

Over 100 of our young parishioners continue their journey of preparation towards receiving their **First Holy Communion**. After exploring the Eucharistic Prayer last Sunday, this weekend their focus turns to God's mercy and forgiveness as they look forward to celebrating their **First Reconciliation** this Wednesday. As their journey continues, the imagery of the vigilant servants in this weekend's gospel is a powerful reminder to all of us in our Sunshine Coast Parish Family to remain ready for our master's return. That moment might come at any hour of the night or day so we should live expectantly and be prepared! In practical and mundane terms, are you now living expectantly as you prepare for what is to come?

Welcome, everyone, visitors and locals alike, to the 19th Sunday of the Church's year.

Our scripture this weekend comes from **Wisdom 18:6-9, Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19** and the Gospel is from **Luke 12:32-48**, and the challenge this week to always be prepared!!!

Embracing the faith communities of **St Mary's Buderim, St Peter's Coolumb, 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.

Be Prepared Be Ready Be Faithful

I travel by aeroplane rather irregularly these days – I can't stand the thought of queues! However, what always amazes me is how nonchalant my fellow passengers are when it comes to listening to the hostess/flight steward's presentation pointing out the safety features of their aircraft. People seem rather blasé as they ignore the instructions about fastening the seat belts and the number and location of safety exits, and various emergency procedures. The crew goes on to explain that an individual oxygen mask will be lowered in front of each person in the event of a sudden loss of pressure, and that under the seat is a life jacket in the event of the aeroplane ending up in the ocean. All of this is supposed to help the passengers to be prepared for the unexpected. Few pay any attention at all. This demonstration serves only to unnerve the nervous.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us some instructions regarding the flight of life – a flight in which we are all involved. He tells us to be prepared for the unexpected. Like faithful servants, we should keep ourselves in a state of readiness and preparedness. How little attention people pay to this. However, as we grow older, we become more aware of how fleeting life is and how tenuous a hold we have on it. We are not made of stone, but of rather fragile material. Almost daily in my hospital rounds, I see how microscopic viruses can immobilise otherwise healthy people.

Jesus was aware of the uncertainty of life, and he stressed that death could come at any moment. All of us would like to be able to end our lives with our plans carried out and our work done. We don't know if we will have that chance. Henry David Thoreau said in *On Walden Pond*: **"Fear not that your life will end; rather fear that it may never have begun."** We have a precarious hold on life, but what we do have is an opportunity to be faithful to the tasks that we have been given, like the servants Jesus spoke of. If we are not prepared and alert, we will squander this gift of life.

As Mother Teresa said, **we are not called to be successful, we are only called to be faithful.**

That is why today's scripture is a perfect segue to reminding every parishioner – you are never too old or too young – to take home and talk about and then complete our Parish Funeral Preparation Pack. You can pick up an envelope at the entrance to the church. It simply gives you the opportunity to give to those you love the most some direction on how you want to celebrate your life – as people of faith, there is something healthy about talking about and being practical about the one inevitability that none of us will take a shortcut around!

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead,

Fr Peter Brannelly



A great way of being a faithful Steward of God's good creation while at the same time supporting our **Junior Ministers** is by saving your beer, wine, spirits and bottles and cans, and bringing them to the Containers for Change and by quoting C10602443 (under the name BERNIE). The proceeds of your recycling will support our most dynamic and ministry focused youth group!

Each Sunday of the school term, around 30 Junior

Ministers gather **from 3:00pm to 4:30pm** to learn and have fun. They receive training so they can serve during Mass (altar servers, reading, managing the PowerPoint, taking up collections, and acting as welcomers). This Parish ministry not only helps the students develop valuable skills but also enriches our parish community. Want to join us? Want to find out more information? For more information, contact Bernie - bbaillie811@gmail.com



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 11 August

St Clare

- ◆ Benediction (5:15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5:30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday 12 August

- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ◆ RCIA All Saints Group (6:00pm, Duffy Room)
- ◆ Craft Group (1:00pm, St Peter's. Coolum)

Wednesday 13 August

- ◆ **Mass** (7:00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ Pray & Play (9:30am Stella Maris)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9:30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Funeral of Kathleen Brenton (2:00pm, St Peter's. Coolum)
- ◆ Reconciliation for First Holy Communion children (5:00pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Latin American prayer group meets every Wednesday in the Duffy Room (6:00-8:00pm)
- ◆ NET Open House (6:00pm, Buderim)

Thursday 14 August

St Maximillian Mary Kolbe

- ◆ **Mass** (8:30am, St Peter's Coolum)

Friday 15 August

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- ◆ Stations of the Cross (8:00am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Grief Support Group Meeting (following Mass)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless/Disadvantaged/Vulnerable

Saturday, 16 August

- ◆ Reconciliation (8:30—9:30am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Jesus Shine Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group meets (11:00am, Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4:30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6:00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 17 August

20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

- ◆ **Mass** (6:30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7:30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8:00am, St Catherine's)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:30am, St Mary's)
- ◆ Junior Minsters (3:00pm—Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10:10 Youth Group (3:00pm—Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (5:00pm, 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.



The Order of the Knights of the Southern Cross is a national organisation of Catholic laymen who operate with the support of the Australian Bishops. The Order is guided by the Catholic faith and the cardinal and chivalrous virtues of prudence, faith, justice, fortitude and temperance in all its charitable works. It strives to serve the wider community and support those in need. Here in our Sunshine Coast Parish

Family, we have an active group of Knights who contribute quietly to the life of our community. So, if you are a Catholic man and keen to join a like minded community of friendly faces, we would love to hear from you and tell you about some of the things we are doing. Please contact John Legg, the secretary, via email: john.legg51@gmail.com. The next meeting of our local Knights of the Southern Cross is on Tuesday, 7:00pm, August 19th at Stella Maris.



You might have heard us talking about the **RCIA**. The initials simply stand for the **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**ddults. When people decide they would like to know more about the Catholic Faith, we invite them to COME AND SEE by joining the **RCIA** Group. The **RCIA**, also called the Catechumenate, is the process by which adult persons are brought into membership of the Roman Catholic Church. Over the past two years, we have welcomed over 60 adults into the faith and currently have an **RCIA** group journeying towards baptism and full communion towards the end of the year.

We have received several inquiries from adults wanting to discover more about what we believe as Catholics, so we are in the process of starting a new **RCIA** group, probably in September – are you interested? If you would like more information, please talk to either Fr Peter or Fr Isaac or email Dylan Asmus, asmusd@bne.catholic.net.au

Buderim Progress

Hopefully, over the next couple of weeks, you will notice some movement at St Mary's as we prepare for the big week of refurbishment. We are trying to accomplish all our tasks in the space of a week and so as not to have to close the church down for a Sunday. In preparation, you will notice quite a bit of cleaning and decluttering going on as well as painting and minor repairs. Our big week begins on Sunday, August 23rd, and if everything goes to plan, by the following Sunday, everything should be completed. Naturally, the biggest challenge during that week will be coordinating what has to be done and when. Doors, carpet, paint, pews, sanctuary furniture and, electrical upgrades all need to be coordinated so that there is minimal disruption to the rhythm of our Parish life. Thank you to everyone for supporting the project – if you would like to make a contribution, we have a dedicated account: **Commonwealth Bank** BSB 064-786 Account Number 100021388 *Thanks for your continued support!*

Parish Clergy

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 9:00am—2:00pm Weekdays
Telephone: 5443 3488
Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: maroochyshoreparish.com.au

Introducing our Retreat Director for our One Day Men's Retreat



Fr Paul Chandler is a Carmelite priest who has been spiritual director at Holy Spirit Seminary at Banyo for fifteen years. He has a doctorate in medieval spirituality and an interest in interpreting the classics of Catholic spirituality for the contemporary world. He has taught and given retreats extensively in Australia and overseas.

Fr Paul will bring his years of wisdom and experience to us and help us navigate what it means in practical ways to be people of faith living in a very busy, secular world. In the midst of all the demands and pressures that we face here on the Sunshine Coast, this one-day Men's retreat is an ideal opportunity to pause and reflect on what is important and where life is taking us. You can't be too young or too old to be part of this day of reflection and prayer, so please mark the date in your diary - Saturday, October 18th—you don't have to be religious to go on this one day retreat, all you have to be is open to where God is leading you!
Why not invite a friend?

Safeguarding— PREVENTION RESPONSE REPORTING

Safeguarding is about promoting the safety and well-being of others, creating and maintaining safe activities and environments, and preventing abuse and harm. Everyone involved in Archdiocesan activities, ministries and services has the right to protection from abuse, exploitation and harm, to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. As such, safeguarding is part of the Archdiocese's primary duty of care. The role of the Parish Safeguarding Team is to assist in creating safe environments and activities within the parish, handling concerns and abuse incidents and **maintaining Safeguarding compliance**. Some volunteers for their Ministries require Blue Cards, Police checks and training and the Safeguarding team is here to assist and guide you through the process.

Contact the team safeguarding.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au or call the parish office 07 5443 3488



Dennis Mulholland
Stella Maris Maroochydore



Carolyn Healy
St Peter's Cooloom



Sue Power
St Catherine's Sippy Downs



Susan Flanagan
St Mary's Buderim

Available at the entrance of all four of our 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. Finally, our Funeral Preparation Pack is also to be found at the entrance to the Church there is no better time than now to discuss it with your loved ones and complete the details! Please feel free to take an envelope home with you today. To all new members of our Parish Community, you are welcome— **thanks for being part of our Parish Family**.



Every Sunday afternoon from 3:00pm to 5:00pm our **Junior Ministers** meet for an afternoon of training, fun and games. All primary school children who have made their confirmation are welcome to join us – for more information, please contact Bernie (bbaillie811@gmail.com)



Right next door, gathering also at 3:00pm at Stella Maris is our **10/10Highschool Youth Group**. Coordinated by our NET team, it is an afternoon of fun, faith and friendship. If you would like more information, please email us (maroochydore@netministries.com.au)



Mums and Dads = Grandmums and Granddads

Every Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:00am parents with pre-school age children gather at Stella Maris for our **Pray & Play group**. It is an excellent opportunity for young children to interact with each other while at the same time for adults to share the wisdom from experience and in the process have some fun! Grandparents are especially welcome to share their experience and stories while at the same time enjoying the energy and inquisitiveness of those just starting out on the great adventure of life. **Please join us this Wednesday!**

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,
Bonnie Hall, Hallie Frost, Serena Pedrete Gupta, Thomas Martin, Alejandro Rodriguez, Paul Sarmiento, Hugh Wright, Lewis Wright and Tahlia Wright.
who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Kathleen Brenton and John McCormack OAM**. May John's soul, and the souls of all our deceased priests, religious and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

Catholic Education in our Sunshine Coast Parish

Siena Catholic Primary School

58 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs
psippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Eric Ellems



Catholic Education Week

Last week, we proudly joined 313 Catholic schools across Queensland in celebrating Catholic Education Week. This year's theme, "*Communities of Faith, Hope and Love*," reflects our shared mission to inspire students to live the message of Jesus and reach their full potential as compassionate contributors to society.

Siena College and Primary School came together for a special liturgy, honouring our commitment to being living witnesses of Christ. Inspired by St Catherine of Siena, we celebrated with a beautiful Year 6 choir performance, a joyful Prep presentation of our school mantra, and the Spirit of Catholic Education awards, recognising students and staff who embody the values of faith, care, and learning. Our beautiful, dedicated office ladies won the 'Spirit of Catholic Education' staff award.

It was a joyful and moving celebration of our vibrant Catholic community.



Stella Maris Primary School

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



At Stella Maris, we believe in nurturing the whole child—spiritually, intellectually, and creatively. Every term, a variety of structured lunchtime opportunities allow students to explore their interests, build new skills, and connect with others in a fun and supportive environment. Here's a look at what's happening this term:

Garden Club Students roll up their sleeves to tend to our school vegetable patch. This hands-on experience teaches responsibility, sustainability, and the joy of growing—and sometimes tasting—fresh produce. A beautiful way to connect with God's creation.

Art Club Students in **Grades 3–6** are exploring the world of **animation**. From sketching characters for comics and cards to storyboarding and creating flipbook animations, this club fosters creativity and imagination.

Laudato Si Club Inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*, this club is open to **Years 1–6** and welcomes students passionate about caring for our common home. Activities focus on recycling, environmental stewardship, and nature appreciation—encouraging students to be active custodians of the Earth.

Dance Club Open to **Years 1–6**, this club invites students to express themselves through movement. They'll learn a choreographed routine to be performed later in the year—perfect for those who love to dance or want to build confidence and teamwork.

These clubs reflect the values we hold dear at Stella Maris School—community, creativity, care for creation, and joyful learning. We're proud to offer these opportunities that help our students grow in faith, friendship, and fun.

Siena Catholic College

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



This week, our Year 11 students gathered in reverence and reflection to celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus during Wednesday's Community Mass at St Catherine's. The Gospel reading from Luke reminded us of the profound moment when Jesus, in prayer on the mountain, was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face changed, his clothes became dazzling, and he was joined by Moses and Elijah in glory. The disciples witnessed this divine revelation and heard the voice from the cloud declare, "This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him."

The Mass offered a sacred opportunity for our students to contemplate the power of prayer and the mystery of Christ's glory. As we journey through the second semester of the school year, may this celebration inspire our students to seek moments of transformation in their own lives and to listen deeply to the voice of God.



CALLING ALL
NORTH COAST YOUTH
GROUPS

15082025

ALL IN



SUNNY COAST



community
food
speaker
praise+worship

st mary's catholic church,
buderim, 4556

CATHOLIC
Collective

10:10
MAROOCHYDORE

SUNNY COAST ALL IN NIGHT

10:10 Maroochydore is hosting a Youth All In Night. Where nearby Youth Groups get to come together for a powerful night of community, worship and fun! We'd love for you to join us!

WHEN: Friday, August 15th, 6:00pm—8:30pm

WHERE: St Mary's Church, Buderim

WHO: High Schoolers (Grade 7-12)

Don't miss this moment to go **ALL IN!**

MAROOCHYDORE YOUNG ADULTS

Next **Wednesday August 13th, 6:00pm**, the NET Team will be hosting an **Open House** for all Young Adults (aged 18-35) at their residence near St Mary's Buderim. Invite a friend and bring a snack to share, it's going to be great!

The following **Wednesday, August 20th, 6:00pm**, there will be a YA **Encounter Night** led by the NET Team at St Mary's Buderim. This is a brilliant opportunity for you to deepen your relationship with God and encounter Him! **Mark your calendars for these exciting events.**