

PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 14/15 Sep 2024

First Reading: Isiah 50:5-9 Second Reading: James 2:14-18 Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

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.

WELCOME

When we welcome visitors to our home, we normally tidy the house, greet guests at the door, and make sure that all are comfortable and included. This hospitable behaviour applies also to the worshipping community that gathers each weekend at Stella Maris, St Mary's, St Catherine's and St Peter's. It is amazing how first impressions can sometimes leave a lasting impression!

Some parishes have designated ministers of hospitality whose job it is to make visitors welcome. But everyone at Mass has a ministry of welcome and warmth to others as fellow members of the Body of Christ.

This isn't just a 'feel-good' fad or part of some trendy push to be inclusive. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* clearly calls on the faithful to share *charity toward all who share with them in the celebration. They therefore are to shun any appearance of individualism or division, keeping before their mind that they are all brothers and sisters to each other. They should become one body There is a beautiful expression of this unity when the faithful maintain uniformity in their actions and in standing, sitting or kneeling.*

In other words, going to Mass is not a time for 'doing my own thing' or 'my time with God'. We're all in this together! It is up to each one of us to 'pay attention' to those who are with us at Mass and to make everyone welcome. With the start of school holidays this weekend and influx of families on holidays, it is timely for us locals who call the Sunshine Coast home to smile, be aware of the visitors in our midst and not be afraid to make the first gesture of welcome. After all, *we are all in this together!*

SO IF YOU ARE NEW

Welcome! We live in an extremely mobile society and especially here on the Sunshine Coast there are always people coming and going. It is too easy to get lost in all the activity of our Parish community. If you are new to our Parish, or if you are reconnecting with the Church, we would love to welcome you more formally to our Parish Family. You will find "welcome packs" at the entrance of all our churches, and if you complete and return the forms, we will be in contact with you. Once again, welcome.

HOSPITALITY IN ACTION

Speaking of hospitality, it is hard not to miss the coffee van at Stella Maris and it is easy to see why it has become the hub for our post Mass gatherings. We have had some great volunteers who have become great baristas! Usually, we need a team of 3 or 4 to operate the coffee van and if you would like to be involved in this ministry or would like to form a team and go on a roster once a month, please record your name on the volunteer sign up form at the entrance to Stella Maris.

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 and friends are invited to join the Sippy Downs community as they mark this milestone.

FOR YOUR DIARY

The Annual Men's Retreat

will be held on **Saturday 26 October**
at the Sunshine Coast Hockey Clubhouse.

The retreat Director will be Rev Peter Pellicaan,
Director of Evangelisation Brisbane.
All fathers and sons on the Sunshine Coast are
warmly invited to attend.

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
Telephone: 5443 3488
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, 16 September

- ◆ Benediction (5.15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday, 17 September

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, S M Primary School Chapel, all welcome)
- ◆ Fun Days With God (9.00am-3.00pm Bliss Room Stella Maris)
- ◆ Funeral Catherine Doyle (11.00am Stella Maris Church)

Wednesday, 18 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, 19 September

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

Friday, 20 September

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

Saturday, 21 September

- ◆ Reconciliation (8.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Baptisms of Charlie McCall, Kaia McCall, Sophia Falcao Da Silva, Olivia Hargreaves & Harrison Hudson Hoare (10.00am 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, 22 September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8.00am St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Polish Mass** (4.00pm St Mary's)
- ◆ **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.

NASTĘPNA POLSKA MSZA ŚW

The Mass in Polish will be celebrated at St Mary's, Buderim on Sunday 22 September at 4.00pm. Polish Mass is on the fourth Sunday of every month. Tell your Polish friends—**all welcome.**

NEW DATA SYSTEM

What has become obvious over the past couple of years is that data is important. Through baptismal details, marriage records, school enrolments and parish data it seems that the church has been collecting data since the Last Supper! But, collecting data for the sake of collecting data just does not make sense!

Up until now, we have been using a data system called PACS, which has well and truly passed its use-by date. The Archdiocese, along with the Australian Church is transitioning to a new data system designed specifically for churches called **Flocknote**. This new data system promises to be user friendly, allowing our office to run more efficiently while at the same time giving us broader communication options. Over the next four months, we will slowly transition over to the new data programme and during this time familiarise ourselves with the different options the new software gives us.

The first thing we need to do as a parish is to establish a reliable parish data base, basically who is part of our Parish Family? From next weekend, we will be inviting everyone to complete the census form. To make it easy, it will be done simply by a QR code and then you simply add your details. For those who find technology a challenge, don't worry, we will provide assistance to ensure that your details are included in our Parish data base.

Looking to the future as a Sunshine Coast Parish, it is essential that we have a reliable and up-to-date base if we are to be responsive to the needs of our community and proactive in proclaiming the Good News!

TO SING IS TO PRAY TWICE

Pythagoras, the Greek philosopher and mathematician once reflected that "*The highest goal of music is to connect one's soul to their Divine Nature, not entertainment*". It is a profound statement that actually highlights what our music ministry strives for here in our Sunshine Coast Parish.



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.

ON THE JOURNEY—WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,

Halo Anderson, Huxley Anderson, Lachlan Hartmann, Charlie Hawthorne-Brown, Henry Hawthorne O'Leary, James Hawthorne O'Leary, Nora Peachey, Parker Peachey, Mila Sunderland, Makenna Thurgood who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Catherine Doyle** and **Carmel Boyce**. Catherine's funeral rites will be celebrated on Tuesday 17 September 11.00am 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,

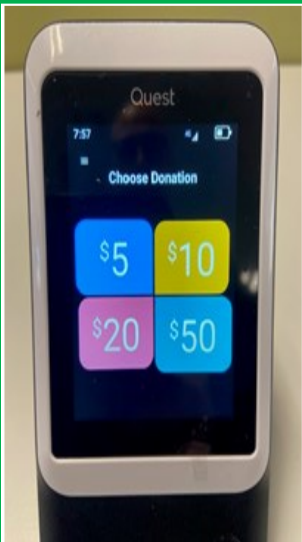
Rest in Peace.

Our Junior Ministers youth group that meets at Stella Maris each Sunday at 3.00pm takes a break during school holidays and will resume on the 6 October 2024.

THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – FUN DAYS WITH GOD

All primary school aged children are invited to participate in our Parish School Holiday Programme called “Fun Days with God”. These days occur once during every school holiday. Our next “Fun Days with God” will be this **Tuesday 17 September** (please note the change of day from Wednesday to **TUESDAY**) from 9.00am -3.00pm at the Stella Maris Church in the Bliss Room. **Bookings are essential.**

It will be an exciting day of fun activities. Children need to bring their own morning tea, lunch and hat. The cost of the day is \$10.00 per child with a maximum of \$20 per family. High school students are also welcome to come and assist us on the day. **For more information or to register, please email Bernie Baillie at bbaillie811@gmail.com**



You will notice our new Tap&Go machines at the entrance to the church. With the closure of the 3G network in October, our old machines were becoming obsolete. The new Tap&Go machines operate using the 4G network. Basically, the new Tap&Go devices work the same way with the exception that now you can select an amount. Hopefully, these new machines will also be faster and more reliable! However you to choose to financially support the mission of your Church, a grateful parish says *thank you*.



The churches, schools, parish infrastructure of our Stella Maris Parish is a living legacy of the vision, sacrifice and determination of those who *handed on the faith* to us. They created the foundation for our Catholic Community through their generous sharing of their talent, time and treasure. Without their vision and determination, our parish would look completely different!

One of the challenges we face today is how we honour and build upon the sacrifices and vision of those who *handed on the faith* to us and gifted us the resources and ability to be who we are today as a Parish Family. If we are honest, most of us have a deep fear that if we make any substantial gift to the parish, it will not be appreciated or valued and in the end be squandered! ***It is a legitimate fear!***

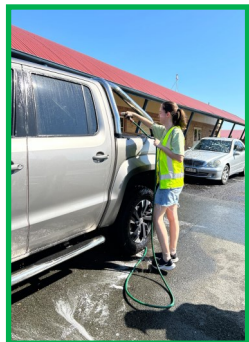
In other parts of the world, especially in the United States, endowment funds have been established to precisely address this concern. An endowment fund accepts and invests any contribution and only uses the interest as income. In practical terms for a parish endowment fund, the parish uses the annual interest and income for the mission of the church, while the initial contribution remains in place. So, a person or family have the confidence that their financial contribution will still be working for the mission of the Church and Parish ten, fifty, a hundred years from now!

With the support of the Parish Finance Council, the Stella Maris Endowment Fund has been established. This fund, independently and professionally managed, will support the work and mission of the parish in perpetuity. It is an option for anyone, or any family wishing to make a contribution to the long term mission and maintenance of Stella Maris. **There are information envelopes at the entrance to the church.**

By inviting you to consider supporting the Stella Maris Endowment Fund by remembering the fund in your will or making a pledge today, our hope is that the fund will continue to grow. In this way, we all have the opportunity to *hand on the faith* and provide a lasting legacy.

Thank you.

THANK YOU



Over the past six month our youth, with your generous support, have been fund raising and the proceeds have gone towards the lowering of the costs for each of our younger parishioners to attend this year's Ignite Youth Conference at St Laurence's College, South Brisbane. Last week at Sippy Downs, they organised a car wash and the sparkling clean cars helped raise just under \$1000 Next weekend, the conference takes place and we wish Fr Isaac, the NET team and all our younger parishioners safe travels and a rewarding and faith filled experience at this year's Ignite Conference.



Catholic Education in our Stella Maris Parish Family

Siena Catholic Primary School
58 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs
psippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Glen Bucklar



This week, the Year 6 Drama group performed the play 'Aladdin' for the school community and their parents. Under the creative direction of Kate Maher, Year 6 teacher, the students acted, sang, danced and performed the play which was written by Kate herself. The actors were assisted by the tireless backstage crew and the sets were colourful and artistic. Many hours of rehearsals and learning of lines added to the polished performance. Well done to both Mrs Maher and the very talented Year 6 Drama club for a delightfully entertaining and humorous play.

Have a great holiday!



Stella Maris Primary School
Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore
pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mark Ballam



It seems like only the blink of an eye and here we are at the end of another school term. And there's no 'cruising' into the school holidays for us.

On Monday morning, our intrepid Year 5 cohort arrived at school with bags packed and hopes high, ready to set off on their three-day camp adventure. They delighted in a wide range of activities, including archery, canoeing, giant swing, flying fox, a climbing wall, crate climb and bush walk. Staff were impressed with their teamwork, attitude and reflection. As they lumbered off the bus on Wednesday afternoon, they were looking very weary, but happy.

On Thursday, we added a touch of yellow to our wardrobes and acknowledged the importance of checking in with each other on R U OK? Day.

On Friday, we welcomed an enormous number of our grandparents and grandfriends, to celebrate the gifts that they bring to our lives, to showcase some of our learning and to spoil them with a lovely morning tea.

And now, we're off to rest and renew.

See you in Term 4.



Siena Catholic College
60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs
ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Sharon Collins



In this final week of term, our Year 10 students were on their Wilderness Experience camp. Despite the wet weather, they had fun mountain bike riding, trekking, stand-up paddleboarding, and all of the activities involved in camping out. The students ranked the experience as a 10 out of 10 in terms of difficulty! Back at school, our Year 11s have had their first 'exam block', gaining valuable practice of exam technique.

On Monday night, we were so proud of the three students who received awards at the Brisbane Catholic Education STEM MAD Showcase. Congratulations to Kobe (Year 10), who was the winner of the 'Future is STEM' Award; Lochlan (Year 10), who received a third placing in the 'Secondary STEM' category; and Issy (Year 9), who received a 'Notable Recognition' Award.

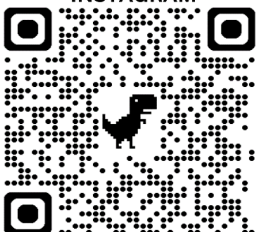
Our Year 9s joined the Parishioners at St Catherine's for Mass on Wednesday. In his homily, Fr Isaac challenged us to find the deeper meaning of the day's Scripture, focusing our thinking on the importance of detaching our thoughts from worldly things in order to find room in our hearts for God to be God.



DON'T BE SHY—LET'S BE FRIENDS!

It has never been so easy to get in touch and keep up to date with the many ministries and activities of our Sunshine Coast Parish. Why not start by visiting our Parish Facebook page? You will receive updates on what's happening within the parish, religious articles and content of interest. It is also a way we contact you with urgent news. "Like" our Facebook page, and you will be kept notified of new posts and help to promote the Parish page to more viewers. Our Parish Instagram page also offers a wealth of information while our E-Newsletter delivers our weekly Parish newsletter straight to your inbox!

INSTAGRAM



@stellamaris.parish



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maroochydoreparish.com.au