Stella Maris Catholic Parish

Christ the King

Weekend of November 21 and 22, 2026

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 **Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 **Gospel:** Matthew: 25:31-46

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 Parish Office
Adjacent to the
Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

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9:00am—2:00pm Weekdays

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Maroochydore NET Team
Maroochydore@netministries.com.au

At Your Service
Fr Peter Brannelly
Fr Gerard Lai
Bishop Brian Heenan
Bishop Emeritus

Introducing



Hello! My name is David; I am 26 years old and am a second-year seminarian. I will be on placement here at your parish until Christmas!

Born in Brisbane, I grew up in the Emmanuel Community but when I turned 18 I stopped going to Mass and turned away to evangelical protestantism instead. A year later, my older brother invited me back to Mass which led to my personal 're-discovery' of Catholicism and I went on to serve a year with NET ministries down in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

In early 2020, praying in Eucharistic Adoration, I heard Jesus speak to me "Feed my sheep." I joined Canali house that year where I lived with Dylan Asmus to discern my vocation but, unlike Dylan, I concluded that seminary was not for me! And so, I got on with my life. I worked for the Cathedral as a sacristan and, although it was short lived, I also worked for Indooroopilly Parish as a Youth and YA Coordinator. I studied a degree in Aviation, learnt to fly at Archerfield Airport, and moved to Melbourne to work in aircraft maintenance on REX's 737s—that is until REX ceased their domestic operations! Amid the turbulence of my aviation career trying to take off (puns intended), the call to the priesthood returned and those words of Christ to me came alive again. So thinking about the priesthood (on and off) for five years, I knew I couldn't delay it any further. I applied to Holy Spirit Seminary to continue discerning my vocation. I've heard many good things about this Parish but have never visited. I'm looking forward to my time here on the Sunshine Coast and to meet you all in the coming weeks! Please do not be shy in extending any dinner invites and do keep me in your prayers.

David Thorley

Make the most of Advent

Advent Starts next week and it is a short, focused season of expectation – waiting for Emmanuel – God is with us! A great way to help prepare is by spending a little time reflecting on the approaching birth of the Christ Child as part of an Advent programme. Each Wednesday during the four weeks of Advent, commencing December 2, 6:00pm - and you are invited to join our Advent programme at St Catherine's.
Please call Helen Matchett on 0403 617 512 for more details.

Welcome to the Family

This Sunday evening at the 5:00pm Mass we will celebrate with 32 fellow pilgrims who have been on a journey of discovery, prayer, discernment and faith. For the past 16 weeks they have gathered weekly to reflect upon different aspects of what we believe as Catholics. Central elements of our Faith, our rituals, our symbols, how we celebrate and why we celebrate have all been part of the weekly gatherings. Last Sunday, at the Rite of Election, they publically declared their intention to proceed to baptism and full communion with the Catholic Church – this week we welcome them as our Catholic brothers and sisters!

Please pray for ***Ella Boyle, Sam Brown, Matthew Campbell, Karina Cassar, Robert Chambers, Stephen Colasimone, Kerri Colasimone, Jackson Colasimone, Abby Colasimone, Benjamin Cosgrove, Emily Cosgrove, Ari Easton, Daniel Engeman, Emily Finch, Andrew Fink, Jack Keating, Christopher Kolts, Lily Pettigrove, James McFadden, Jonathan Nevin, Mark Oxborough, Elizabeth Rector, Isabela Romagnoli, Dean Sluce, Valerie Sluce, Taryn Smith, Scott Suitor, Lachlan Pasonage, Fletcher Logan, Alfie Sheers, Shae Tunstall and Shane Tunstall.***

Thank you also to the Catechetical Team and the sponsors who gently accompanied our candidates on the journey of faith. In the New Year we will start a new RCIA programme for all those who would like to discover a little more about what we believe as Catholics.

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, November 23
- Adoration (4:30pm, Stella Maris)
- Benediction (5:15pm, Stella Maris)
- **Mass** (5:30pm, Stella Maris)

Tuesday, November 24
- **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- Craft (1:00pm, St Peter's)
- Volunteer Thank You gathering (6:00pm, Stella Maris)

Wednesday, November 25
- **Mass** (7:00am, St Mary's)
- **Mass** (9:00am, St Catherine's)
- Play and Pray (9:30am, Stella Maris)
- Scripture Study Group (9:30am, Zoom)

Thursday, November 26
- **Mass** (8:30am, St Peter's)
- Safeguarding training (9:15am, St Peter's)

Friday, November 27
- **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris)
- Craft Group (9:45am, Stella Maris)
- Community Meal (6:00pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, November 28
- Men's Breakfast (8:00am, Stella Maris)
- Reconciliation (8:30—9:30am, Stella Maris)
- Jesus Shine Prayer Group (11:00am, St Catherine's)
- **Vigil Mass** (4:30pm, St Peter's)
- **Vigil Mass** (6:00pm, Stella Maris)

Sunday, November 29 ***First Sunday of Advent***
- **Mass** (6:30am, Stella Maris)
- **Mass** (7:30am, St Peter's)
- **Mass** (8:00am, St Catherine's) Children's Church
- **Mass** (9:00am, Stella Maris) Children's Church
- **Mass** (9:30am, St Mary's) Children's Church
- Junior Ministers (3:00pm, Stella Maris)
- 10:10 Youth Group (3:00pm, Stella Maris)
- **Mass** (5:00pm, Stella Maris) Children's 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.



Each weekend there are many visitors joining us who are not Catholic – you are most welcome. When it comes time for Holy Communion you are welcome to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing. Thank you for being with us today.

IT's Not too late to support

This weekend our Parish Lunch is on at Siena and it is a sell out! This Sunday, 180 guests will enjoy a three course meal, served by the students of Siena College, and prepared by the chefs of our Sunshine Coast Parish. supporting our chefs is a supporting cast of parishioners who will be making sure that the afternoon goes smoothly. Thank you to all those involved in this fund raising venture that will support a new NET Team for 2027. If you would like to financially contribute to the goal of securing a 2027 NET Team you can make a direct debit into our parish fundraising account

Thank you for helping us secure a NET team in 2027 **You can now make a direct deposit using the details below:**

Account Name:	ADF - Stella Maris Parish
BSB:	064 786
Account Number:	100 000 037
Payment Reference:	NET27 Donation

Safeguarding Training

The final face to face reportable conduct Scheme training will be held at St Peter's Coolum Beach on Thursday, November 26, at 9:15am (following Mass). It only takes approximately 20 minutes.
Volunteers who require either Blue Card or Police Check are required to complete training. Contact our local Safeguarding team for more information: *lsr.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au* or phone parish office 07 5443 3488

Santa is Coming !

With Advent starting next weekend it means that Christmas is definitely just around the corner. It also means that while Santa's elves are getting busy they are not as busy as our local Stella Maris craft group who are in full swing preparing for their Christmas Craft Stall. Come along and join them this Friday following the 9:00am Mass at Stella Maris – all are very much welcome.

Vietnamese Martyrs

On the vigil of the Vietnamese Martyrs, Saints Andrew Dung-Lac and companions, Fr Joseph Hein warmly invites any Vietnamese living on the sunshine Coast to join this Monday at the 5:30pm Stella Maris Mass. Some estimates the number of Vietnamese martyrs who died between 1745 and 1862 at between 130,000 and 300,000. John Paul II decided to canonize both those whose names are known and unknown, giving them a single feast day, November 24.

Novena

A traditional way we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child here in our Sunshine Coast Parish is through the nine day novena leading up to Christmas. Each morning at 6:00am, we celebrate Mass together at Stella Maris followed by a light breakfast so that we can face the challenges of the day, both spiritually and physically prepared. The Christmas Novena begins on Tuesday, December 15 – please join us! Why not invite a friend or neighbour?

WHERE FAITH AND LIFE MEET

We welcome into God's Family, the Church ***Sloane Walker, Hudson Hebbard, Mila Hebbard*** and ***Gracelyn Wainscott*** who will be baptised into our Catholic Family this weekend.

We pray for all those who have died especially ***Robert Savige,*** whose funeral will be held on Wednesday, 02 December at 1:00pm at Stella Maris. May his soul and the souls of all our deceased priests, Religious, family members and members of our parish community, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace



Our 2027 Calendar is here

In such a large and diverse Parish Family as ours it is critical that we plan ahead to ensure that events, programmes and sacraments are planned and celebrated. From the general calendar we produce a parish calendar which is available for you today. It contains the important dates for next year and will hopefully keep you in touch with what is going on with the invitation to be involved in the life of your Catholic Parish.

We are who we are because of you !



Our Parish Family is blessed with an extraordinary number of volunteers who keep everything bouncing along – they are literally the mortar that holds us all together! Quietly, behind the scenes, fellow parishioners clean our churches, put their hand up to be part of the music ministry, lead our children's church, take Holy Communion to those who can't join us for Mass, coordinate our celebrations, and are part of different groups and ministries, the list goes on and on! Every year, before the craziness of the holiday season really kicks in, we try and gather all volunteers for a Christmas Thank You Party.

So, if you are a faithful volunteer, up front or behind the scenes, whether your ministry is either easy or time consuming, a grateful Parish would like to extend to all volunteers a warm invitation to this year's Christmas Thank You party on **this Tuesday, November 24 , from 6:00pm to 7:30pm**. Everyone is invited! **If you can, please bring a desert to share.**



NEXT SATURDAY MORNING

MEN OF OUR SUNSHINE COAST PARISH

You are invited to join us for our last Men's Breakfast for the year on next Saturday, November 28, at 8:00am sharp in the Bliss Room.

Our speaker for the morning will be parishioner Elijah Gonzalez. "From a childhood marked by abuse to a life of addiction and deep mental health struggles, Elijah never imagined his journey would lead him to the Catholic Church. He shares how, during one of the darkest periods of his life, an unexpected encounter with Jesus Christ challenged everything he believed and ultimately transformed the direction of his life".

The purpose of our Men's Breakfasts is to provide an opportunity for us as men to come and hear from fellow parishioners, (who might sit next to you in the pews each Sunday), about how Jesus has made a difference in their lives. It is also an opportunity to share our own personal faith experiences as well as encouraging each other in our spiritual walk.
A light breakfast consisting of cereal, muesli, fruit, yoghurt, toast and spreads is included.
Juice, tea and coffee are also provided.
To help cover costs, a donation of $5.00 cash (payable at the door) would be appreciated.
Perhaps you could invite a neighbour or another parishioner.
NOTE: Disposable bowls, plates cutlery and cups are provided, however you are welcome to bring your own.
For catering purposes or for further information please RSVP Rob Hoy on 0401 498 059 by 12:00pm Friday November, 27.

The colour of Advent is violet – so if you have any purple flowers growing in your garden our local church florists who prepare our churches each weekend would love some of them !

Fun Days With God – Advent Adventures:

Volunteers Needed!

Advent Adventures is the Maroochydore Catholic Parish holiday program for children during the December school holidays. It is an exciting day of faith, fun and friendship, featuring craft activities, Bible stories, music, prayer, drama, games and interactive activities, all centred on the season of Advent as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus. This year we are expecting around 50 children to attend. Throughout the year we have been greatly blessed by the support of the NET Team, however they have now completed their ministry year. As a result, we are seeking additional adult volunteers to help ensure the day is safe, engaging and faith-filled for all who attend.

Fun Days With God – Advent Adventures will be held on Monday, December 14 from 8:30am to 3:00pm.
If you enjoy working with children and would like to share your time and talents in this important parish ministry, we would love to hear from you. No special skills are required; just a willingness to help and support our young people as they grow in faith. Please note that all volunteers will require a current Blue Card (Working with Children Check).
For more information or to volunteer, please email Bernie Baillie at *bbaillie811@gmail.com* as soon as possible.
"Let the little children come to me..." (Mark 10:14)
Helpers are needed before registrations can open, so if you are able to assist, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Sunshine Coast Catholic Education

Siena Catholic Primary School

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

World Teachers Day



On the last Friday of October, our Siena community joyfully gathered to celebrate World Teachers' Day and give thanks to God for the gift of our wonderful teachers.

Our teachers were treated to a special assembly, some sweet treats and heartfelt notes from their classes – small signs of the great love and gratitude our students hold for them.
Like Jesus, the greatest Teacher of all, our staff guide each child with patience and kindness.

We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful team! May God continue to bless our teachers as they help each child become who God meant them to be.



Stella Maris Primary School

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

There was plenty of excitement at Stella Maris recently as we welcomed our newest students and families for our 2027 Prep Orientation Day. The morning gave our 2027 Prep students a wonderful opportunity to explore their new learning spaces, meet the Prep teaching team and begin becoming familiar with the excitement of starting "big school." For many children, these small moments of connection help build confidence and a sense of belonging ahead of their first day next year.

While the children enjoyed time in the Prep environment, our new parents and carers were warmly welcomed into the life of Stella Maris. Families had the opportunity to meet one another and hear from occupational therapists, speech therapists and our Principal, Mark Ballam, about the many ways we can work together to support each child's transition to school.

Beginning Prep is an exciting milestone, not only for children but for the whole family. Orientation Day is an important first step in building the relationships and partnerships that will support our newest students as they begin their journey at Stella Maris.

We look forward to continuing to welcome our 2027 Prep families and seeing our newest Stella Maris students grow in confidence as they prepare for this exciting new chapter.



Siena Catholic College

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

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through Term 4. Our Year 12s have almost completed their external exams, while the other cohorts continue with classwork and assessment.

Last week, our NET members farewelled the College, reflecting on the year that has been and reminding our students that they will continue to be held in their prayers. We will miss the Team and their presence around the school. They have been regular visitors to classes, have led weekly encounter sessions, joined in the Stella Maris Community Meal, taught us new options for liturgical music and joined us in prayer and worship. They presented formation sessions across year levels and at the Primary schools, and their encouragement saw our largest group yet attend both the Reco Rally and the Ignite Conference. We thank them for the gift that they have been to the College and look forward to hearing of their ongoing adventures.

Our Basketball, Water polo and League Tag competitions have moved into finals, and we wish all involved the best of luck for the conclusion of their seasons. It's always wonderful to watch students grow through their involvement in sport and to see the skills and relationships built on the court or field reach far beyond the end of the season. Thank you to all who support the breadth of the College's extracurricular offerings.

Planning Ahead - **Communal Rite of Reconciliation**, Maroochydore Monday evening December 21, **5pm**
Christmas Eve: Maroochydore **4pm**, Coolum **5pm**, Sippy Downs **5pm**, Maroochydore **6pm**, Maroochydore, **Midnight**
Christmas Day: Maroochydore **6:30am**, Coolum **7:30am**, Maroochydore **9am**, Buderim **9:30am**

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. 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 church family.***

It has never been so easy to get in touch and keep up to date with the many ministries and activities of our Parish.

Become a registered parishioner of your parish – simply follow the Flocknote QR link.