

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 8/9 July 2023

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10 Second Reading: Romans 8:9, 11-13 Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Embracing the faith communities of St Mary's Buderim, St Peter's Coolumb, Stella Maris Maroochydore and St Catherine of Siena, Sippy Downs.

STELLA MARIS CATHOLIC PARISH

A distinguished man once came to visit a Zen Master seeking enlightenment. The visitor began to speak to the Master about his experiences and achievements in life. He spoke at length about the degrees and diplomas he had been awarded. As the visitor continued, the Master placed a cup before him and began filling it with tea. After the cup was filled, the Master kept pouring tea into it. The visitor quickly moved away from the overflowing cup and said "stop pouring – the cup is full. No more tea will fit in this cup." The Master said in reply, "like this cup, you too are overflowing with your own opinions and achievements. How can I teach you anything unless you first empty your cup?"

Today in our Gospel we hear 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children.' Who then are the learned and the clever of our Gospel? In this instance, Jesus' address was to the scribes and Pharisees who laid claim to superior wisdom based upon their knowledge of the scripture and their own tradition. The visitor of our story at the beginning displays this egotism that Jesus often contested.

Whenever an air of arrogance is around, there is little room for anything else to abide.

Often I visit the schools and speak to the children about God. I'm always shocked at how the deep mysteries of our faith are easily accepted and nurtured by our young ones. Perhaps the most difficult moment arises when they ask simple questions that have complex answers. Who created God? Why does God let good people die?

Whether they think the answer is sufficient, children would normally nod in agreement or continue to wonder with excitement and curiosity.

The child-like wonder and openness is essentially the grounds for discipleship. But often, as adults, we can easily fall into the trap of overcomplicating things when simplicity is needed. Rightly so, Jesus invites us to simplicity today in our Gospel and says, 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.'

Jesus' invitation to come to him simplifies our journey, for Jesus is the way, the truth and the life (Jn 14:6) Perhaps in the coming week, we too can simplify things and return to Christ who will teach us all we need to know to walk this life of faith.

Fr William Aupito Iuliano

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
Office Hours 8:30am - 4:30pm Weekdays
Telephone: 5443 3488
Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

With the school holidays drawing to a close, our schools will soon be busy with students again.

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 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Give mumma the day off this "Christmas in July", and let Ben do the cooking! Everyone in our parish is invited to a "Christmas" lunch at *Benny's Bistro* in the Mt Coolum Golf Club. Tuesday, 25 July - 11.30am for 12noon start. Two course meal is just \$32.50. You just need to pay when you book. Challis and Lorraine will be at the two Masses at St Peter's Church this weekend to book you in (to make it easy, they will have our parish EFTPOS machine with them). Otherwise, everyone in the parish is invited to ring the Parish Office (5443 3488) this week, to book a place.

INSTAGRACE - THERE IS STILL TIME!

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.

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 Carrolyn Watt on cspj.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

TECHNOLOGY FOR THE THIRD AGE

Calling all our Apple users to join us this coming Friday at 9:30am the 14th of July for our Technology for the Third Age. If you're still confused with the applications and think that "interface" means making a funny face at the children, then this class is for you. You might even impress your grandchildren with your new found knowledge in the dark arts of technology. Come and join the group. You'll feel at home with the friendly helpers. See you there!

CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

Our neighbours at St Vincent's Care Services have recently had a growing number of residents wishing to attend Mass at Stella Maris Church on Friday mornings. We are hoping that there may be a couple of parishioners who would be willing to assist them in walking some of their residents to and from church. Some residents will be in wheelchairs while others will just need someone to walk beside them. These 'helpers' would simply need to escort residents from and back to their Reception area (no need to do a Rapid Antigen Test or wear a mask as you would not need to enter the facility past Reception). Please contact Elani on 5459 6637 if you are interested in helping.

WOMEN OF THE WAY RETREAT

Ladies, would you like to take time out to Reflect and Recharge? Treat yourself to some quality time with God. Book now for the Way Retreat. The theme of the weekend is "Open the eyes of my heart, Lord." The retreat will be facilitated by Sr Therese Mills (leader of the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters) and Sr Judy Bowe (Missionary of God's Love sister). The retreat will be held from the 13th-15th of October at The Watson Park Convention Centre, 337 Old Gympie Rd, Dakabin. For more information contact **Rosa Montegrando** 0400 755 516 or email wowqld@gmail.com

SEA SUNDAY

Today is Sea Sunday when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. Even during a pandemic, seafarers continue to bring into our ports products that sustain our population and economy. We ourselves are called "Stella Maris", and have a close affinity to the sea. Let's keep our seafarers in our prayers this week and if you feel like contributing to their appeal to support the ministry that goes out to seafarers, follow the link: <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

KEEP AN EYE OUT

We love seeing our children run around the Church before and after Mass, they bring life to the area. Recently one parent came across a needle in the garden. We have a lot of people walk through our grounds leaving behind their rubbish. Let's keep an eye out for each other, especially our young ones, and if we see something out of place, put it where it belongs.

QUO VADIS

With the recent ordination of Fr Isaac and his fellow classmates, now is the time to continue exploring the potential of priestly life within the Church. For those of our young men between the ages of 18-35, the seminary is hosting a live-in weekend. Quo Vadis is an opportunity to genuinely explore God's call in your life and to be open to where that might lead you. If anyone you know is interested, or you think might benefit from this experience, contact the Vocations Office via email and one of their friendly staff will be in contact with you about the next step. Just email vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

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

OUR SOCIAL JUBILARIANS

Interested in re-starting the Jubilarian group? We've recognised that a few people are interested in having a social group for those who would consider themselves as "Jubilarians." The name of the group itself is not binding but the concept and aim, we hope, will flourish. If anyone is interested in being part of the group, please contact the Parish Office via email (suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au) to get the ball rolling.

150 YEARS OF WEDDINGS

In this 150th year of the Cathedral of St Stephen, couples who have been married at St Stephen's are invited to commemorate their years of marriage.

On Saturday 30 September, the Archbishop will celebrate Mass in the Cathedral at 11.30am, followed by refreshments on its grounds.

There will be a particular focus on Golden Wedding Anniversaries, however anyone married at the Cathedral or Chapel, is invited to attend.

If you have photos or stories to share, please contact David Todd by 1 September. Email todd@bne.catholic.net.au Phone 3324 3030.

To register to attend the Mass and for catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 22 September - cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or phone 3324 3030.



YOUNG ADULTS

If you're between the ages of 18-40 then we warmly welcome you to be part of the young adults group that meet fortnightly. Our next meeting will be this coming Friday 14 July, at 6.00pm. We will meet at St Mary's Buderim for a time of prayer. Bring your journals as we will be reflecting on the Gospel for the coming weekend.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Last week at Fr Isaac's Ordination, a few other priests of the diocese also celebrated their anniversaries including one of our own, Fr William. Fr William recalls it being in the middle of a snap lockdown and says that it was a stressful time. Fr Francis from Caloundra was also ordained at the same time. May the Lord continue to guide and protect our priests that they may follow after the Shepherd and lead by their witness and example of faith.



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, 10 July

- ♦ Funeral of Margaret Simpson (10am, St Peter's Church)
- ♦ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ♦ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ Librum Et Legere Club meeting (Stella Maris)

Tuesday, 11 July

- ♦ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel).
- ♦ Mass (10.30am, St Vincent's Care Services, Maroochydore)
- ♦ Craft Group (1.00pm, St Peter's Church)
- ♦ Parish Finance Council meeting

Wednesday, 12 July

- ♦ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church).
- ♦ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church).
- ♦ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom).
- ♦ St Vincent de Paul Maroochydore meeting.
- ♦ St Peter's Community Team meeting.
- ♦ St Mary's Community Team meeting.
- ♦ Stella Maris Community team meeting.
- ♦ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochydore)

Thursday, 13 July

- ♦ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ♦ Funeral of Peter Berry (10.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ 2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)

Friday, 14 July

- ♦ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ 9:30am Technology for the Third Age (Android)
- ♦ Young Adults Group (6pm, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 15 July

- ♦ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (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, 16 July

15th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

- ♦ **Mass** (6.30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ **Mass** (7.30am, St Peter's Church) with Children'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)

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, **Billy Meznaric**, **Molly Meznaric**, **Macie Jeffrey** and **Denieke Kuys** who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially **Margaret Simpson** whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Monday, and **Peter Berry** whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Thursday. May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

Congratulations to Bishop Ken on his new appointment as Bishop of Toowoomba.

On Tuesday 11th of July, the Church in Toowoomba will celebrate the installation of their new Bishop, Ken Howell. We acknowledge his journey and the call that God has placed upon his life. Below are a few photos we had of a him when he joined us as a young priest, with Archbishop Bathersby, for the Dedication of our church in Sippy Downs.

For those interested in watching the livestream, follow the link to their livestreamed Mass on the Diocesan website. Just go to: <https://www.twb.catholic.org.au/live-stream-masses/>

