

2-10 Church Street Maroochydore QLD 4558

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, Year C, 14 August 2022

FIRE

The very mention of this word – FIRE - stirs fear and anxiety in our hearts. The horrific results of summer bushfires and the destruction and death they have caused in Australia are known by all. From the safety of our homes we have watched on television out of control fires devastate communities and claim the lives of those trapped with no chance of survival. Fed by powerful winds nothing stands a chance. In ancient times an out of control fire was understandably associated with divine retribution! Sometimes I wonder deep down if we also feel the same. And it is fire and destruction that are the central image of this weekend's Gospel capturing our attention from the opening lines

Yet, somehow the imagery and destruction caused by out of control fire stands in complete contrast to the message of the Good News and the Gospel. After all, didn't Jesus come with a message of peace and goodwill? Aren't we all supposed to love one another and turn the other cheek?

Well yes – and no! This Gospel is a stark reminder of the costs involved in following Jesus, while at the same time it is a comfort to us who hear of them today. Sometimes we can turn the message of the Gospel and our Christian community into a "feel good" society where we just go along with the flow, hiding in the crowd, frightened of conflict or our own "gut reaction" to what is right and just and what is wrong!

This was the experience of the early church where division was certainly part of their communities. They were grappling with the tough issues like how could the Gentiles inherit the promises made to the Jews; why the rich members of the community had a special responsibility to the poor; the centrality of forgiveness in the message of the Good News. We know that these issues and others like them caused fights and division and divided families and friends, villages and nations.

At school, university, work, as members of a family unit or our very own diverse Sunshine Coast parish community, we face this same reality. The Gospel of Jesus is not necessarily easy, not necessarily comfortable and our experience tells us that, if we are authentic, there are times when it can be divisive and confrontational. Balancing the Gospel and its ethical and moral imperatives with the reality of our lives is difficult. If we are really trying to live out the Gospel faithfully then there will most likely be times when we are a contradiction to our friends and colleagues, possibly even to those we love the most!

What is comforting about this Gospel is that it recognises that conflict is part of the Christian life. We shouldn't pretend that, to be a follower of Jesus means that we never disagree with one another, water down our values and standards, and shy away from proclaiming to the wider society in which we are privileged to live an alternative way of living and relating. However, we always do so with great humility, charity, careful listening and compassion. And, in the midst of any division, we also know that it is the love of God that challenges us to be big enough to take the first step and reach out, heal the rifts that divide us and be the ultimate bridge of reconciliation.

Wishing you every blessing for the coming week,

Fr Peter Brannelly

Solemnity - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Monday, 15 August 9.00am St Peter's Church and 5.30pm Stella Maris Church

Gathering

The priests of the Archdiocese will be gathering in Brisbane for the annual convocation on this Tuesday and Wednesday. Please keep us all in your prayers. Please note that there will be no 7am Mass at St Mary's, Buderim. On the Tuesday night the priests will celebrate the jubilees of ordination and as a Parish Family we especially acknowledge Bishop Brian Heenan who marks his 60th anniversary of ordination.

This Tuesday

Our new ALPHA programme begins this Tuesday, August 16th from 6 to 8pm at the function room at Stella Maris. The Alpha talks are designed to engage people from all walks of life and inspire conversation that explores the big issues of life and faith. If you would like to know more about ALPHA or you would like to register to come along please email Joe Moloney, our parish Alpha coordinator, at alphamcp4@gmail.com

Better than Bunnings!

The annual Ignite Conference takes place in September and after the 9am Mass this Sunday at Stella Maris we are holding a BBQ fundraiser to help our youth cover some of the registration costs. The Ignite Conference is the largest Catholic youth gathering in Australia and youth from all over the country gather for four days of prayer and fellowship. We are extremely grateful for all the assistance the Knights of the Southern Cross are providing to support our fundraiser. Sausages are only \$3 and soft drinks \$2 – thanks for your support.

Invitation

A warm invitation to all our youth to come and meet our new priest, Fr William on Sunday, August 28th, from 2pm to 4pm in the afternoon at the function room at Stella Maris. Fr William will share his story but there will also be fun, games and plenty of pizza!!!

Let there be Light

Behind the scenes there has been plenty of work going on in preparation for the 30th anniversary of St Mary's Buderim and the 40th anniversary of St Peter's, Coolum. The entire parish is invited to join in the celebrations – St Peter's at the 6pm Mass on Saturday, August 27th and the following morning at the 9am Mass at St Mary's, Buderim. The St Peter's community is looking for a lend of some fairy lights to decorate the gathering area for the post Mass celebrations – if you have any, please contact John Bushell on 0412 866408.

Annual Catholic Campaign next weekend

Next weekend, our parish is delighted to support the Annual Catholic Campaign. It is the one time in the year that all of the parishes in the Archdiocese come together to help vital works of our church and the local community. Please do take a Campaign brochure and giving envelope with you when you go today, and return it next weekend. Funds raised will support ministries that directly impact this parish. The Campaign supports training future priests, caring for our elderly, and retired priests, helping local families in dire need access a Catholic education and caring for those suffering physically and emotionally in our community.

Sunshine Coast Marathon this weekend

Please remember the marathon is on this weekend. To see if you're affected google the marathon details for the course map.

Are you new?

In our highly mobile world there are always new faces joining us each weekend. For our new parishioners, it is very easy to get lost in the crowd and all the activity. If you are new to the parish or if you have been here for a while and have not been welcomed please take a Welcome Pack with you after Mass and return it next week – our next Welcome evening is on Wednesday, September 14th and your priests and fellow parishioners are eager to introduce themselves to you.

In Transition

We welcome into our Parish Family Emmett Head, Finley Allsopp-Ashton, James Dreyer, Nixon Sullivan & Zoe Chavrimootoo who were baptised this weekend. We pray for Maria Cignoli, Maureen Zeller, James O'Hara and Romilda Natoli whose funeral rites were celebrated last week in our parish. May their souls, and the souls of all our deceased priests, religious and parishioners, through the rich mercy of God, *Rest in Peace*.

The Week Ahead

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Friday, 12 August

- Mass (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)
- Gen Y Fridays (Rosary, 6.00pm, Chapel, Stella Maris Church). Followed by dinner somewhere together.
- Community Meal for the Homeless,
 Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Saturday, 13 August

- 9.00am 10.00am Reconciliation (Stella Maris Church)
- The Sacrament of Baptism for infants and young children

Sunday, 14 August

 Confirmation Workshop for those children who have commenced their preparation.

Monday, 15 August

- Mass Solemnity The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (9.00am, St Peter's Church)
- Adoration 4.30pm, concluding with Benediction at 5.15pm (Stella Maris Church)
- Mass Solemnity The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday, 16 August

- Mass (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)
- Christ Catholic Community (following 9.00am Mass, Function Room, Stella Maris Church)
- Alpha Program (6 to 8pm, Function Room, Stella Maris Church)

Wednesday, 17 August

- Liturgy of the Word (7.00am, St Mary's Church)
- Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom gathering)

Thursday, 18 August

- Mass (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- St Vincent de Paul Society meeting (St Peter's Conference)
- Baptism Preparation for infants and young children
- Confirmation Workshop for those children who have commenced their preparation.
- Mass (5.30pm, St Catherine of Siena Church)

Friday, 19 August

- Mass (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)
- Community Meal for the Homeless,
 Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Saturday, 20 August

The Sacrament of Baptism for infants and young children

Sunday, 21 August

 Confirmation Workshop for those children who have commenced their preparation.

Our Parish Details

At your service...

Pastoral Team

Fr Peter Brannelly PP

Fr William Aupito Iuliano

Carrolyn Watt (Youth Coordinator / Childrens Sacraments Coordinator)

Parish Office

The office adjoins Stella Maris Church

Phone	5443 3488 (Option 1 - Mass Times)
Address	2-10 Church Street Maroochydore
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Finance	finance.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Youth Coordinator & Children Sacramental Coordinator	cspy.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Safeguarding/ Volunteers	stellam.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

Our Churches

Stella Maris Church	2-10 Church Street Maroochdydore
St Peter's Church	28-32 Elizabeth Street Coolum Beach
St Mary's Church	24 King Street Buderim
St Catherine of Siena Church	58 Sippy Downs Drive Sippy Downs

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 6.00pm St Peter's Church, Coolum Beach 6.00pm Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore Sunday 7.00am Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore 7.30am St Peter's Church, Coolum Beach 9.00am St Mary's Church, Buderim 9.00am Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

5.30pm St Catherine of Siena Church, Sippy Downs

6.00pm Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

5.30pm Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

Weekday Mass Times

Monday

9.00am Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore Tuesday Wednesday 7.00am St Mary's Church, Buderim Thursday 8.30am St Peter's Church, Coolum Beach 5.30pm St Catherine of Siena Church, Sippy Thursday Downs

9.00am Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore Friday

Reconciliation

Every Saturday 9.00am to 10.00am Stella Maris Church,

Maroochydore

Second

Thursday of Following the St Peter's Church, 8.30am Mass each month Coolum Beach