

PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 21/22 January 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

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 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 is paramount.

Cast Your Nets Wide

Growing up, over the Christmas holidays, as a family we would always go to the Coast for holidays. Every family did it. Now, depending on what part of the coast you were spending your holidays, there was a chance that you might go fishing. Over the years we probably collected most of the equipment necessary to look like the real deal – from yabby pumps and nets, to tackle boxes. In fact, at one stage, we even owned a little tin runabout with a 6 horsepower engine.

However, no amount of accessories could hide the fact that, as a fisherman, I was a failure. I don't know if others had more luck or skill but in their buckets they always seemed to have fish. If I did catch anything, it was always the saddest, smallest, most unlucky fish.

It would have been great to go back to wherever we were spending the holidays and say "Mum, I've caught us dinner!" *Over fishing was never a risk when I was involved!*

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus calling his first disciples who coincidentally happened to be fishermen. They were plying their trade on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus issued the invitation to "Come follow me". That they dropped everything and followed him would either indicate that they were as hopeless at fishing as me – **or** – the invitation that Jesus issued was too irresistible to refuse.

Since they were fishermen the challenge to become "fishers of men" makes sense. But how does it make sense for us here in our four Stella Maris communities to see ourselves as "fishers" of men and women, as Jesus calls his first disciples to become?

The reality is that we all possess "nets" that can catch. In whatever oceans or seas we find ourselves in this week, we can employ our God-given talents and expertise to catch the falling, rescue the endangered, gather in the lost.

The first disciples were very good fishermen – **they had to be, otherwise they would starve!** We might not see our fishing skills in the same light but that should not stop us from trying to catch in our nets those who need our love, support, understanding or forgiveness. The practical proclamation of the Good News is experienced precisely by others only when we have the courage to cast our nets.

Wishing you a bountiful catch this week,

Fr Peter Brannelly

Parish Clergy

Fr Peter Brannelly
Fr William Aupito Iuliano
Deacon Isaac Falzon
Deacon Michael Khoury



Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church
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Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,
Harriet Norris, Bowie Norris, Thomas Finnegan, Rayna Ramalingam and Hudson Scanlan
who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Brian Burke** whose funeral rites were celebrated at St Peter's Coolum Beach last Friday, and **Maria Jorge**, whose funeral rites will be celebrated at Buderim Crematorium this coming Friday. May Brian's soul and the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

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, 23 January

- ◆ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

Tuesday, 24 January

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel). All Welcome.

Wednesday, 25 January

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church).
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom).
- ◆ St Mary's Community Team meeting.
- ◆ CIAY Discussion Group (6pm, St Mary's Church)

Thursday, 26 January

Two Masses today for Australia Day.

- ◆ **Mass** (7.00am, Stella Maris Church). Followed by hospitality.
- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ 2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)

Friday, 27 January

- ◆ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ 2pm Stations of the Cross (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 28 January

- ◆ Reconciliation **8.30 to 9.30am** (Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10am Baptism of Cooper Squires at Stella Maris Church.
- ◆ 11am El Shaddai group meets (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 29 January

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5pm, Stella Maris Church)

Liturgy Committee

Liturgy is the highest moment of prayer and purpose for our Sunshine Coast parish. As Catholics, we believe that it is the primary setting where God and people come together for the good of the whole world. Our next Parish Liturgy Committee meeting is on Saturday, February 4th at 10am and the goal of the committee is for us to plan and aspire to celebrate the sacred rites of the Church with dignity and inspiration. The Liturgy Committee is also coordinating the parish ministries and volunteer training session on Saturday, February 11th at 10.30am (morning tea at 10am.)

Australia Day

On Thursday of this week we celebrate Australia Day. There is no doubt we are all blessed to live in the great south land of the Holy Spirit. This Australia Day, in addition to the normal 8:30am Coolum Mass, we have a 7am Mass at Stella Maris followed by good, old fashioned Aussie hospitality hosted by our local Knights of the Southern Cross.

CIAY Discussion Group

The first of our Parish Discussion evenings is this Wednesday, 6pm at St Mary's, Buderim. The first night will focus on the series "Catechism in a Year" and will be hosted by Fr William. The gathering will explore some of the questions, insights and challenges of the series and the practical implications of living out our faith here on the Sunshine Coast. For further information please contact Fr William (aupitoiulianow@bne.catholic.net.au)

Lenten Program

Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent is only 32 days away! Traditionally, throughout Lent we have organised small discussion groups who have used, as their resource, the Lenten program produced by the Archdiocese. This year, Evangelization Brisbane offers *From Ashes to Hope* which is based on the readings for each day of Lent, Holy Week and the Easter Octave. It provides an opportunity for each person to turn the eyes of their heart to God as God leads them beyond ashes to hope. The pocket-sized Lenten reflection book can be used by both groups and individuals. If you would like to join a group or if you would like to simply order a booklet for your own personal journey please record your name and contact details on the form at the entrance to the church. The cost is only \$5 each. Our parish will place its order on Friday 3 February so they arrive in time, or make sure you get your order in by then.

Women's Retreat

The annual women's retreat coordinated by Evangelization Brisbane and hosted by Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra is on Saturday, February 4th. The day will begin with Mass at 9am and finish after lunch. Lunch will be provided at no cost. For registration and catering purposes please contact Vivienne on 0409897673. All women of the Parish are warmly invited to attend - why not tell a friend and car pool?

Ignite Summer Camp

Ignite Summer Camp occurred last week with over 200 catholic teenagers descending on Mapleton to participate in this wonderful youth event. Praise and worship is at the heart of Summer Camp with morning and night rallies, led by the Emmanuel Worship Band, certainly a highlight. Two youth from our parish attended the camp, we thank the parishioners who generously gave to our fundraising efforts last year to help with registration costs. Fr Will was on hand to hear confessions on Thursday night, whilst Carolyn volunteered as a leader for the entirety of the four day camp. Any youth in our parish interested in joining youth group email Carolyn, cspy.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au



Doing Good – *But would like to do better?*

Why not give a little of your time and energy in the service of the Gospel and your fellow parishioners?

Your parish family is looking for volunteers for the ministries described below. Volunteers are not just the mortar that holds our parish together but it is a practical and rewarding way of living out our faith. Already, we are blessed as a community of so many generous people who, quietly behind the scenes, do so much to enrich and sustain our parish. This weekend you are invited to consider adding your gifts and energy to the life of our parish by being a part of one or more of the following ministries. No previous experience is necessary. You will always be part of a team and all the resources are provided and, where necessary, training will be provided. Ultimately, being a volunteer is a great way to serve God and the people of God. So don't be shy, we need you!

Baptism Support Group – The Sacrament of Baptism is the first step in a lifelong journey of commitment and discipleship. During the Rite of Baptism, the Priest or Deacon declares that this Church shares in the joy of your new born child, elates at the fact that the numbers of God's children have increased, and offers the parents and Godparents the support of this faith community.

Volunteers in the Baptism Support Group will be a friendly and welcoming face at the Baptism and at the monthly baptismal preparation meeting. *Your commitment is once a month to welcome young families at the preparation meeting and go on a roster to welcome families to the baptismal celebration.*

Communion Minister – Communion ministers or *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion* assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at the Eucharist. It is an important ministry, and we depend upon the generosity of parishioners to go on a roster. Occasionally, Communion Ministers may be called upon to bring Holy Communion to our community members that are sick and housebound and cannot be with the rest of the community at the regular Eucharistic celebration. There will be parish training on Saturday February 11th for all Communion Ministers. Starting with 10am morning tea in the function room, then 10.30am workshop in Stella Maris Church. *Your commitment is to go onto a roster to fulfil your ministry.*

Music Ministry – *“There is nothing in the world so much like prayer as music is.” William P. Merrill*

You are already part of the Music ministry by your participation during Mass. However, our music ministry requires many other gifts and talents to continue making this ministry fruitful. Each week across our diverse Parish we are blessed with so many fellow parishioners who share their time and musical gifts. But it is unfair to just rely on the few! If you play a musical instrument, or can sing and would like to be part of a choir, then your Parish Family needs you! We will offer regular workshops and the Liturgy Committee has organised the first one for Saturday February 11th. Starting with 10am morning tea in the function room, then 10.30am workshop in Stella Maris Church.

Also, if any young person would like to be part of the 5pm Sunday evening music ministry we especially welcome you - it is a great experience to be part of a team and lead the congregation in praising God through liturgy and music. *Your commitment is to your fellow musicians and the roster.*

Children's Church – Children's Church is when the children leave the congregation to celebrate and reflect on the Sunday Gospel reading in an age appropriate way. The children are led through prayers, songs and readings that are adapted to their level of understanding.

Attending Mass together is a part of being a Catholic Family, while Children's Liturgy of the Word allows children to enter the celebration more fully by catering to their needs. *You always work as a team and all the resources are provided. Your commitment to fulfil this ministry, which runs only during school terms, is to join a team and go on a roster.*

Liturgy of the Word – This ministry is to proclaim the Word in partnership with the Priest, leading up to and enhancing the message in the homily. This may include proclaiming the first reading, Psalm, second reading, and prayers of the faithful.

This is a ministry that is open to everyone and there are no surprises because we will give you a **Break Open the Word** so that you can practise beforehand! There will be parish training on Saturday February 11th for all readers so that we can discuss the best ways of proclaiming God's Word. Starting with 10am morning tea in the function room, then 10.30am workshop in Stella Maris Church. *Your commitment is to go onto your community's roster.*

Grief Support Group - One of the most powerful ministries of our Parish Family is our Grief Support Group. It is true that every one of us will one day have to sit in the front pew and mourn the loss of a loved one. It is a journey that we all know is unavoidable. When that does happen, here in our Parish community, we want to assure that no one feels that they have to go through this journey alone.

When a death occurs, life, for those who live on, changes forever. Our Parish recognises this change, and offers hope and comfort to those who grieve the loss of a loved one. As Jesus comforted Mary and Martha, this parish community can reach out to comfort those who mourn. The Grief Support Group organises the regular morning tea, makes contact with the family to see if any assistance is needed, coordinates the annual All Souls' Memorial Mass, and a member of the group attends the Funeral Service. *Your commitment is to be part of the activities of the group.*

Hospitality Throughout the bible, hospitality is such an essential part of the story of the people of God. We want our Parish Family to be known for its friendly hospitality.

On the first weekend of each month, all our communities offer hospitality after Mass. It is a chance for parishioners and new members of our community to gather and share a cuppa and some refreshments. For each community, the form of hospitality is different but the goal remains the same. *Your commitment for this ministry is to go on a roster and, on rotation, assist with the setting up and serving of refreshments and making everyone welcome.*

Funeral Hospitality. After a funeral in our churches often people gather to remember, give thanks and support each other. This gathering is such an important time. Our Funeral Hospitality Group is several teams who volunteer to set up and serve at the post-funeral gathering. All the food is provided, and this ministry is really about being a friendly face; serving the tea, coffee and refreshments; and helping where necessary.

By volunteering to be part of this ministry you join one of the teams and, on rotation, assist whenever there is a post-funeral gathering.

Church Cleaning Groups. If cleanliness is next to godliness, then we want all four of our churches to be a reflection of heaven! Each week teams of fellow parishioners take it in turns to clean our sacred spaces. The truth of the matter is that we can't afford commercial cleaners so this is a practical ministry that benefits the whole community. *Your commitment is to go onto a roster and, in turn, help with the cleaning of your local church.*

Welcoming Group – *"I was a stranger and you welcomed me"*. Australia is such a highly mobile society and here on the Sunshine Coast there are always new faces sitting in our pews. Our welcoming group is a vital ministry that does what its title says – *welcomes!*

Not only does this group deliberately create a sense of welcome and inclusion by greeting and handing out newsletters, several times a year they represent the parish at our welcome nights where we welcome new members of the parish and introduce ourselves in an informal way. A friendly face and a desire to make newcomers feel included is all you need for this ministry. *The major commitment of this ministry is to represent the parish at the welcome night.*

So how do we do better?

Please take a moment and complete the Ministry invitation list below – *what have you got to lose?* There are many, many ministries quietly taking place within our Parish Family day in and day out that makes us who we are. By accepting the invitation to join any of these ministries you will help your Catholic Community to be open to the Holy Spirit as we, together, continue on the journey of faith. Thank you for your generosity.

Tick the ministries you would like more information about and complete the contact information and we will get back to you. Please return this form to the Parish Office or give it to your Mass coordinator/sacristan or simply place it on the collection plate.

Ministry

Baptism Support Group

Children's Church

Communion Minister

Liturgy of the Word

Music Ministry

Grief Support Group

Hospitality

Funeral Hospitality

Church Cleaning Groups

Welcoming Group

Name: _____

Community:

Stella Maris Church

St Catherine of Siena Church

St Peter's Church

St Mary's Church

Contact Details:

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for taking the plunge and entering more deeply into the life of your Catholic Community.