

At the start of the school holidays we acknowledge and welcome families and visitors who are joining our Sunshine Coast Parish family today.

Welcome to everyone as we celebrate the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our scripture this weekend comes from **Amos 8:4-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-8** and the Gospel is from **Luke 16:1-13** which reminds us of the challenges and dangers of wealth.

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.

Our NET Team Parish Report

These last few weeks have been busy as we reach the end of Term 3!

We have been running sessions surrounding the theme of 'Jesus' Mission' for all the Year 8 and 10 classes at Siena College. The aim of these sessions has been to unpack how Jesus' mission is to reveal God's great love for us and how he wants to free us from everything separating us from the Father (even sin and death). We have been encouraging the students to live out their own mission of loving and serving others. These sessions also included a time of prayer and reflection, in which we gave the students the opportunity to think and write about what God might be calling them to do, as well as offering to pray one-on-one with them. In most sessions very few chose to receive prayer, however in our final session we were blown away by the constant stream of students asking us to pray for them to know their mission from God more clearly and for Jesus to be a bigger part of their lives! *Please pray for these students on their journey towards Jesus.*

Following those sessions, we spent this past week at Year 10 Camp, where we hiked, mountain biked and stand-up paddle-boarded our way around the Kenilworth area for three days. Each of us were in a group of around 17 students; needless to say, we got to know them quite well and had many opportunities for chats about life and faith while walking and riding. We felt very encouraged by the comments from some of the students during our time at camp: one said we helped him see faith in a new way; another said he noticed one of us praying when we were in a difficult situation and he felt calmer because of it; many others said they appreciated talking with us; and one student (from a non-religious family) even shared that he's been reading about the faith and wants to be Baptised! We feel so lucky to have the opportunity to spend time with these young people, sharing and witnessing our faith and encouraging them to think more deeply about what faith means to them.

Earlier in the term, we also had the chance to lead the First Holy Communion preparation classes at St Catherine's over the course of four Sundays. Each of us had a small group of about 10 Year 4 and 5 students, many of whom already knew us from sessions we'd led in Siena Primary! We loved journeying through the topics with these students over the four weeks, sharing about our love for Jesus in the Eucharist and teaching them about the Mass. We explored the Mystery of how the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (Transubstantiation), and taught them about Reconciliation and how receiving the Eucharist should change us (along with a very essential practice, in order to minimise the shocked faces when receiving from the Chalice!). We really enjoyed getting to know these students and hope to continue seeing them around the Parish and Siena Primary.

Another recent highlight was the Sunny Coast 'All In Night', a night for high schoolers run by the Archdiocese's youth team and hosted by our Parish at St Mary's. The youth team brought along their band, who led us energetically in praise and worship, and Damian (from the NET Team) gave a talk about his relationship with Jesus and the love of God. We were pleasantly surprised to see who came to the event, with some coming for the very first time! It was a fantastic night and there is another coming up one Friday night next month, so keep a look out!

Finally, we are gearing up for Ignite Conference which begins this Thursday! Our group includes almost 50 high schoolers, young adults, Siena staff and parish leaders and we're so excited to experience the transformation from the four days of Ignite! Thank you to all parishioners who have so generously donated, bought sausages, had their car washed and purchased raffle tickets in order to make it possible for our group to attend. We cannot wait to tell you about all the amazing things that will happen!

Henry, Mariana, Sam, Damian, Georgia & Elizabeth

P.S. 10:10 Maroochydore (youth group) wraps up for the term this Sunday and resumes on Sunday, 12th October – we would love to see all high schoolers there!

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 22 September

- ◆ Benediction (5:15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5:30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Theology Hub (7:00pm, Stella Maris)

Tuesday 23 September *St Pius of Pietrelcina*

- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ◆ Fun Days with God (9:00am, Bliss Room)
- ◆ Craft Group (1:00pm, St Peter's Cooloom)
- ◆ RCIA All Saints Group (6:00pm, Duffy Room)

Wednesday 24 September

- ◆ **Mass** (7:00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9:30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Latin American prayer group meets every Wednesday in the Duffy Room (6:00-8:00pm)

Thursday 25 September

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

Friday 26 September

- ◆ Stations of the Cross (8:00am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Craft Group (9:45am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless

Saturday 27 September

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

Sunday, 28 September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- ◆ **Mass** (6:30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7:30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8:00am, St Catherine's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Polish Mass** (4:00pm, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5:00pm, Stella Maris Church)

From the 25th-28th September, the Youth and Young Adults of the Parish will be attending the Ignite Conference. Please keep them all in your prayers.

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.

Wishing all students, teachers and families a safe and relaxing school holidays—enjoy the break! Fr Isaac, our NET team, Youth Leaders and youth will be attending the Ignite Youth Conference which begins on this Thursday and concludes next Friday—we keep all who are attending this major Catholic gathering in our prayers.

Children's Church

Children's Church is back on every Sunday at our **8:00am Sippy Downs Mass** and at our **9:00am & 5:00pm Maroochydore Masses**. At the start of Mass, all primary-aged children are sent forth with their catechist to celebrate a more age appropriate reflection on the Gospel, before returning to the church towards the end of the Eucharistic prayer. In addition, we have now introduced Children's Church at **St Mary's Buderim during their 9:30am Mass**. Please let your friends know about these exciting Sunday family options. As an adult, if you would like to be involved, please email Carolyn Watt, our Sacramental Coordinator, sacraments.suncoast@catholic.net.au.

Put Your Thinking Caps On!

Catholic Theological College is offering a series of online lectures in October on issues ranging from the Eucharist to Transhumanism. If you would like more information please email ctc@ctc.edu.au.

As Good as Gold

Next Saturday, 27th September at 11:30am, all couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary or more are warmly invited along with their families to a special Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral to celebrate this wonderful milestone.

Feeling crafty?

All people of any skill levels are most welcome to attend either or both of our upcoming craft groups. The next gatherings are: **Cooloom, Tuesday, 23rd September at 1:00pm**, and **Maroochydore, Friday, 26th September at 9:45am**, in the Bliss Room (following the 9:00am Mass). Come for some craft or simply join us for a cuppa and a 'yarn'.

Save the Date!

St Peter's Church, Cooloom will be hosting the "Sounds of Celebration" concert 2025. The concert will be held on Sunday, 2nd November at 2:00pm. More details to follow, please mark your calendars so you won't forget!

2026 Liturgical Books

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again but 2025 has flown by. The Parish Office will be placing an order for the 2026 Annual Liturgical Books on Wednesday, **1st October 2025**. If you would like a **God's Word for 2026** (\$21.95), **Daily Mass Book** (\$29.95), **Break Open the Word** (\$29.95) or an **Ordo** (\$22.00). There are many ways in which to place your order. **i)** attend the office to pay directly; **ii)** call the office and pay over the phone (5443 3488); or **iii)** place your own online order.

Calling All Pianist's

We are currently looking for some more Piano Players to add to our Stella Maris roster. If you can play the piano, and would like to help out in the Parish, we would love to hear from you! We know many of our wonderful Parishioners have this beautiful gift, time to let it **shine!** Please get in touch by calling the Parish Office or by sending an email to suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

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: maroochydroparish.com.au

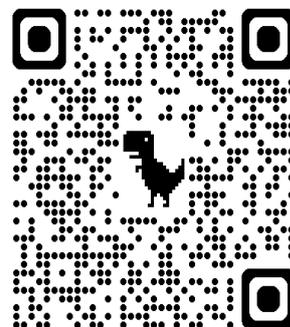
RCIA

We are now approaching a very important time for one of our RCIA groups, with around **12 adults** soon discerning whether they will be received into the Catholic Church. At the same time, we are blessed to have another group beginning their journey, with about **20 people** taking their first steps in exploring the Catholic faith. Please keep all of these men and women in your prayers as they seek to follow Christ more deeply. We are especially grateful for the wisdom and generosity of our faithful parishioners who guide and accompany them along the way—thank you for your ongoing support. If you or someone you know wants to join the group about to begin send an email to Dylan—asmusd@bne.catholic.net.au

Men's Retreat



All men of our parish are warmly invited to join us for a one-day **Men's Retreat** with **Fr Paul Chandler**, a Carmelite priest and the current Spiritual Director at **Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo**. This retreat is an ideal opportunity to pause, step back from the busyness of life, and reflect on what is truly important and where life is leading us. **Date:** Saturday, 18th October **Time:** 8:30am
Location: Sunshine Coast Hockey Club, Buderim
Theme: Men on a Mission: Saints who changed the world.
Don't miss this chance for spiritual renewal and brotherhood.
Register, via the QR code provided.



Fun Days with God

Once again, Stella Maris Parish is running a one day holiday program these September school holidays. It is called 'Fun Days with God - Season of Creation', and is on **this Tuesday, 23rd September**. This session is inspired by Pope Francis' Laudate Si and the Ecumenical Liturgical Season of Creation. It will be an exciting day of fun activities - craft, bible stories, songs, prayer, drama, and games all based around God's amazing Creation. Please be aware we have limited spaces so **register ASAP**, because once we reach our limit, we are unable to accept any further registrations. All the details are on the Parish Website. Hope you can make it! Oh and, by the way, the fantastic NET Team are joining us - YAY!



Ignite Thank You

You may have heard once or twice this year about something called Ignite. It is a four day Youth and Young Adult Conference held each year in Brisbane and in Sydney. The Brisbane Conference regularly gets over 2,000 young people together to explore their faith, spend time in prayer, learn more about what it means to be a Catholic and to see that they're not alone!

With the help of your extraordinary generosity at our fundraising events throughout the year we have just under 50 young people coming along. This wouldn't be possible without your very generous donations, from renting the busses to get us all there to offering subsidised tickets for our young people none of it would be possible without your help. The Ignite Youth Conference starts this Thursday and we keep all participants in our prayers.

Chapel Key Fobs

Some of you might have noticed that the key fobs at Stella Maris have stopped working. We are working to fix this but until further notice if you would like to access the Blessed Sacrament Chapel please come to the Parish Office between 9:00am-2:00pm Monday—Friday. We're very sorry for the inconvenience and are working to get it fixed as soon as possible.



Stay Connected

Did you know our parish has an active social media page? It's the easiest way to stay connected with our busy parish community, with all the latest news, events, ministry updates, and inspiring content posted regularly. You'll also find plenty of informative (and often funny!) videos from your two favourite priests, Fr Isaac and Fr Peter. Join us!



Celebrating and Remembering

Congratulations to **Indy Burt and Pauline Miranda** who were married at Stella Maris this weekend.

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,
Bonnie Mae Williams and Zoey Rose Williams who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

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



RUOK? Day at Siena

Last Thursday, the Siena Primary community came together to celebrate RUOK? Day, a national day that reminds us all to check in with those around us and start meaningful conversations.

The day was filled with warmth and connection, with students and staff wearing yellow to show their support and participating in activities that promoted kindness, well-being, and looking out for one another.

A highlight of the day was a wonderful staff morning tea, where colleagues gathered to share, connect and enjoy a moment of togetherness. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Jackson and Mrs Leavy for creating such a beautiful and thoughtful celebration- your efforts truly made it a special day. Let's continue to ask, listen, encourage action and check in because every day is the right day to ask RUOK?

Isaiah 41:10 "Do not fear, for I am with you... I will strengthen you and help you"



Stella Maris Primary School

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



This week, from Monday to Wednesday, our Year 5 students embarked on an unforgettable adventure at QCCC Mapleton, immersing themselves in a camp experience filled with challenge, creativity, and community. Throughout the days, students enthusiastically participated in a range of exciting activities including canoeing, the flying fox, the giant swing, and crate-building challenges. Each activity encouraged teamwork, resilience, and a spirit of adventure—qualities our students embraced wholeheartedly.

As the sun set, the camp came alive with a vibrant talent contest where students showcased their gifts with confidence and joy. These evenings also included a prayerful liturgy, offering a quiet and meaningful space for reflection and connection with God.

We are incredibly proud of their efforts and grateful to the staff and camp facilitators who made this experience so enriching. Our Year 5 cohort represented the school with passion and pride, consistently demonstrating the core values we hold dear of compassion, commitment, creativity, confidence and courage.. May the memories and lessons from Mapleton continue to inspire our students in the weeks ahead.

Siena Catholic College

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



National Child Protection Week across Australia was 7 - 13 September. This week is about reminding all of us—young people, families, schools, and communities—that keeping children and young people safe is everybody's responsibility.

The theme this year was: 'Every conversation matters: Shifting Conversation to Action.' It's a reminder that it's not enough to just talk about safety. We need to turn conversations into real actions that keep people safe.

Shifting conversation to action means knowing what to do if students think someone is at risk or being harmed. That could mean:

- Not ignoring it — if you see or hear something that makes you worried, trust your instincts.
- Checking in with the person — a simple 'Are you OK?' can show them they're not alone.
- Talking to a trusted adult — like a teacher, GC, Pastoral Leader. You don't have to solve it yourself, but you can help by passing it on.
- Not keeping it to yourself if someone's safety is at risk. Speaking up can protect them.
- Encouraging your friends to also speak up, so no one feels they have to carry it by themselves. "If you see something, say something — safety is everyone's responsibility."

Students were asked to think about how they can all play a part — by noticing, speaking up, and supporting one another. Every conversation matters, and their actions can make a real difference. We emphasised all working together to make our school and community safe for everyone.

The Finals are upon us and the tipping continues! **Farnwyn** maintains their lead followed by **Heckle and Jekle, Karen the Cowboy** and **Schyvo**. With three weeks to go until the Grand Final, make sure to get your tips in and see if you can knock them out of top place (or at least beat Fr Isaac).

Down the leaderboard, **Fr Isaac** is quietly showing he knows his footy, sitting in a respectable 16th place and proving that priests can tip with skill when they put their minds to it. Meanwhile, **Dylan** has jumped to a respectable 37th while **Fr Peter** is going strong at 49th. With double points during the Finals it's anyone's game so make sure to keep putting in your tips!

With just 12 points separating the top five, one miracle, fluke, or eyebrow-raising call could turn the competition upside down. Parishioners, keep your eyes on the scoreboard, your prayers handy, and your banter ready — because in this footy tipping saga, anything can happen. And remember: whether you're in first or forty-ninth, there's always next week... and maybe divine intervention.



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. Please feel free to take an envelope home with you today. The Parish **Funeral Preparation Pack** is also available at the entrance to the Church. To all new members of our Parish Community, you are welcome— *thanks for being part of our Parish Family.*

