

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 15/16 July 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11 Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23 Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

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

### "EXTRA MUNCTION"

The nun who taught religion in Grade 2 spoke glowingly to the class about the power of a Sacrament she called "Extra Munction". Whatever "munction" was, you could get an extra serve in some way or another. Years later, I found she was talking about the Sacrament of Extreme Unction, now called the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick.

My first appointment as a new priest was six weeks at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne. Sister Somebody-or-Other led me to a small private room suffused in an eerie blue ultraviolet light. There was a young man in the bed. He was a very young doctor about my age, in his last moments of life gasping for breath. I held his limp hand in my left hand, laid my right hand on his head feeling his skull through remaining strands of hair. Chemotherapy. So fragile. "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy, help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." And then, "By the power the Apostolic See of Rome has given me I grant you a plenary indulgence and the remission of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." I did what I was taught to do in seminary. He took his last gasp. I stood by him for some moments, wonder struck, silently weeping.

Years later at the same hospital I was attending a patient also close to death surrounded by relatives all weeping and wailing according to custom. I called for silence. They gulped back their grief so they could hear the prayers. Again, I did what I was taught in seminary. To lighten the mood, I asked them to tell me about this papa, nonno and bisnonno. They were happy to do that, all talking at once. I left. I came back next morning expecting to find an empty bed. He was sitting up enjoying a healthy breakfast surrounded by smiling relatives.

We can never fathom God's ways. We don't need to.

*Fr Geoff Baron*

#### 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](mailto:suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Website: [maroochydoreparish.com.au](http://maroochydoreparish.com.au)

# BLESSINGS TO OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN WHO STARTED BACK THIS WEEK

## MANY THANKS!

As many of you know, the parish hosts a Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged. Such a ministry thrives on the goodwill of our volunteers and chefs who work hard at the end of an already long week. We want to acknowledge and congratulate all of them on their efforts. A special thanks goes to the Maroochydore Soccer Club for supplying trays of bread last week for our BBQ. May this ministry continue to meet those of our community most in need.

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY - SPOTS ARE GOING FAST

*The sleigh bell sounds are getting closer!* 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. Everyone in the parish is invited. You need to pay when you book. Spots are filling up quickly so get a ticket. Bookings close this Tuesday 18 July, so ring the Parish Office (5443 3488). Don't miss out on this fun get-together.

## LOTS OF GOODIES

Our friends across the road in Maroochydore are having Stalls in their Church Hall Sale on Friday 11th August from 8am to 2pm. There will be some great bargains with homemade cakes, jams, chutneys and much more. Enjoy browsing among their bargain books, plants, craft items and bric-a-brac then finish off your morning with Devonshire Tea or a light lunch.

St Peter's Anglican Church - on the corner of Church St and Beach Rd. Maroochydore.

## BEWARE OF SPAM MESSAGES

There is currently a spam message going around the Archdiocese causing distress among Parishioners. The spam message reads something like this: "**Dear XXXX Can you set aside a minute? I'm trapped in a meeting and need you to perform a task for me. Cannot speak, need to meet now, so just write back here. Sincerely, Fr XXXX XXXX Parish Priest**" The spam message normally asks for money, however priests will never do this; especially through a text or email. The best way to deal with a message like this is to double-delete it (delete it from your Inbox and then go and delete it also from your Deleted/Junk box).

## MEN ALIVE WEEKEND

Men ALIVE Weekend for Men. What are you doing on the 7th/8th October? Could you benefit from a weekend, featuring talks, personal testimonies, opportunities for discussion, and space to reflect? Since Men ALIVE commenced in 2003, thousands of Catholic men have been encouraged and inspired at weekends across Australia. Our parish's Men ALIVE weekend is being organised in Stella Maris Primary School, conducted by experienced leaders from MAT (Men Alive Team). For more information contact Ross McNally (0418 962 837) or contact the Parish Office to speak with Fr Isaac.

## ATTENTION APPLE USERS

There was a mistake in last week's Newsletter. We called for Apple users but we were a week early. This coming Friday we invite Apple users (again) to be part of our Technology for the Third Age. The meeting will commence at 9:30am in the Function Room. We hope you've been learning new things regarding technology. We welcome anyone who would like to learn more about this strange and adventurous new world to be part of the community.

## A SOCIAL GATHERING

We hope to have more social gatherings as a Parish Community. To that end, we're inviting those who are interested and available to get together for a social coffee at *Barista on Baden* cafe (they're on the ground floor of The Avenue, 32 Baden Powell Street, Maroochydore - just down the road from the Stella Maris Church) on Tuesday 1st of August at 10:30am. This is a great way to connect with new people in the Parish. We look forward to seeing you there. Call *Barista on Baden* to book your space.

## PARISH WELCOME NIGHT

It's that time of the season where we host another one of our Parish Welcome nights. These nights have been a successful gathering of new Parishioners or new people to the area. We focus on our community being a welcoming and hospitable one for all people. Our next Parish Welcome Night will be on the 21st of August at 6:00pm. If you're new to our parish or have returned to the Church, please ask for a New Parishioner Form at the church entrance.

## INSTAGRACE - CALLING OUR YOUNG ONES

We know it's a busy time for our young people in the Parish, but we do want to offer this amazing opportunity to encounter Christ in an interactive and unique way. 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. Instagrace starts this Friday 21 July and finishes on Sunday 23 July at 3.00pm. Please pray for all who are involved.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

We warmly invite the women of our Parish to engage in this wonderful opportunity. 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](mailto:wowqld@gmail.com)

## GRAND PLANS FOR GRANDPARENTS

Soon the Church Universal will celebrate the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on the fourth Sunday of July. Pope Francis announced the institution of the celebration closest to the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Evangelisation Brisbane will host a morning that celebrates the important role of our grandparents in shaping the faith of children and grandchildren. *Grand Plans for Grandparents* is a time together created to acknowledge, equip and empower you in this special role. Grandparents are invited to the Hanly Room (196 Charlotte St, Brisbane City) on Saturday 22nd of July from 9:15am-11:15am. The cost is \$15 and registrations can happen online via the link <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/grandparents>

## CONGRATULATIONS BISHOP KEN

There was a grand roll-up of bishops, priests and laity at the Installation of Bishop Ken Howell. Here's a news article from their local paper.



## CATHOLIC FORMATION

Have you been feeling a call to engage and understand the Word of God more deeply? Maybe your imagination was sparked by something a priest said about the scriptures. The Archdiocese Centre for Catholic Formation has put together a course on **Understanding, Praying and Living the Scriptures**. This course is on offer over 10 weeks and will cover a range of topics around the Scriptures. The courses will run from Holy Spirit Seminary in Banyo. There's an opportunity to set up a local/regional hub to save people travelling from the Seminary back to their place of residence. If we get enough interest, we'll set up a local hub here in Maroochydore. The cost for an individual is \$250 whereas for a group of 5+ it's \$150. If anyone is interested in being a part of this course, please contact Carrolyn Watt in the Parish Office. (cspy.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We begin preparation for the children on Wednesday with our Parent Information Evening for First Holy Communion, which means that we will see a few children and their families attending Mass over the next few weeks. We don't have many opportunities to interact with our young families. So our goal is to give them a good experience of community, liturgy and faith; and, hopefully, they'll return and be more involved in the Parish. If you see a family looking lost, trying to find a seat, make room for them next to you or maybe you can bake a nice cake that can help out with hospitality over the weekends. We're blessed to have a welcoming and generous community as it is, so let's extend that to our young families as they prepare to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

## 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, 17 July

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

### Tuesday, 18 July

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

### Wednesday, 19 July

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church).
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church).
- ◆ Hospital Communion Ministers meeting (9am, Parish Office)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom).
- ◆ 5pm Parent Information Evening (First Holy Communion)
- ◆ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochydore)

### Thursday, 20 July

- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Society meeting (Coolum)
- ◆ 2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)

### Friday, 21 July

- ◆ **Mass** (9am, Maroochydore) followed by Grief Support morning tea.
- ◆ 9:30am Technology for the Third Age (Apple)
- ◆ Young Adults Group (6pm, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

### Saturday, 22 July

- ◆ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ◆ 10am Baptism of Jasper Davidson and Zhyion Bautista (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, 23 July

#### 16th 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)
- ◆ **Polish Mass** (4.00pm, 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, all who are being baptised into the Church this weekend.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died. May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

**Rest in Peace.**



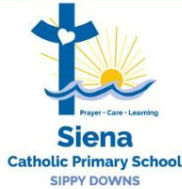
# Catholic Education in our Stella Maris Parish Family

## Siena Catholic Primary School

58 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

psippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Glen Bucklar



### Welcome to Term 3 at Siena

This term commenced with the school celebrating NAIDOC week through prayer, art, dance, music and literature. Annabel Warner, Support Teacher Inclusive Education & Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives, planned and organised many of the cultural events to celebrate and recognise the gift that is our First Nations people and culture.

This year the theme is 'For our Elders' recognising that across every generation, Elders have played and continue to play an important role and hold a prominent place in communities and families both indigenous and non-indigenous.

*We pray - Gracious God, we want all peoples to live justly and peacefully together in this land. We thank you for our First Nations people who have stood proudly and confidently, wanting to promote their culture and history. May we work together to embrace and celebrate all that is similar and all that is different between us. We ask this prayer through Jesus, your Son.*



Prep Art Work -  
Aboriginal  
symbols



Rugs and  
Reading



Year 3 Art - Indigenous Painting

## Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,  
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



Whoosh! And our first week of Term 3 is done!

There was a buzz of energy and much joy on Monday morning just gone, as students, staff and families returned to school after the holidays and shared stories of their holiday experiences. New students were welcomed, the playgrounds came alive and excitement filled the air. We're not sure, but we think that perhaps the parents' smiles were the biggest of all as they climbed back into their cars and headed off. There wasn't much time to ponder that though, because as soon as the bell went everyone was straight back to a focus on learning and what lies ahead.

Next week, across the school, parent-student-teacher conferences begin. These student-led three-way conferences take the form of a conversation between the student, parents/caregivers and teacher. In these conferences, the students take the central role, giving them an opportunity to share their growth as learners and take responsibility for their learning progress and achievements from the first semester. All three parties (student, parents/caregivers and teacher), sit together and talk about the student's learning, analysing work samples and self-evaluations and fine-tuning learning goals for the term ahead. We trust that this will be a rewarding process for all.



## Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



The holidays seemed to pass very quickly, and we are already back in the swing of things with our usual full and busy week.

On Wednesday, we had the first of our two-day Athletics Carnival. Students donned their House colours and headed to the UniSC track for a day filled with running, jumping, and throwing events. We were very lucky with the weather, and all athletes gave of their best to attain those all-important championship points. With just one point dividing first and second place, next Tuesday promises to be very competitive.

Our Year 12 Biology classes made an early start on Thursday, as they travelled to UQ in order to extend their knowledge of genetics. Later in the morning, our Year 11 Geography students braved the wet weather as they travelled to Ocean Street to undertake a field study for their Urban Planning unit.

The College community would like to extend its congratulations to Fr Isaac on the occasion of his Ordination. We thank him for his involvement in College life and offer him our best wishes for his future ministry.

