

As the school holidays draw to a close this weekend, we have a very short Gospel that connects two key concepts: faith and service. To be a person of faith is to be a person of service!

And faithful service to others in the name of the Gospel will have its own reward!

Our scripture this weekend comes from **Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4, 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14** and the Gospel is from **Luke 17:5-10**.

Welcome to everyone as we celebrate the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

Receiving Holy Communion

The focus in last weekend's Parish newsletter was on receiving Holy Communion. In such a large and busy Parish as ours, with so many visitors and new parishioners joining us, sometimes we take for granted that everyone knows what to do when it comes to receiving Holy Communion. Also, sometimes we unintentionally get into incorrect habits, so this is a great time to remind ourselves of how we should receive Holy Communion in our Sunshine Coast Parish Family. With that said, what are the 6 steps to remember?



ONE: In our Catholic faith, receiving Holy Communion is central to who we are, and it reminds us of who we are called to be! Nourished by receiving the Eucharist, we strive to become what we have received. To receive the Eucharist, you must, among other requirements, be a baptised Catholic and free of any grave sins. Leading up to receiving Holy Communion, we prepare by prayer, reflection and participating fully in the Mass.



TWO: At Communion time, in preparation, quietly lift your kneeler, so that those following you are not obstructed. Then leave your pew and, with your fellow Catholics, proceed to the front of the church. As you proceed to the altar, always be conscious of the privilege of being able to receive the Blessed Sacrament.



THREE: As a sign of reverence for the Blessed Sacrament, as you approach the Priest or Eucharistic minister, make a sign of reverence, such as a bow. For example, once the person ahead of you has received Communion, bend slightly at the hips, then step forward within arm's length of the priest so that you may receive the sacrament yourself.



FOUR: Receive the host in your hands or on your tongue. If you wish to have the host handed to you, hold out your hands, left on top of right. The Eucharist is always given, *never taken*, so do not take the host from the priest, but rather allow them to place it in your hand. You consume the consecrated host immediately – you don't walk off with the host!



FIVE: Receive the Precious Blood. After receiving the host, you may choose to receive the Blood of Christ. Take a small sip from the chalice that is offered to you. The person offering the cup will say "the Blood of Christ," and you respond (as before) with a bow and a proclamation of your faith: "Amen." By saying "Amen", you are actually proclaiming aloud, "Yes, I believe".



SIX: Return to your seat and pray as you kneel. This is a time to reflect and pray in thanks-giving. It is also a chance to think about the journey that has brought you to this moment and a time to call to mind the challenges that lie ahead of you as you contemplate the next 7 days. Follow the lead of your fellow Catholics if you are unsure what to do.

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 06 October

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

Tuesday 07 October *Our Lady of the Rosary*

- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ◆ RCIA All Saints Group (6:00pm, Duffy Room)
- ◆ RCIA Easter Group (6:00pm, Stella Maris)

Wednesday 08 October

- ◆ **Mass** (7:00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9:00am, St Catherine's Church)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9:30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Funeral Bob Robertson (12:00pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Latin American prayer group every Wednesday in the Duffy Room (6:00-8:00pm)

Thursday 09 October

- ◆ **Mass** (8:30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ Funeral James Anderson (12:30pm, St Mary's)

Friday 10 October

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

Saturday 11 October

- ◆ Reconciliation (8:30—9:30am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptisms (10:00am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Jesus Shine Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group (11:00am, St Catherine's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4:30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6:00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 12 October

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time St. Carlo Acutis display at Stella Maris

- ◆ **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)
- ◆ Junior Minsters (3:00pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10:10 Youth & Young Adults (3:00pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (5:00pm, Stella Maris Church)

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.

On the first weekend of every month, across our Parish Family, we have a special focus on **hospitality**. All parishioners and especially visitors are warmly invited to enjoy the hospitality of our community, and a big thank you to all those who coordinate and generously support this important Parish ministry.

Don't Get Locked Out !

For some time now, we have known that the computer software supporting our security fob system at Stella Maris was obsolete, and the software was no longer supported. That meant that when there was a major issue with the system there was a good possibility that we would not be able to get access to the system. That breakdown happened three weeks ago, with all our timed access freezing and locking us out of the system. Over the past week, a new system has been installed. Additionally we have included the kitchen and Duffy Room onto the fob system to reduce the need for keys.

All this means, is that everyone who has a fob, will need to bring it into the office to be re-programmed into the new system. It also means that we need fewer keys so if you have a key to Stella Maris please come to the parish office and replace it with a new fob.

Feeling crafty ?

The craft group's next get-together is on 9:45am **Friday, 10th October** in the Bliss Room (following the 9:00am Mass). We are now gearing up for our Christmas stall, so it's all hands on deck! Please come along and join in the fun.

Annals

The Parish Office will be placing an order for annual liturgical books on this Wednesday, **8th October**. 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.

A Saint for our Age

Next Sunday will be the feast day of our newest and first millennial saint, **St. Carlo Acutis**. Known for his devotion to the Eucharist and his use of technology to evangelise, he created an online museum of **Eucharistic Miracles** which will be on display at our Stella Maris Church. You can come and view this display between **5:00pm-7:00pm Saturday 11th October** and **7:00am-8:00pm Sunday 12th October**.

If you are one of our **10:10 Youth** or **Young Adults**, you are invited to join in on a special combined event run by the NET Team and YA Leaders with **Adoration, Praise & Worship** to celebrate this feast day, **3:00pm Sunday**.

And Finally

By the time this weekend wraps up and everyone looks forward to the King's Birthday public holiday on Monday, there will be 17 very happy rugby league players, plus a relieved coach and countless ecstatic fans. Conversely, there will be 17 dejected rugby league players, a disconsolate coach and many subdued supporters. Depending upon who you support, will determine how you go to sleep on Sunday night! A big thank you to all who were part of our Parish Tipping Competition and all the fun of this year's NRL season – the proceeds of the tipping competition helped send our youth to last weekend's Ignite Youth Conference in Brisbane. **Thank you**

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

Sisterhood

Our parish women's ministry, Sisterhood, meets 6:00pm Tuesday, at Stella Maris. All women of our community are welcome to join us – why not bring a friend? If you haven't been to one of our gatherings, where we simply take a little time out to pause and reflect upon our faith journey in the midst of our busy lives, why not join us this Tuesday? We're excited to begin a new Scripture study on the **Book of Ephesians**, which will carry us through to the end of the year. If you're planning to join us, please bring your Bible and take some time to read **Ephesians, chapters 1 and 2** beforehand. *All welcome.*

Your continued financial generosity and trust make all our Parish ministries and outreach possible – thank you.

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 6:00pm Saturday, 11th October 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, and all Spanish speakers are warmly invited to join them.

Następna polska Msza św

On the Fourth Sunday of every month, Mass is celebrated in Polish. The next Mass in Polish will be 4:00pm Sunday, 26th October at St Mary's - 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. The Brazilian Catholic Community's email address is bcsc.contato@gmail.com

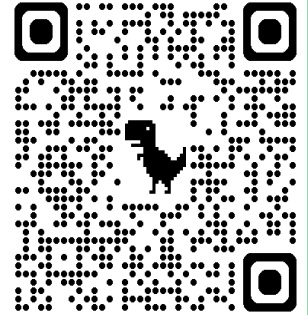
Men's Retreat



Preparations are well underway for our annual Men's Retreat, which will take place on Saturday, 18th October. We are delighted that Fr Paul Chandler has accepted our invitation to lead our retreat. Fr Paul is a Carmelite priest and currently the Spiritual Director at Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo. 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. Don't miss this opportunity to recharge and reconnect! **Date:** Saturday, 18th October **Time:** 8:30am **Location:** Sunshine Coast Hockey Club, Buderim **Theme:** Men on a Mission: Saints who changed the world. To help with catering, please scan the QR code and register.



The 50 youth and young adults of our Parish Family would like to thank you for your financial support in making our attendance at this year's Ignite Youth Conference possible – your generosity is very much appreciated. Over 1400 Catholic youth from all over southeast Queensland attended this year's gathering, and it was an extraordinary time to be reminded of our belonging to a universal faith and the unique bonds that tie us together. Thank you once again to the entire Parish for your support and making this faith experience possible.

Celebrating and Remembering

With joy we welcome into God's Family, the Church,
Duncan Rose & Charlotte Zarb who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We prayerfully remember our loved ones who have died, especially this week we remember
Malcolm Macnaughtan, Catherine Callanan, Robert Robertson & James Anderson.
May their souls, and the souls of all our departed priests, religious, fellow parishioners and loved ones
Through the rich mercy of God
Rest in Peace

Back in Action

With the resumption of school this week, the normal rhythm of our Parish Family resumes, and an invitation is extended to all to be part of the fabric of our Parish life.

Pray & Play

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!

High School Youth Group

With our high schools cranking up for the final term of the year, so does our parish high school youth group, **10:10 Maroochydore**. All high school students are more than welcome to gather with us this Sunday afternoon 3:00pm at Stella Maris. The 10:10 Maroochydore youth group is coordinated by our parish NET team.

Junior Ministers

Next Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm, Stella Maris sees the return of our **Junior Ministers Youth Group**. All primary school students are warmly invited to join us, each week as we explore aspects of our church and the different ways we can be ministers and be of service, with plenty of activities and games. We finish in time for the 5:00pm Sunday evening Mass. Adults are always welcome to help. If you're interested and would like to learn more, please reach out to Bernie Baillie at **bbailie811@gmail.com.au** *See you there!!!*

This October

October is traditionally a month to pray the Rosary. As individuals, families and as a community, there is no better prayer than the Rosary as we ponder the mystery of salvation and ultimately God's unconditional love for each one of us. During the month of October, you are invited to join in praying the Rosary - There are several Rosary Prayer Groups in our Parish. Visit our parish webpage to see when and where we pray the Rosary and please accept this invitation to join us.

Don't Procrastinate

If you have not already collected your **Funeral Preparation Pack**, they are available at the entrance to the church. The purpose of the preparation envelope, is not to be taken home and collect dust. It is to be opened, reflected upon and discussed with your loved ones. Please fill out and then return to the parish office (or some obvious place at home) where hopefully it will not be opened for many years to come. By spending a little time completing the Funeral Preparation Pack, it will give you peace of mind and certainly take a lot off pressure of those you love the most as they gather to celebrate your life. The trick with the preparation pack is – ***don't procrastinate!***

Bliss Room

It is great to see the Bliss Room being used by so many groups, which is evidence of a busy parish. However, users will be aware that putting all the tables and chairs back into the storeroom after use is almost impossible and trying to fit the tables in, has resulted in damage to some of the table legs. So, we have devised a plan that indicates how to leave some tables, chairs and the TV out and where to place them along three of the walls. The plan is located on the wall of the Bliss Room for your information. The plan also indicates where to put some chairs and tables in the storeroom. By following the plan we hope to avoid further damage to the tables but also to be more efficient with our time. Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.



The churches, schools and parish infrastructure of our Stella Maris Parish are 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 the 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 has the confidence that their financial contribution will still be working for the mission of the Church and Parish, ten, fifty or 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 through 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 to those who will follow us in faith. ***Thank you for your continued support.***