

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 1/2 July 2023

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16 Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4,8-11 Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

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

This weekend across Australia the Church celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. The weekend is coordinated by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) which is the peak advisory body to the Australian Catholic Bishops on issues relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics. The council was founded in 1992 and the Secretariat is based in Adelaide.

With the backdrop of the referendum later this year it is important to remember that there are over 130,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Australia and it is the youngest and fastest demographic in our Church.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture has been in place for over 60,000 years in Australia and is the oldest surviving culture in the world. However, there was not a singular 'culture' shared by the thousands of language groups that covered the Australian continent at the time of settlement. Each group had different environments and differing kinship systems, dreamtime stories and spiritual beliefs. There were, however, constant threads throughout, including the concept of a creator spirit that looks after us, provides for us, and watches over us. Aboriginal and Islanders are a spiritual people, a people who are aware of the spiritual reality of the land and of their own lives

When early Christian Ministries introduced the Bible to Aboriginal people, the Elders recognised many similarities between the Old Testament stories and traditional stories, laws and the teachings of God (or a creator Spirit). They believed and had faith in their Ancestor Spirit and relied on Him for all their needs. He was their Protector, Provider, Carer and Saviour. His name was honoured.

Traditional culture uses stories to teach about sharing, caring for each other and the land, and providing moral guidance. The stories throughout the bible serve the same purpose - placed God's teachings into our own cultural context. An excellent example was provided by Pastor George Rosendale:

Then there is the story of the black and white cockatoos. They were brothers. One day the white cockatoo found the black cockatoo sitting under a shady tree looking angry and upset. 'What is wrong, brother?' 'I'm angry with dad because he made me black. Why didn't he make me like you? I'm going to change myself'. He went to his uncle's country and asked him for honey and clay. 'Get as much as you like, there's plenty there'. He got the clay and honey and went back home. He powdered the clay and rubbed honey all over himself and put the powdered clay on. He looked at himself and said, 'Now I look like my brother'. His granpa got so angry with him and he called on the monsoon to bring rain. It washed all the clay off him.

Later his brother came and spoke to him. He reminded him about his father's love for him. He took him to the father and made things right again. Today the black cockatoo is happy. He's singing when flying and feeding. Jesus our Big Brother has made things right for us. He has broken the barrier that kept us away from our Father and each other. (Eph. 2:11-22; Rom. 5:1-11.)

The story illustrates wonderfully the ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics can adapt and see the similarities of the stories contained in the bible with traditional teaching and stories. The underlying lesson is clear, it is the context that provided the feeling of ownership of the teaching. Once these connections are made, the Gospel is perfectly relevant and at the centre of the faith systems of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics.

We honour and acknowledge God's presence in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who have upheld their rich and diverse cultural traditions for thousands of years. We give thanks for the deep and enduring legacy of these ancient peoples and their contributions to our continent.

So on this 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time let us take a moment to recognise and appreciate the land on which our parish Communities celebrate the Eucharist and the peoples who have nurtured it over time. Together let us continue to cultivate a spirit of unity and respect for all cultures and traditions within our community.

Fr Peter Brannelly

At Your Service

Fr Peter Brannelly

Fr William Aupito Iuliano

Fr Isaac Falzon

Deacon Michael Khoury



Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church

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The school holidays have certainly started and we welcome to our Parish Community and the Sunshine Coast visitors and families who join us this weekend. Whether you are new to our Parish or visiting while on holidays,

WELCOME

as we celebrate the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

This weekend coincides with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday and as Australians we are blessed to share our home with the world's oldest continuing culture.

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

Last Thursday evening Isaac Falzon, along with Minje Kim and Gerard Lai, were ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Coleridge at the Cathedral of St Stephen. The Ordination ceremony is the Church celebrating at its best as we give thanks for the generosity and witness of the three new priests of our Archdiocese. On Friday, the newly ordained Isaac celebrated his First Mass at Stella Maris Church, which was a great celebration of faith and a statement of hope as we look to the future. The Parish has made a presentation to Fr Isaac but if you would like to contribute to the Parish gift there are envelopes available at the entrance to the church.

The really good news is that the Archbishop has appointed Fr Isaac to our Parish and he will take up his responsibilities on Sunday 16 July. It is good news because, for the first time since my ordination, I have the opportunity to take some long service leave which the Archbishop granted to me, but because of Covid and other responsibilities I am only now in a position to accept the opportunity to take the leave. I will be returning to work in the West Indies before walking the Camino, going on retreat and visiting family in Ireland. With Fr William leading the parish assisted by Fr Isaac and accompanied by the wise and experienced Bishop Brian Heenan, Fr Brian Connolly and Fr Geoff Baron I am more than confident that our Parish Family is in good hands.

WINTER APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who once again supported last weekend's St Vincent de Paul Winter appeal – your generosity is very much appreciated. Your donation stays within our community and allows our two local Vinnies conferences, at Maroochydore and Coolum, to continue to support and walk with some of the most vulnerable and needy people and families in our community. If you didn't get a chance and would like to support the Winter Appeal there are still some appeal envelopes at the entrance to the church.

SOCIABLE SENIORS

Our first bus trip for the year promises to be a great day out as we journey to Eumundi on Wednesday, July 5th. The bus departs at 8:30am from Stella Maris Church and goes via Coolum, and it is a chance to get together and enjoy the day. The cost is only \$20 each and there are only a limited number of seats. To reserve your seat please contact the Parish Office. Why not invite a friend?

INSTAGRACE - SUNSHINE COAST

Instagrace is a 3-day teens retreat conducted by Jesus Youth for those in Years 10-12 and is aimed at helping youngsters to know and enrich their life in Christ. It supports our parish's effort to create a community of young adults where our teens can forge friendships with their peers from similar faith backgrounds. If you are interested, please register using the QR code provided or contact Carrolyn Watt at the Parish Office (5443 3488)



Date: 21 Jul 2023 (5.00 PM) to 23 Jul 2023 (3.00 PM) at **Apex Camps**, 171 Nojoor Rd, Twin Waters, The Parish will subsidise participants, reducing the cost to \$100.

WON'T YOU STAY A LITTLE WHILE?

This weekend, being the first weekend of the month, our Parish Family has a special focus on hospitality. After all our Masses you are invited to spend a little time enjoying the company of your fellow parishioners and meeting new members to our Parish. To all visiting our Parish during the school holidays we are glad you are with us today and you are more than welcome to join us after Mass.

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN

Christmas in July is getting closer and we are exploring different, exciting, options for the venue. Without the hassle of all the pre-Christmas madness why don't you mark off in your diary Tuesday, July 25th Why not gather a couple of your neighbours and friends together and head up to the northern end of our parish Family. More details in next weekend's newsletter.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

On the first Thursday of every month we host our Baptismal Preparation meeting. At this short meeting we explain the ritual and the meaning behind the symbols used in the ceremony and answer any questions before confirming dates and times of Baptism. The next preparation meeting will be held at Stella Maris Church on this Thursday 6 July, at 6pm. If you would like to book and receive the paperwork in advance, please contact the parish office on 5443 3488.

FIRST FRIDAY

A reminder that on the first Friday of each month we hold our Anointing & Healing Mass, and the next one will be celebrated this Friday, July 7th, 9.00am at Stella Maris Church. All parishioners and visitors are welcome to attend. After the Mass you are invited to join us for morning tea in the function room (bring a plate if you wish). Please check with your neighbours and friends to see if they need transport.

THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING THE MISSION OF YOUR PARISH FAMILY IN YOUR WILL.

There are many challenges we face as a people on this Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, and perhaps being open to the spirituality of those we share the journey with is one of the obvious challenges. This is the Aboriginal Lord's Prayer from the Diocese of Broome.

*You are our Father, you live in heaven,
we talk to you. Father you are good. (repeat)
We believe your word, Father,
we are your children, give us bread today. (repeat)
We have done wrong, we are sorry,
teach us, Father, all about your Word. (repeat)
Others have done wrong to us,
and we are sorry for them, Father, today (repeat)
Stop us from doing wrong, Father,
save us all from the evil one. (repeat)
You are our Father, you live in heaven,
we talk to you. Father you are good. (repeat)*

FIRST COMMUNION

If your child is in Year 4 or older, registration is now open for First Communion via our website maroochyshoreparish.com.au. Please complete the form on a PC or laptop rather than a phone. Any questions please contact Carolyn Watt on cspy.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

AN INVITATION TO SERVE

Any child who has received their Confirmation and First Communion and is interested in becoming an Altar Server at our parish's weekend Masses is invited to contact your local Mass coordinator or talk to one of the priests.

IF YOU'RE IRISH, READ THIS!

It has been said that there are only two types of people in this world; the Irish and those who wish they were! If you are Irish, or would like to be, even for an afternoon, join the Queensland Irish Choir at one of our Celtic Winter Concerts and enjoy an afternoon of Irish and Celtic songs and music that will warm the cockles of your heart! By popular demand, we are holding two concerts this Winter; the first 2pm on Sunday, 23 July 2023 at the Chermiside-Kedron Community Church at Kedron and the second at St Thomas Catholic Primary School Hall at Camp Hill at 2pm on Sunday, 30 July 2023. Tickets at \$20 per adult and \$10 children (U15) can be obtained on their website at <https://www.qldirishchoir.org.au/events>

NEW TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD?

We live in an extremely mobile society, and especially here on the Sunshine Coast there are always people coming and going. If you are new to our Parish, or if you are reconnecting with the Church, we would love to welcome you more formally to our Parish Family. At the entrance to our churches are "welcome packs" and if you complete and return the form we will be in contact with you.

Once again, **welcome**.

GET TANGLED IN OUR WEB

The best way to keep up-to-date with what is going on in your parish family and to access information and upcoming events is by visiting our parish website (just go to maroochyshoreparish.com.au). You can also subscribe to our electronic parish newsletter through our website (under the heading **News & Events**).

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, 3 July

- ◆ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Librum Et Legere Club meeting (Stella Maris)

Tuesday, 4 July

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel).
- ◆ Funeral of Ype De Bruin (10.30am, Chapel, Gregson & Weight, Buderim)

Wednesday, 5 July

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church).
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church).
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom).
- ◆ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochyshore)

Thursday, 6 July

- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Society Meeting (Coolumb)
- ◆ 2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism Preparation for infants and young children (6pm, Stella Maris Church)

Friday, 7 July

- ◆ **Anointing & Healing Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church), followed by morning tea.
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 8 July

- ◆ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10am Baptism of Billy & Molly Meznaric (Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10am Baptism of Maci Jeffrey (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ Interment of Roly Dargusch (Stella Maris)
- ◆ 11am El Shaddai group meets (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 9 July

14th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

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

Gluten-free hosts are available. To arrange, simply contact the sacristan or coordinator before Mass. The priest will always distribute the gluten free host at Communion.

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, **Viola Brown, Leni Mayfield, Bruce Plaza Bausson** and **Savannah Plaza Bausson** who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially **Malcolm D'Elboux** whose funeral rites were celebrated last Wednesday and **Ype De Bruin** whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Tuesday.

May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

May God's blessing be upon you, Fr Isaac, as you begin your priestly ministry.
*As you follow in Christ's footsteps may his presence ever guide you...
his love be near to strengthen... and his blessings be on all you do.*

