

Following on from last weekend's celebrations to make the dedication of the new altar and the blessing of the refurbishment of St Mary's, we are brought down to earth by being reminded, in no uncertain terms, about the price of discipleship! After all, that is what we are all on about – discipleship! The gospel seems to indicate that when a follower of Jesus begins to hold anything back in imitating Christ, discipleship becomes a charade.

This Thursday, we welcome Bishop Shane Mackinlay as our new Archbishop.

Welcome as we celebrate the 23rd Sunday of the Church's Year

Our scripture this weekend comes from **Wisdom 9:13-18, Philemon 9-10, 12-17**, and the Gospel is from **Luke 14:25-33**.

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

Join us this Tuesday

Our next Sisterhood Meeting is happening on Tuesday, September 9th 6:00pm at Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore, and you won't want to miss it! We had a very prayerful and inspirational annual retreat and building on that experience, we continue on the journey of being faithful witnesses of the Good News here on the Sunshine Coast.

Sisterhood is our Parish ministry for women. It's an evening of connection, inspiration, and a whole lot of laughter (plus maybe a few cheeky snacks). Whether you're a regular or it's your first time, there's a seat with your name on it! Bring a friend, bring a smile – **we can't wait to see you there!**

Sisterhood



**CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION**
ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

Annual Catholic Foundation Appeal

This weekend, across our Sunshine Coast Parish, we will hold the annual Catholic Campaign. The appeal is a reminder that we belong to a church which is bigger than our Parish boundaries, and embraces challenges and opportunities beyond our borders!

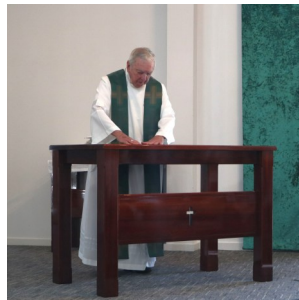
Every day, God showers us with blessings so we will have gifts to share. Your support serves those in our community who need our care today. Through your kindness and generosity, we unite as a Catholic community to reach out to serve others - the homeless, the marginalised, the elderly, our future priests in formation and families in dire circumstances.

The Campaign supports five key ministries that help people from all walks of life move closer to the "narrow door":

- **The MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund**, providing education to children in need.
- **Holy Spirit Seminary**, forming future priests to serve our communities.
- **The Priests Foundation**, caring for our retired priests.
- **Centacare's Pastoral Ministries**, offering support in hospitals, prisons, counselling and family services.
- **The Annual Grants Program**, seeding parish and community projects in areas like youth ministry and care for the poor.

By supporting this Campaign, we help lift the weight from others' shoulders, and even our own. In doing so, we live out the Gospel invitation to make room at the feast of the Kingdom for all God's people. There are envelopes on your seats and at the entrance to the church – if you have not come prepared today for the appeal and would like to support the ministries of the appeal, simply return the envelope next week and we will ensure it is forwarded to the appeal office. As always, thank you for your generous support.

Thank you to everyone involved in last Sunday's dedication of the new altar and the blessing of the refurbishments at St Mary's. For all those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring it all together, a grateful parish says *thank you*. A special thank you to Bishop Brian Heenan, who was overly generous with his use of the chrism oil in dedicating the new altar! There is still more to be done – *so the journey continues!* **More pictures of the celebration are available on our parish Facebook page.**



Happy
FATHER'S DAY

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 08 September

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Tuesday 09 September

- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ◆ Craft Group (1:00pm, St Peter's Coolum)
- ◆ RCIA All Saints Group (6:00pm, Duffy Room)
- ◆ Sisterhood Meeting (6:00pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Knights of the Southern Cross Meeting (7:00pm)

Wednesday 10 September

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

Thursday 11 September

- ◆ **Communion Service** (8:30am, St Peter's)
- ◆ Installation of Bishop Shane Mackinlay as the 7th Archbishop of Brisbane

Friday 12 September

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

Saturday 13 September

- ◆ 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)
- ◆ **Spanish Mass** (6:00pm, St Mary's Buderim)

Sunday, 14 September

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

- ◆ **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)
- ◆ Night Prayer Young Adults (6:00pm)

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.

Parish Clergy

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



Saddle Up !

Would all members of our local Knights of the Southern Cross mark in your diary that the next meeting is this Tuesday, 9th September, 7:00pm in the Duffy Room adjacent to Stella Maris Church. The Knights of the Southern Cross is a national organisation of Catholic laymen guided by the virtues of faith, justice, fortitude and temperance in all its charitable works. It strives to serve the wider community and support those in need. We are fortunate here in our Sunshine Coast Catholic Community to have such an active and generous group of men always willing to support the mission of the Parish. New members are welcome—contact John Legg (john.legg51@gmail.com).

Knitters aren't Quitters !

Stella Maris Craft Group meet twice a month in the Bliss Room on a Friday after the 9:00am Mass. They are always welcoming of new members, and it is a great way to rediscover lost skills and embrace new activities – why not join us this Friday? At Coolum, the St Peter's Craft Group meets Tuesday, 9th September 1:00pm.

Nothing More Important !

This weekend we had a meeting with all our Ministers of Communion. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that we are all registered members of the parish, an Archdiocesan requirement, and that we follow “best practice” when distributing Holy Communion. With so many new people coming to Mass, many of them not baptised Catholics, we have to develop protocols on how we embrace this challenge. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be providing guidelines for our entire Parish Family as the first step in this journey.

Further to last week's request, we humbly invite those who have mobility issues to take advantage of the seating closer to the altar – we simply want to maintain the dignity and reverence of receiving Holy Communion, so as a family, if you could move closer to the front, it would greatly assist our Eucharistic Ministers—thank you for your consideration.

Winners are Grinners !

Now that we are at the business end of the football season, the winners and losers are quickly becoming apparent! The one consistency throughout this season has been the lack of consistency and form of teams! As one commentator said, “*if you are picking winners this year, you know nothing about football*”. All of us who have struggled to pick the winners share his sentiments! Riding high at the top of our table is **Farnwyn** (140 pts), **Heckle and Jeckle** (137 pts), **KarentheCowboy** (136 pts), **Schyvo** (134 points), **Jimmary63** (133 pts), **MACFC22** (132 pts), **BBee** (132 pts), **Cool Vinny** (132 pts). The one consistent all season has been **ROSCOS REBELS**, who has monopolised the bottom of the ladder all season!! For the rest of us cellar dwellers, we are as philosophical as Wests, Bulldogs, Dragons and the Titans – this year was just a foundation for the fantastic 2026 season!!

Fun Days With God

The school holidays are again, just around the corner – that means we are busy planning our holiday programme “**Fun Days With God**”. Our holiday programme will be held on Tuesday, 23rd September from 9:00am-3:00pm. The cost will be \$10 for a child or \$20 for a family. We also love when parents are involved on the day, so if you would like more information, please contact: Bernie (bbaillie811@gmail.com).

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

IT IS EASY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR PARISH

Over two thousand parishioners have already signed up and become registered members of our Sunshine Coast parish – *have you?* It is easy, simply use your phone, and this QR code will take you directly to the parish sign-up page. You will receive a confirmation code, which will allow you to securely enter your family details.



Option two is to go on your computer and follow this link maroochydore.flocknote.com/register as it will also take you to our Parish Flocknote data page.

Finally, if all else fails, at the entrance to the church, there is a hard copy of the registration form. Please complete it and return it to the parish office so that we can register you. However you register, thank you for taking the time and becoming a registered and known member of your Catholic Parish.



OLDER CHILDREN'S BAPTISM PREPARATION

Sometimes, with the best of intentions, some things are put off, and before you know it, the moment has passed! Certainly, this happens often with baptism. If this is you or someone you know, we have good news. We invite families to an Older Children's Baptism Preparation Session on: **Sunday, 14th September, 10:30am** at Stella Maris Church.

If your child is between the ages of **7 and 15** and has not yet been baptised, this session is the first step in their journey of faith. To take part, please enrol your child online via our website: maroochydoreparish.com.au/baptism. We look forward to walking with your family in this special time of preparation and celebration. For more information, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Carrolyn Watt at the Parish Office.

Men—For your diary



You are invited to our regular Men's Breakfast on **Saturday, 20th September** at **7:00am-8.15am** in the Bliss room. If you've never been to one, Men's

breakfasts create a space for men to connect, build relationships, and support one another. These events also provide opportunities for sharing our personal experiences, and encouraging each other in our faith journey. Our speakers for the morning will be **Sam and Damian** from the NET Team. Damian will share about his experience of growing up in an uneasy home life and not knowing God personally until he experienced the love of Jesus for himself two years ago. Sam will talk about how he's come to know Jesus more and more over his life thus far and share about some key moments.

A light breakfast consisting of cereal, fruit, toast and spreads is included; tea and coffee are also provided. Cost will be \$5 cash (payable at the door). Please book early as seating is limited. Perhaps you could invite a friend.

NOTE: To keep things simple, **please bring your own bowl, plate, cutlery and mug.**

For catering purposes, RSVP to Rob Hoy on 0401 498 059 by 8:00pm Thursday, 18th September.

You might have heard us talking about the **RCIA**. The initials simply stand for the **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults. 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 late 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.

Mums and Dads = Grandmums and Granddads

Every Wednesday morning from **9:30am-11:00am**, parents with 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 their wisdom of 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

Congratulations to **Raphael McGowan & Millie Mae** who were married at St Mary's on Friday.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Fr John Chalmers**, a priest of the Archdiocese and **Elizabeth Elson**.

May Fr John & Elizabeth's souls, and the souls of all our deceased priests, religious, family members and parishioners, 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



On Wednesday, we marked Father's Day with a joyful morning that brought together dads, granddads, and our school community. The day began with a hearty breakfast, thanks to the incredible efforts of our P&F and parent reps who organised and prepared everything so beautifully. The sunshine, laughter, burgers, and cuppas made for a warm and welcoming start to the day.

Following breakfast, our whole school gathered for a special Father's Day liturgy led by Year 1 and seminarian,



Dylan. The children sang, prayed, and asked for God's blessings on all fathers—those present and those held close in our hearts. True to tradition, the liturgy featured singing, prayers and plenty of dad jokes, because no Father's Day celebration would be complete without them!

After the liturgy, our Prep children hosted their dads for a morning of fun and connection. Activities included "shaving" with paddle pop sticks and shaving cream, outdoor games, drawing, paper plane making, and singing. It was a delightful way for our youngest learners to share time and laughter with their dads.

We hope all dads had a great day last Sunday. We ask God's blessing on you all.

Stella Maris Primary School

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



This week, our school community came together in a spirit of joy and gratitude to celebrate the incredible fathers, grandfathers, and father figures who bless our lives. In the early hours before school began, we shared a Father's Day BBQ Breakfast. It was a heartwarming sight—children proudly sharing a meal with their dads, laughter echoing across the school grounds, and a sense of togetherness that reminds us of the strength and love fathers bring to our homes and hearts.

As we approach Father's Day this Sunday, we extend our warmest wishes to all the dads in our parish. May your day be filled with love, appreciation, and the quiet joy of knowing the difference you make.

This Friday, our dedicated teaching staff will step away from the classroom for a day of professional learning and collaboration. In the morning, teachers will engage in professional development aligned with our school's Annual Improvement Goal: *Enhancing Prayer in Our School Community. As part of this journey, staff have been working closely with the University of Leuven's Enhancing Catholic Identity research, deepening their understanding of prayer as both a personal and communal experience. Through reflection, dialogue, and exploration of contemporary Catholic spirituality, our educators are discovering new ways to nurture prayerful moments in the classroom and beyond. The afternoon will be spent moderating student work, ensuring consistency and excellence in assessment each year levels. This important practice strengthens our shared understanding of student achievement and supports our commitment to high-quality education.*

Siena Catholic College

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



At Siena, Student Voice has always been central to creating positive change, and our Student Representative Council (SRC) recognised a growing need to prioritise student wellbeing, so, when BCE announced the *first-ever BCE Student Voice Challenge* earlier this term, Siena College went 'all in' on something that matters to all of us: Mental Health. We were required to enter a video submission featuring our students addressing this issue.

Our initiative focused on strengthening mental health and wellbeing across the student body. We became aware of the issue through ongoing conversations with peers, observations of increased stress, and the visible impact of social media pressures—such as unrealistic standards of perfection and the constant drive to 'fit in.' These pressures take a toll on many students' mental health, and it became clear that action was needed. This project aligns with the *Wish for Education* to create safe, inclusive learning environments where every student feels supported, heard, and valued—not just academically, but emotionally as well.

We are incredibly proud to share that we were announced as the winners this week. What does that mean? \$2,000 for our school and yes, it's going straight towards a second cold bubbler for our back courts. This bubbler dream was the driving force behind our students' submission. The video team, along with our SRCs and Senior student leaders, voted to dedicate the prize to this cause.

Misa en Español

On the second Saturday of every month, our Spanish chaplain, Fr Luis, celebrates Mass in Spanish at St Mary's, Buderim. It is a great celebration with hospitality and a warm welcome to new faces. The next Mass in Spanish will be **Saturday, 13th September, 6:00pm** at St Mary's. Their Facebook page is Comunidad Catolica Latina de Sunshine Coast. Also, every Wednesday evening at 6:00pm in the Duffy Room, our Spanish-speaking prayer group members meet.

Następna polska Msza św

On the 4th Sunday of every month, Mass is celebrated in Polish. The next Mass in Polish will be on **Sunday, 28th September, 4:00pm** - tell your Polish friends—all welcome.

Brasileiros Católicos em Sunshine Coast

On the First Sunday of every month at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Edmund Street, Caloundra, Mass is celebrated in Portuguese at 11:30am. Portuguese is the official language of Brazil, and we have a vibrant and growing Brazilian community here on the Sunshine Coast. The Brazilian Catholic Community email address is bcsc.contato@gmail.com

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.*

