

2-10 Church Street
Maroochydore QLD 4558
Subscribe: <https://stellamariscp.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Phone: 07 5443 3488



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, Year C, 25
September 2022

From Fr William...

You can almost hear it from Amos in our first reading.

Alas for those who lounge in front of the telly whilst snacking on those chips and slurping that XXXX. Alas for those who have three meals a day with a fridge or cupboard for food storage. Alas for those who are able to travel from point A to point B safely and swiftly. Alas for those who live comfortably!

Most of us enjoy these blessings during the week, but today is not an attack on these things, rather, what our Gospel attempts to highlight is that these blessings could also be avenues to complacency.

The question the Gospel presents to us is this; can I continue to live comfortably whilst turning a blind eye to those around me who are in misery?

Towards the end of our first reading, Amos writes, "about the ruin of Joseph, they do not care at all," in other words these people who enjoy bowls full of wine have no compassion for others, especially those who are in need.

In our Gospel we see this complacency played out in the parable.

The rich man, also known as Dives, we're told, lives lavishly and sumptuously every day. Within his gaze, at the front of his doorstep, lies the other man, Lazarus, covered in sores. We're not told anything else about Dives and it's hard to judge whether he's a good man or not, but, as we know he ends up in Hades. So how did he end up there?

We know that sin is not always about what I do, say or think but also about what I fail to do, known by many as sin of omission.

So when we go back to our parable, although we don't know for sure, we can say with confidence that, for Dives, it was not about what he did that contributed to his destination but what he failed to do.

The gap between the 'haves' and 'have nots' of our society continue to grow as the world advances in many ways technologically and idealistically. As these shifts occur, we're reminded by Jesus, in our parable, to have a keen eye on those who are doing it tough. Not only do we need to have a keen eye, but we also need to train our feet to respond.

It certainly won't be easy, but that's part of the good fight that we have to endure as we hear from the letter of St Paul to Timothy.

Training for any fight requires sacrifice and dedication. As we fight the good fight, may we go out to respond to the needs of those who are at our front doorsteps and show to each other the compassion that our world longs to feel.

God Bless, Fr William

Proper of the Mass

First Reading: Amos 6:1, 4-7

Second Reading: 1 Tim 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

St Vincent de Paul Society, St Gerard Majella
Conference – 40 years on



This newsletter is in appreciation of the support given by the Stella Maris Parish to St Vincent de Paul Society Maroochydore, and to let you know what has taken place over the last financial year.

St Gerard Majella Maroochydore Conference is attached to Northern Diocese Central Council (based in Nambour) and one of 8 Diocese in Queensland.

Sunshine Coast Regional Council is our area and consists of 9 Conferences, 4 Family Support Centers, and 4 Vinnies Shops. These shops are the Society's principal revenue stream, providing half of the funds required by Conferences to assist people in need. Our other funding comes from fundraising, donations, some government funding and bequests. Should you wish to leave a bequest to the Society in your Will and would like the funds to be spent in our area, put St Vincent De Paul Society, St Gerard Majella Conference Maroochydore as the recipient.

Our Conference was started on 7th November 1982. We have grown into the largest Conference in Queensland. We have 42 Members, 11 Associate Members, 4 Associate Life Members and 9 retired Members. We are all volunteers. We want our numbers to grow. So, if you would like to know more, talk to Vincentians you see at Mass.

We are open 4 days per week and had 1233 contacts through our doors which enabled us to help 2609 people over the past year. All are welcome to come to 1 Norval Court Maroochydore without an appointment. Day-to-day assistance is made up of food parcels, food vouchers, pharmacy vouchers for prescriptions and emergency fuel cards. These items are bought by the Conference with your donations, shop profit and government funding. We also receive donated food from OZHarvest, Aldi and anonymous donations from generous people. Telstra donates vouchers for those in hardship situations and GIVIT has donated pre-paid sim cards for victims of domestic violence. SVDP donates Vinnies cards to be spent in our Vinnies Shops. The total value of assistance provided in this financial year from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 was \$124,714.78.

The Vinnies Shop is now a separate entity, run by a paid Shop Manager with the help of volunteers who work in the shop. Should you like to find out about volunteering in our Vinnies Shop, please speak to Manager Susan on 5451 7620. Both men and women are welcome to join these friendly volunteers.

St Gerard Majella is a proactive Conference, always looking for meaningful ways to help people in need. Many people who ask for assistance are families struggling to educate their children. Assistance is given to disadvantaged children and their families to help the children integrate into their school communities on

an equal basis with their peers. This is done by offering Grants for uniforms, stationery, shoes etc. The Society in Queensland runs the Children's Education Fund which is open to students from low-income families. Our Conference also runs its own Fund called Smart Start for Students. In January 2022 we were able to give \$30,000 from CEF and \$4,500 from SSS. If you would like to donate towards this education initiative, stipulate education when you give us a donation and your money will be deposited in this Fund. Shamus Conway and his team cook plenty of sausages at Bunnings BBQ's to make money for Smart Start for Students education fund.

Another way we assist people is through No Interest Loans (NILS) we interview for this service by appointment. People can purchase white goods, computers, furniture, and medical aids through NILS. It is a real hand-up for those on low incomes and the fortnightly repayments are interest free.

St Gerard Majella supports two overseas Conferences as part of our Twinning Program. We correspond with these Conferences and assist them financially to work with their poor. Our twins are in India. Both are called St Anthony's. One is from Trichur Tamil District Kerala, and the other is Tamil Nadu.

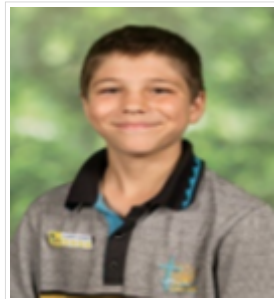
Our Conference assists many people from all levels of society: low-paid people in the workforce, unemployed people, and disabled people unable to work. The saddest of all is the growing number of homeless, and victims of domestic violence. The CEO Sleepout at Noosa Beach in June was the most successful to date, raising \$193,000 for our Diocese. This money will be used for accommodation for homeless people on the Sunshine Coast.

Our regular fundraisers are the Winter and Christmas Appeal. We can always rely on wonderful support from parishioners in both instances. This year the Mooloolaba-Alexandra



Headland Kindergarten helped the children raise donations of warm clothing for those not as fortunate as themselves. The kindergarten was partnered by Gerard Winzenberg from Target Maroochydore who matched every donation. These warm clothes were given to SVDP Maroochydore to distribute to needy families. Siena Primary School Year 6 Outreach Committee worked hard to promote and support the Winter Appeal within the school. I spoke to the students and asked how they raised \$1200 in gold coins and new warm pajamas. The Outreach Committee visited every classroom and spoke about the Winter Appeal. They made and placed many posters about the school. They put a jar on every teacher's desk for a gold coin collection. All donated pajamas were delivered to the Art Room, packed up and delivered to SVDP Maroochydore. This is a good example of 'good works' in action. To the right is a photo of the Siena Catholic Primary School Year 6 Outreach Committee being presented with their Appreciation Certificate by Vice President Carmel Barbagallo. School Principal Glen Bucklar congratulated them too.

A SVDP Bursary founded by a bequest in 2014 to encourage students to show respect for people in need, has been won by students from our three Catholic schools. These students showed empathy for others in their day to day lives. Sarah Wakefield won the Tertiary Bursary for Siena Catholic College, Zayden Frost won the Primary Bursary for Siena Primary and Deja Ross won the Primary Bursary for Stella Maris in 2021.



Christmas is a happy time for most people, but for others, it is a reminder of their poor financial situation. We gave happiness to many families through our Christmas Hamper Program. Parishioners, Stella Maris Primary School, Siena Primary School and Siena College were so generous with their goods, monetary donations and vouchers. Olga Girle and her team gave out 113 hampers to families and singles to enable them to enjoy this festive holy season.

We thank you all for your support as you always show generosity whenever we ask and we are truly thankful.

If you are interested in finding out about becoming a Vincentian, please email sgm4558@svdpqld.org.au

First Friday

On the First Friday of October (October 7) we will celebrate an **Anointing Mass** at Stella Maris. The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament of the Church for those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age. The Sacrament enables the sick or aged person to be anointed with the oil of the sick, to experience the healing and strength of Jesus Christ and to be supported by a praying community.

All parishioners are invited to this Mass. Perhaps, as a Parish family, we should be particularly aware of those who would like to celebrate the anointing Mass but need assistance with transport? Let's make sure that no one is excluded from the

healing presence of God. After Mass everyone is invited to morning tea.

Next Weekend

Don't forget that next weekend, being the first weekend of the month, is our hospitality weekend across our Parish Family. Why not invite a friend?

St Peter's Vinnies Conference

The Mass on Thursday 29 September will include the commissioning of the new President and induction of a new member of our St Peter's Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society at St Peters' Cooloom commencing at 8:30 am. The Vinnies Conference at Cooloom was established 40 years ago when St Peter's Church was first built.

Over the past 4 decades our St Peter's Conference members have continued to provide good work to the vulnerable in our Cooloom community. All parishioners are most welcome to join us for this extended special Commissioning Mass and the following morning tea.

Infant Baptism

The next Baptismal Preparation meeting will be on Thursday evening, 6 October at 6.00pm at Stella Maris Church. At this short meeting we explain the significance of the symbols used in the sacrament, answer any questions and complete relevant paperwork. For more information or to book in please contact the parish office.

Accommodation Urgently Required

Parishioner (lady) urgently needs to rent 2 bed roomed unit with long term lease. Employed, with no children or pets. Excellent references. Contact Carla 0423 185 325.

In Transition

We welcome into our Parish Family *Conrad Dowling, Jordan Peters and Patrick Blair* who will be baptised this weekend at Stella Maris Parish. We pray for all those who have died, especially *Brian Crawley* whose funeral rites were celebrated last week. We pray for *Eva Knothe* whose memorial mass will be at Stella Maris Church during 5.30pm Mass this Monday. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, *Rest in Peace.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which our communities celebrate our 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.

Sunday, 25 September

St Catherine's Community Team meeting (4.00pm, Sippy Downs)

Monday, 26 September

Maintenance work continues at Stella Maris.

Adoration 4.30pm, Benediction at 5.15pm

Mass (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday, 27 September

Mass (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)

Christ Catholic Community (9:30am, Maroochydore)

Alpha Program (6 to 8pm, Maroochydore)

Wednesday, 28 September

Mass (7.00am, St Mary's Church)

Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom gathering)

Latin American prayer group meets every Wednesday in the Maroochydore Parish function room 6-8pm

Thursday, 29 September

Mass (8.30am, St Peter's Church)

This morning's 8:30am Mass will include the commissioning of the new President and induction of a new member of our St Peter's Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Mass (5.30pm, St Catherine of Siena Church)

Friday, 30 September

Mass (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)

Gen Y Fridays – the young adult group meets on Friday at the Stella Maris chapel at 6pm followed by dinner. All young adults welcome.

Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris).

Saturday, 1 October

Mass (First Saturday Mass, 8.00am, Stella Maris)

Reconciliation **8:30 to 9:30am**, Stella Maris. Please note the change of time for Saturday Reconciliation.

El Shaddai group meets 11am Saturday at St Catherine of Siena Church.

Weekend Mass Times:

Maroochydore

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 7am, 9am & 6pm

Coolum Beach

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 7.30am

Buderim

Sunday 9am

Sippy Downs

Sunday 5:30pm