumes on Sunday, October 6, 3pm at Stella Maris.*



HELP

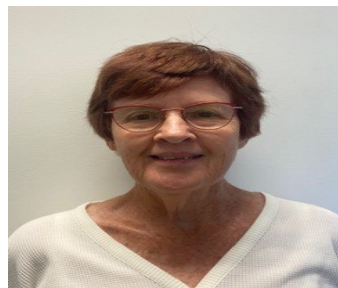
The Holy Spirit is certainly alive and active in our Parish Family! Currently, we have 3 groups with 34 people enquiring about our Catholic Faith in our RCIA programme. All 34 are on a journey of preparation, discovery and seeking so that they can discern what next step God is calling them to take along their own pilgrimage. As a faith community we need sponsors to accompany them along that journey. Sponsors are a bit like Godparents at an infant's baptism who likewise promise to be examples of faith for their godchild. We need sponsors for those on the RCIA journey – are you interested? Would you like more information? Please contact Fr Isaac (falzoni@bne.catholic.net.au) or Henry Martin (henry@martinfamily.co)

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR SUNSHINE COAST PARISH!

The safeguarding ministry is about protecting, valuing, and cherishing children, the vulnerable and is at the heart of Christian faith. Our Parish Family takes this ministry seriously. Safeguarding lies at the heart of our duty of care in the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese is committed to ensuring that whatever we do in safeguarding is transparent and complies with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, satisfies statutory obligations and is moving towards best practice.

The local Safeguarding Team Members play a crucial role in creating safe environments and activities within the parish and ministries or faith communities by ensuring the implementation of safeguarding practices.

For any concerns or information about Safeguarding please Email: safeguarding.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au or speak to one of the team members. **Your Local Safeguarding Team**



Sue Power
St Catherine's



Dennis Mulholland
Stella Maris



Susan Flanagan
St Mary's



Carolyn Healy
St Peter's

Last week we enjoyed to taste and aroma of our Latin American community—this weekend you are invited to enjoy our Filipino Community Baristas at HEbrews after the 9.00am Stella Maris Mass.

Available at the entrance of all our four churches we have new information envelopes containing details about our **Parish Planned Giving** programme and the many ways you can support your Parish and our **Endowment Fund** which will provide your Parish Family with financial security into the future. For new and returning members of our Parish there is a **Welcome Pack**. It contains valuable information about your new Parish Family. Please free to take an envelope home with you today.



Our energetic **craft group** meets on the fourth Friday of every month. You might have noticed some of their handiwork after Mass over the Father's Day weekend? The proceeds from the sale were donated towards helping men cope with depression. This month's gathering of the craft group will be **this Friday**, 27 September following the 9.00am Stella Maris mass. All crafts and people of any skill levels are most welcome.

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENING FOR INFANTS

Those parents with new born babies wishing for them to be baptised are reminded of the preparation meeting which takes place at Stella Maris church on the first Thursday of every month. At this short preparation meeting we outline some of the symbols used at the ceremony, answer any questions and confirm dates. The next baptismal preparation meeting will be on Thursday 3 October beginning at 6.00pm. Please register through our parish website:

<https://maroochydoreparish.com.au/baptism/>

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

All Parish musicians are reminded of the invitation to attend the Archdiocesan music workshop for Parish musicians. On Saturday, 26 October at All Saints Church at Albany Creek, Liturgy Brisbane is coordinating a music workshop for all involved in parish music ministry. The Presenters are Christopher Trikilis, Director of Music at the Cathedral of St Stephen and Michael Mangan, composer, musician and education consultant at Liturgy Brisbane.

All parish musicians are invited to attend and we hope to car pool to ensure as many musicians as possible can be part of the workshop. Please contact Michael Fitzpatrick: mfitzpatrick@ozemail.com.au. As always, we are grateful for the ministry of all our musicians.

It has never been so easy to get in touch and keep up to date with the many ministries and activities of your Sunshine Coast Parish. Using the QR codes why not get connected with your Parish Family?

INSTAGRAM



@stellamaris.parish



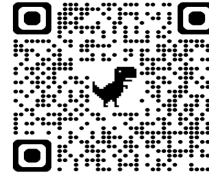
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