

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 22/23 July 2023

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27 Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30

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

With the new movie, "Sound of Freedom" making waves on social media, I've been waiting to catch a glimpse of it when it arrives in Australia.

The movie is an inspiring story based on true events that shed light on the grim reality of child sex trafficking. The movie was produced by Angel Studios, the company that put together the hit TV show "The Chosen," who have been clear that there are some *creative liberties* for storytelling purposes but the issue remains the same.

The organisation, Operation Underground Railroad (O. U. R.), which was founded by Tim Ballard, embark on numerous missions throughout the world rescuing victims from the clutches of human trafficking.

In an interview with psychologist and media personality Dr Jordan Peterson, Tim Ballard describes the calmness with which many of the human traffickers speak. Mr Ballard is baffled by their sense of being 'undaunted' with their exploits, and by their atrocities as they explain in detail.

Dr Peterson details this descent into evil where a person pushes the boundaries of their already misguided tendencies and seek more intense expressions. Eventually, they get to the point of no return. Some of the stories of Tim Ballard's experiences make it clear to any hearer that evil does exist in this world, especially evil people.

Today's parable of the dandelion among the wheat shows us that the people who belong to the Kingdom of heaven live amongst those who belong to the evil one as represented by the weeds. At the end of time there will be a separation that will determine who is destined for eternal fire and who is destined for life with God - may we be counted among the saints and the angels.

Being in a first world country, we're blessed to have many privileges at our fingertips. We're also blessed that we don't compete, in the same way as Tim Ballard, with the darkness of human trafficking, but maybe you've encountered evil people in your journey.

Make no mistake, evil is here. Let us not be people who close our eyes to these realities but combat them with our prayer and by raising awareness. If you would like to assist in the work that Tim Ballard's organisation does or learn more information Google search

Operation Underground Railroad

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

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Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

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MEN ALIVE WEEKEND

With the success of the Exodus 90 program, Men from that experience have been working together to extend a faith-filled fraternity to other men of the Parish. The MenAlive weekend is an active response to the transformative experience of Men for God. If you are interested in being part of the weekend please contact Ross McNally (0418 962 837) or Fr Isaac Falzon (falzoni@bne.catholic.net.au) to get more details on the event and how you can be a part of it. We want to encourage men to stand up for their faith in this current age and be witnesses to the ends of the earth.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

We have an opportunity here for our women also, especially those interested in having some spiritual time with our God. 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) who are women of deep faith and joy. 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

COFFEE AT 'THE AVENUE' WITH FRIENDS

The Avenue café boasts good coffee with a good atmosphere which is just down the road from the Stella Maris Church. On Tuesday 1st of August at 10:30am we invite all who are available to join in a social coffee with parishioners. Call them on 5445 9116 so they know numbers. This is a great way to connect with new people from the Parish. Bring a friend with you to the café. We look forward to seeing you there.

CATHOLIC FORMATION

A reminder that 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 course will run from Holy Spirit Seminary in Banyo. If you would like to be part of the local hub that will meet here at Stella Maris, please contact Carolyn Watt in the Parish Office - cspy.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au. The cost for an individual is \$250 whereas for a group of 5+ it's \$150.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

We had our parent information night on Wednesday. Carolyn led our session with more than 40+ young people preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please keep our young brothers and sisters in your prayers. Next week we will begin with classes and our young people will meet at different times across the Parish. Over this weekend we will have Enrolment Masses for our young parishioners so please make them feel welcome.

Rite of Enrolment Masses

Saturday 22nd July - Sunday 23rd July (All Mass centres)

Gathering 1: First Communion

Sunday 30th July 8:30am (Stella Maris, Maroochydore) or Sunday 30th July 8:00am (St Catherine's, Sippy Downs)

Gathering 2: First Communion

Sunday 6th August 8:30am (Stella Maris, Maroochydore) or Sunday 6th August 8:00am (St Catherine's, Sippy Downs)

Gathering 3: Reconciliation Class

Sunday 13th August 8:30am (Stella Maris, Maroochydore) or Sunday 13th July 8:00am (St Catherine's, Sippy Downs)

First Reconciliation Celebrations

Tuesday 15th August between 4pm-6pm (Stella Maris, Maroochydore).

Gathering 4: First Communion

Sunday 20th August 8:30am (Stella Maris, Maroochydore) or Sunday 20th July 8:00am (St Catherine's, Sippy Downs)

NOTE: Both lessons will be followed by a rehearsal in their respective Churches.

First Communion Masses

Saturday 26th August - Sunday 27th August (All Mass centres)

IGNITE CONFERENCE

With over 1,000 young men and women attending last year's conference, Ignite seeks to connect a generation with Jesus through authentic relationships and dynamic events. Young people are invited to live their lives to the full by growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ through an experience of dynamic worship, the sacraments, new friendships and inspiring speakers. If you're interested in attending this year's Conference which begins on Thursday 21st of September and ends on Sunday 24th then contact Fr Isaac or Carrolyn Watt at the Parish Office for more information



SHELTER NEEDED

One of our parishioners at Coolum has fallen on hard times and needs some assistance. He is looking for a place to rent. If there is any way you might be able to help out, please contact Cherie Graham on 0425 357 005.

CATECHESIS CORNER

Beginning this weekend we'll have, on a fortnightly rotation, some catechesis in the Newsletter. Some of what is shared will be known by many, other times it might be a new learning. Through these teachings hopefully we can learn more about our faith. This week we look at Baptism, the beginning of our Sacramental Life.

This teaching comes from CCC# 1256 (Catechism of the Catholic Church).

Who can baptise?

Did you know, that the ordinary ministers of a Baptism are the bishops, priests and, in the Latin Church, the Deacon. In the case of necessity, any person, even someone who is unbaptised, can baptise, if they have the required intention. The required intention is the will to do what the Church does when she baptises and to use the Trinitarian formula. "N. I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." No other formula is valid. There have been cases of Emergency Baptisms that have been administered to a person in danger of dying. Many a nun or religious person working in hospitals have been known to administer the Sacrament.

YOUNG ADULTS

Our Young Adults Group will meet this coming Friday, 28 July, at 6pm. The group will be gathering for Mini Golf at Maroochy River Mini Golf. Contact Fr Isaac Falzon (falzoni@bne.catholic.net.au) if you're interested in going.

STATEMENTS TO BE COLLECTED

We still have a few Statements to be collected at the entrance of our Churches. For those who are part of Planned Giving and have not yet taken your Statements, please take the time over the next week.

PARISH WELCOME NIGHT

Some people have been part of this parish for years and have never been welcomed. We want to hear from you too. Come along and be part of our Parish Welcome Night and meet the people who attend a different Mass centre or Mass time to you. Contact the Office and provide us with your details. We will be in touch with you about our next Parish Welcome Night will be on the 21st of August at 6:00pm

SCAM ALERT

Last week we mentioned something in the Newsletter about a scam with Fr Peter's name attached to it. Scams can be tricky and creative, luring people into paying money or giving out personal details. Unfortunately, this is part of the brokenness of the world in which we live. Although we do not know who the scammer is, it's normally an international scammer and generally not connected to the community. Scammers glean phone numbers from the web whether that be from your social media accounts or other profiles. It might be worth removing your phone number from non-trustworthy websites and platforms, especially if you seem to be getting more scam calls than usual.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We're looking for experienced Baristas to volunteer with the making/serving of coffee at the Café near the Presbytery. We're working with our friends next door at St Vincent's Care to open the Café but we need a network of volunteers to make that happen. If you're willing to help, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office.

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, 24 July

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

Tuesday, 25 July

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

Wednesday, 26 July

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

Thursday, 27 July

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

Friday, 28 July

- ♦ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ 9.30am Craft Group (Stella Maris)
- ♦ Funeral of Gavan O'Connor (11am, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ Mini Golf – Young Adults Group (6pm)
- ♦ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 29 July

- ♦ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ♦ Baptism of Charlie Stone (10.00am, 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, 30 July

17th 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)
- ♦ Interment of Ted Dwyer (following 9am Mass, 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, *Jasper Davidson* and *Zhyion Bautista* who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially *Margaret Farrell* whose funeral rites were celebrated on Friday, and *Gavan O'Connor* whose funeral rites will be celebrated this Friday.

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



At Siena, we believe writing is an essential skill for students to reach their potential as learners. Writing helps create confident and creative communicators, and imaginative thinkers. In 2023 we are having an explicit, whole school focus on writing to improve outcomes for all students.

Led by our Primary Learning Leader, Elaine Sauvage, in collaboration with the classroom teachers, lessons are planned to specifically teach needed skills to improve writing along with the use of quality literature to assist in children becoming proficient writers.

One way we encourage writing is through our 'Bump it Up' walls. The children are shown explicitly what next level writing needs to include. These walls are visual reminders and indicators for writing improvement.

As well as 'Bump it Up' walls all students have specific goals to work on with their writing. The improvement in writing has been well noted and the students are feeling proud of the growth in becoming better writers.



Year 1
'Bump it Up'
Wall Writing

Terrific
Writing in
Year 3



Year 4
Writing Goals

Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



At Stella Maris, there are lots of groups and activities that are available for children to engage in, according to their interests, ages and abilities. Children might choose to join the Gardening Club or the Table Tennis Group; they can join netball, soccer, football or Oztag teams. There are Speech and Drama groups, Music ensembles, bands, Art clubs and leadership groups; groups for children who like Lego or simply quiet play. There is one group, however, that is especially run for students with a First Nations background and this group is called the *Deadly Maroochy Mob*. With support from our fabulous Arts teacher, Mrs Mel Peters, and Ms Erin Dougherty, a Brisbane Catholic Education Officer (*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement*), these students are assisted to deepen their understanding of their culture and to develop confidence in sharing their perspectives.

When we acknowledged NAIDOC Week at school last week, we celebrated the gifts that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples bring to our nation as they share culture and enhance community. We prayed together as a community that we may be open to learning from the wisdom of this ancient culture and committed to being people of reconciliation and peace. We particularly reflected on the wisdom of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders.

Year 4 were inspired by two First Nation artists, *Sally Morgan* and *Rissah Vox* and created a landscape artwork of Gubbi Gubbi country. Our *Deadly Maroochy Mob* then wrapped this artwork with a Rainbow Serpent, to represent the creation of the land, sea and all living things.

Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



With a wet start to the week, we were worried that the second day of our Athletics Carnival was at risk! Luckily the weather cleared to a beautiful Tuesday and track and field events were again in full swing so that those all-important House points could be accumulated. At the end of the day, the determination and participation of their athletes ensured that Catherine House were crowned as Champion House for the first time since 2012.

On Wednesday morning, our Year 8 students joined parishioners at the Community Mass in St Catherine's. Fr Will unpacked the idea of beauty, leaving us with the message that *each of us is beautiful, both inside and out*.

Also on Wednesday, our Year 10s participated in the RYDA road safety program. This program is designed to reduce the trauma on our roads by encouraging young people to take a more responsible attitude to motoring.

Good luck to our AFL boys who are competing in a regional final this week, and to those students in our Dance Ensemble and Classroom Music program who participate in competitions this weekend.

