



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

Email: [suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Phone: 07 5443 3488



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, Year C, 2  
October 2022

## Faith Like a Mustard Seed

In this week's Gospel, the apostles ask Jesus to show them how they can increase in faith. Jesus answered that with faith, just the size of a mustard seed, they could command a tree to be uprooted and it would be. At first sight, it seems that Jesus is offering some kind of super-power called faith. Just a sprinkle of faith and you can perform mighty miracles. Wouldn't that be great?

The context of this conversation was a continuing dialogue between Jesus and His followers about what it means to be a True Disciple. Jesus had just finished an instruction on sin and forgiveness. When the disciples cry out for an increase in faith, Jesus offers two related teachings. The first is the familiar reminder that faith, even just a little, will enable the followers of Jesus to do wondrous things. But this uplifting and inspiring teaching is quickly followed by a second teaching, a caution about knowing one's place in God's plans.

Jesus corrected the view of His disciples about discipleship as they were becoming too enthusiastic about their upcoming mission. He taught them that the important thing about faith is not how much they have, but how truly they have it. Faith is not measured by a pass mark that one is required to attain in order to perform great things. The secret lies in how true and genuine one's faith is. Even faith as small as a mustard seed can achieve great works if it is genuine. The disciples of Jesus were called to understand themselves as servants to God and His plans. In Jesus' day, servants did not have any significant rights. A servant had to do what pleased his or her master, regardless of thanks or praise. A servant had no right to expect approval or commendation. When a servant worked hard and completed his work, there was no expectation of praise. He or she only did what was expected.

It is the same for us today. When God works through us, with our mustard seed-sized faith, we must act out of service,

without seeking praise. Our participation in God's plan is His grace to us - nothing more, nothing less. When we are graced enough to cooperate with God, the work we do is nothing more than our obligation to God as His faithful stewards. And yet, our faith enables us to believe that what we have offered in service to God, as His servants, can be made to produce a hundredfold result.

Jesus is our Lord, Master, and Saviour who calls us to follow and serve Him. Of course, the incredible blessing is that when we come to Him as a servant, He welcomes us as a sister or brother, and at the end of this life, will tell us "*Come, ... inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world*" (Matthew 25:34).

Faith isn't the ability to uproot trees at will or to leap across tall buildings. It is about trusting in the power of God so that when He directs, we speak or act in expectation of His miraculous power. Spiritual gifts and miraculous power may be given for the service of God. They are never given for us to boost our self-esteem or to gain the praise of people. Our focus must always be on serving Jesus and not on the gifts He chooses to grace us with.

Wishing you every blessing for the coming week, Deacon Michael Khoury

## Proper of the Mass

First Reading: Hab 1:2-3, 2:2-4  
Second Reading: 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14  
Gospel: Luke 17:5-9

## In Transition

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, *Leonardo Fortson, Maximo Fortson, Lewis Schulz & Lucia Tietz* who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Bruno Strazzari** (Funeral Mass this Tuesday, 10am), **Peg Mitchell** (Funeral Mass this Tuesday 2:30pm), **Ron Hill** (Funeral Rites this Thursday G&W chapel), **Simon Quinn** (Funeral Mass this Friday at St Peter's, Coolum). May their souls, and the souls of our departed priests, religious and parishioners, through the rich mercy of God. *Rest in Peace.*

## May the best team win!



## Anointing Mass

This First Friday everyone is invited to an Anointing Mass at Stella Maris Church. The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament for those whose health is impaired by sickness or old age. It is a source of healing for the sick rather than the final act of the church for the dying. The Sacrament enables the sick or the 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.

At the conclusion of the 9am Mass this Friday morning tea will be served and all parishioners are warmly invited. To help with catering the local group would appreciate if you could bring a plate. Do you know someone who would appreciate attending the anointing Mass? Perhaps you might invite them and assist them with transport. All are welcome.

## Taking the Plunge

The next baptismal preparation meeting for parents with infant children is on this Thursday evening at 6pm in the Stella Maris Church. At this short meeting we explain the symbols of the liturgy and answer any questions. To book in for the meeting please phone the parish office so we can forward the registration forms to you. For older children we have a special program to prepare them for baptism and it is run several times a year – contact the parish office for more information.

## Mary Poppins - The Broadway Musical

Stella Maris Primary School will present this musical from the 13th to the 15th of October. Ticket cost: \$24 per adult, \$12 per School Aged Child. The students and their teachers have been rehearsing and preparing and would love you to join them. Tickets are purchased via the Humanitix website: <https://events.humanitix.com/mary-poppins-musical>

## Hot off the Press

The Parish Office will be placing orders for the annual liturgical publications in the next couple of weeks.

**DAILY MASS BOOK 2023** contains all the texts for Sunday and weekday Mass, including the chants for parts of the Mass. Published in a compact format; the Daily Mass Book is convenient and economical. Printed in two colours throughout, its layout is easy to follow. Runs from Advent to Advent. Price same as last year \$27.

**ORDO 2023** is an indispensable reference for liturgy planning and is the only official ORDO for Australia and New Zealand. The spiral-bound B5 size booklet includes reading references and taglines, responsorial psalms and gospel acclamations. Printed in two colours for clarity. Price \$20. Also available as a digital flipbook.

**BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2023 YEAR A** contains readings and psalms for each Sunday with NEW commentary providing fresh and insightful background to the text and assistance on how to read it, along with a section entitled "The Ministry of Reader". The popular pronunciation guide is also included. Break Open the Word is a vital publication for readers. The parish will subsidise the cost of Break Open the Word for parishioners reducing the cost to \$10.

If you would like to order any of the above liturgical items simply

## Youth and young adults



What a Moment for those youth and young adults that attended Ignite Conference 22. We attended Mass, keynotes, workshops, small groups, prayer teams, adoration, with the highlight being the unforgettable rallies, where we praised and worshipped the Lord. It was a huge 4 day event with a number of inspiring speakers such as Fr Rob Galea, MGL Sr Therese Mills (The Amazing Race) and Fr Dan McCaughan to name but a few of the many amazing speakers present at the conference. We are grateful for the support of the parish in helping us attend this wonderful formation event.

## Fake Parish and Priest emails

Fake Parish and Priest emails

There has been an increase in the number of social media accounts that have been set up to look like / impersonate the accounts of church leadership across Australia, including your local parish priests. Please be vigilant in checking who you are receiving messages from on social media platforms. Do not engage or respond to messages received on social media unless you are certain of the sender.

It would be helpful to us if you might consider “block and reporting” this fake account. If a number of people “block and report” accounts which are set up to appear to be from one of your priests it will increase the likelihood that these copycat profiles will be reviewed by the platform.

\* You can report fake facebook accounts by clicking the “3 dots” on the right hand side of the profile, under the “message” button. Then select “Find support or report”, then select “Fake account” and “submit”.

\* You can report fake Instagram accounts either via the app or via desktop by clicking on the “3 dots” in the top right section under the main task bar. Then select “Report”, then “Report account”, “It’s pretending to be someone else”, “Someone I know”, then “Submit” and finally “Close”. (n.b if someone you know has sent you the fake link via email or text then you must have an established Instagram account in order for the link work and directly access the fake page for “reporting”.

\* Twitter’s process for reporting an account impersonating someone can be found at <https://help.twitter.com/en/safety-and-security/report-twitter-impersonation> It is important to note that these accounts are set up programmatically and it will be like a game of “whack-a-mole”. It’s highly possible that as each account which is impersonated is removed, it will be replaced by another and another and another.

## The Week Ahead

## 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.*

### Saturday, 1 October

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

Reconciliation **8:30 to 9:30am**, Stella Maris.

11am Baptism of infants.

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

### Sunday, 2 October

Congratulations to our sister Sunshine Coast Parish, Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra, who celebrates this weekend their 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Parish. Archbishop Coleridge will celebrate the 9:30 Caloundra Mass today.

### Monday, 3 October

Queen’s Birthday public holiday—office closed  
Adoration 4.30pm, Benediction at 5.15pm

**Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

### Tuesday, 4 October

**No 9am Mass today.**

Maintenance work continues at Stella Maris.

10 am Funeral Mass for Bruno Strazzari, Stella Maris  
2:30pm Funeral Mass for Peg Mitchell, Stella Maris  
Christ Catholic Community (9.30am, Maroochydore)

### Wednesday, 5 October

**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  
St Peter’s Community Team meeting (12:30pm, Sacristy, Stella Maris Church). Any suggestions/feedback, contact John Bushell on 0412 866 408.  
Liturgy Service, St Mary’s Aged Care Coolum (3.30pm, Coolum Beach)

### Thursday, 6 October

**Mass** (8.30am, St Peter’s Church)

10:30am Funeral Rites for Ron Hall, G&W chapel.  
2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy—Stella Maris

**Mass** (5.30pm, St Catherine of Siena Church)

6pm Baptism Preparation Session, Stella Maris.

### Friday, 7 October

**Anointing Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)

11am Funeral Mass for Simon Quinn—Coolum

2pm Stations of the Cross, Stella Maris

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, 8 October

Reconciliation **8:30 to 9:30am**, Stella Maris.

11am Baptism of infants, Stella Maris

11am El Shaddai group meets at Sippy Downs

## Parish Report

The four local groups, with parishioners representing the four communities of our Stella Maris parish, gathered together on Wednesday evening, September 14<sup>th</sup>. A wide ranging discussion ensued looking at the future direction and priorities

of our parish family and some of the practical steps we can take now as we contemplate the road ahead. Some of the items discussed included:

The challenge for our parish moving into the future is to become a sustainable parish that consciously creates an environment that provides for the sacramental and pastoral needs of parishioners that lays the foundation for evangelization and outreach.

The group talked about the need to re-examine the weekend Mass schedule to allow adequate travel time for our priests and to ensure that we utilize the valuable Sunday morning time as strategically and efficiently as possible.

Each community was encouraged to explore practical pastoral initiatives which strengthen the local bonds. Within all communities there are generous parishioners willing to be involved and just waiting to be invited and encouraged to use their initiative. Practical ministries such as weekly children's liturgy at Mass, baptismal support groups, seniors groups, local liturgy groups, cards group were some of the examples that came forward.

One of the goals of our parish is to be a welcoming and hospitable community that develops the bonds of belonging and familiarity that is essential for the continued growth of our Parish family. Each community is invited to be creative in providing an atmosphere of welcome and to use the first weekend of the month as our "hospitality weekend" where visitors and new parishioners are offered the opportunity to meet after Mass.

Our parish schools, St Catherine of Siena at Sippy Downs and Stella Maris at Maroochydore, are two important places of faith, learning and evangelization. Building up the connection between our two schools and the parish community is a parish goal and a priority of our priests. A practical way our Parish can support the mission of our two Catholic schools is by providing weekly masses and liturgies. It is envisioned that the weekly masses at our two schools will also be parish masses and parishioners will be invited to be part of the liturgy. This will mean a rearrangement of our weekday Masses for this priority to work and to be sustainable.

Coinciding with the parish engagement with our schools next year we are actively working towards a major pastoral initiative directly focusing on our youth. Our goal is to engage young people with a contemporary proclamation of the gospel and present a vision of what it means to follow Jesus Christ as a young person in today's society. In the next couple of weeks we hope to be able to announce details of this new initiative and the positive opportunities for our Parish Family.

Discussion revolved around the substantial drop in numbers of parishioners attending mass since the outbreak of Covid-19. Some of the reasons behind the slow return of parishioners was canvased as well as strategies to invite them back to our community. It was agreed that we all have a responsibility to reach out and invite those who are now missing from our Sunday Eucharist.

One of the consequences of Covid has been the uptake of technology and the use of social media and the internet. It was agreed that our Parish needs to take advantage of the

latest technology as a tool of evangelization and connection. Over the next two months our parish web page and social media platforms will be revamped and relaunched. A new position titled "Director of Communications" has been created to oversee our digital footprint and coordinate our Parish social media presence. More information to follow. A closing prayer brought the meeting to a close.

All the members of the local groups then adjourned to the Presbytery to welcome new parishioners at the welcome function. If you have any question please see one of your local group representatives or utilize the church suggestion box.

## Congratulations



Last Thursday morning at Coolum, members of the St Peter's St Vincent de Paul conference gathered with Vincentians from the Sunshine Coast to celebrate the Eucharist and commission their new president, Marshall Morison.

It was also a chance to recognise long serving members of the society and thank them for their ministry and service.

Helen Hayes (40 years), Sue Caffery, Robert Sullivan, Carol Harman, Chris Harman (15 years), Amanda Rickman, Patrick Crilly, Cecilia Grigaitis (5 years). It was also a chance to welcome into the St Peter's conference Beth Gillespie as a new member.

Thank you for remembering your parish family in your will.