

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Weekend of 05/06 August 2023

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-19 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

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

TRANSFIGURATION

How often do we recognise the face of Jesus in our daily lives? How often does Jesus need to make himself blatantly obvious to us, before we recognise the glory and magnificence of who God is?

The Transfiguration of Jesus was a special moment, in fact the only moment where Jesus reveals His true glorious and divine self was to the three chosen disciples. Can you imagine what a wonderful experience it must have been for Peter, James and John to see Jesus transfigured. They got a preview of the glory of Jesus, and His glory in Heaven. It was also a preview of the glory we all hope to share in Heaven one day. While the three disciples were aware that something extraordinary was happening before their eyes, they failed to capture the full extent of what was going on. This is clear in Peter's statement "let us make three tents". Like Peter, we can sometimes be locked in our own particular situation and lose sight of the fact that we are part of a much bigger picture.

Jesus chose to reveal Himself at a time when He and His chosen disciples were alone and away from the busyness of society. He chose a quiet time of prayer to reveal His true self in all His Glory. Like the disciples, we need to set time apart, to be with our Lord and allow Him to reveal Himself to us.

The Transfiguration not only gives us a passing glimpse of Jesus in all His glory, but it is a taste of what is to come. Although we may never experience something as powerful as the three disciples did, every day, in countless ways, God's dazzling presence can break into our lives. Each of our own Christ-like acts, and our moments of turning to God, are moments of "Transfiguration". We may also experience transfiguration in moments of interaction with others, where people reach out to us with unexpected words or gestures of kindness. Jesus reveals His glory to us through these moments.

Let us ask God to give us the eyes to see Him and recognise His glorious face in our lives.

Deacon Michael Khoury

At Your Service

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



Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church
Office Hours 8:30am - 4:30pm Weekdays
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Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

MEN ALIVE WEEKEND

Real men don't do church? Wrong, but living out your faith can be pretty tough, and most of us need help. If you are a bloke over 18, consider this: On 7/8 October, experienced leaders from the MenALIVE team will be running a MenALIVE weekend at Stella Maris Primary School for all men. Come along and be inspired, encouraged, and rediscover God's purpose for your life. For more information contact Ross McNally (0418 962 837) or contact the Parish Office to speak with Fr Isaac.

A SOCIAL GATHERING - PHOTOS FROM THE GATHERING

We had our first Parish Social Gathering at the Avenue Coffee shop. Here are some photos of the day. If you're interested in more gatherings like this then we would love to hear from you. Your suggestions are welcome as we work towards setting a new date and time. Hopefully we can have something regular for our parishioners. Keep an eye out in the newsletter for our next gathering.



YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING

Our young adults group will meet this coming Friday on the 11th at St Mary's in Buderim. This Friday we will explore St Irenaeus' claim that "the glory of God is a human being fully alive". Come prepared for some great discussion and company. Here are some photos of the last gathering where the crew gathered for some mini golf. If you're interested in being part of the group contact Fr Isaac via the Office.



XAVIER SCHOOL OF PREACHING

You don't have to be a priest or religious to attend this workshop. By virtue of our Baptism, we're all called to be heralds of the Gospel. Even if you would like to touch up some skills in this area, then this intensive is for you. Proceedings will begin on Thursday 24 August and finishes on Saturday 26 August. Lessons will be given at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary, 487 Earnshaw Rd, Banyo QLD 4014 and the cost is \$250 per person and \$125 concession. To find out more contact Holy Spirit Seminary on (07) 3267 4800.

MYSTERY AND MISSION

Brisbane will host the National Conference on Liturgy and Liturgical Music from 28-30 September. We boast good music and Liturgy in this Parish but there is still more to learn and experience. It is rare to have expert liturgists, liturgical musicians, and educators together in one place for three days of focussed input. There's still time to register your attendance. Follow the link provided or Google Search "Mystery and Mission 2023" for more information. <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/>

BISHOP MICHAEL PUTNEY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Remembered as a priest who was passionate about Ecumenism. Chiefly because of his Ecumenical work, Bishop Michael was well-known both nationally and internationally. He was someone who could hold a theological debate with the best and have the humility to speak to the ordinary. In his honour, Professor Stephen Bevans will lecture on Mission in Context. The lecture will be held on Tuesday 15 August at 7pm from the Hanly Room (Cathedral Precinct, 196 Charlotte St). The cost is \$10 if you're attending and \$5 via Livestream. Register : <https://tinyurl.com/BMPLecture23>

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Fr Will is currently gathered with Youth from around the World journeying to Lisbon for World Youth Day. He is well and truly into his pilgrimage at the moment. If you would like to keep up to date with the group, follow the Archdiocese of Brisbane Facebook page where there will be plenty of updates on the groups pilgrimage. Safe travels to Fr Will and the group from the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Prevention and Protection Policy Statement

...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10:14

Children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded.

This means that everyone in the Church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young adults and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocese of Brisbane *Code of Ethical Behaviour for employees and volunteers who work in service of the Church* as well as adherence to the legislative imperatives of the State.

Extract from the Archdiocese of Brisbane's Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Prevention and Protection Policy.

CATECHESIS CORNER

Following on from our last instalment of 'Catechesis Corner' we spoke about *who* could baptise? One of the results of Baptism is the forgiveness of Original Sin, but what is Original Sin?

Original Sin

This teaching seems to divide Catholics down the middle. Those who profess it believe that it's essential to Jesus' saving mission. Those who reject it might say it's not fair for God to punish us for something we didn't do. It undeniably begins with Adam and Eve's disobedience. They lose the grace of original holiness (CCC#399). There's no evidence to say that Adam's guilt or fault for this sin has been handed onto us - that is not the meaning of Original Sin, but rather, Original Sin is the first moral choice of wrongdoing by Adam and Eve whereby sin and its consequences came into the human race. Those consequences are destruction and death.

The catechism makes an important distinction. It says that Original Sin is called sin "only in an analogical sense: it is a sin 'contracted' and not 'committed' - a state and not an act (CCC#404)." So we take no fault for what happened in the garden, but there's no way of getting around the consequences of sin and how it's affected our world. This part is why it's essential that we have the Sacraments as a way of helping us beyond these consequences. We're not protected from the consequences but we're equipped to face them.

IGNITE CONFERENCE

Preparations for the Ignite Conference are well and truly underway. Take the time to extend a personal invitation to someone in your family currently in High School. Ignite is a meaningful way of being inspired in the life of faith. If you're interested in attending this year's Conference which begins on Thursday 21 September and ends on Sunday 24 September then contact Fr Isaac and Carolyn Watt at the Parish Office.

PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN

We have a lot of children currently preparing for their First Holy Communion. This Sacrament is a enormous milestone in their faith life, and we welcome them as they join us at Mass during their journey. Please keep them, and their families, in your prayers, and give them a smile when you see them at Mass. May their journey towards the Eucharist be a time of grace and joy in their lives.

CATHEDRAL GUIDES & WELCOMERS

The Cathedral Guides & Welcomers are celebrating their 25th Anniversary on 27 August, and all current and former Guides and Welcomers are invited to join the festivities.

The occasion will be marked with Mass in the Cathedral at 10am, followed by a function in The Hanly Room in the Francis Rush Centre. If you are a Guide & Welcomer, or belonged to this team in the past, and would like to celebrate with them please let them know via email by 21 August - cathedralguidesandwelcomers@gmail.com

DO WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE?

Do you have a name badge yet? If not, why don't you order one this weekend? The forms are available on the foyer tables at each church. They're still free, so why not order yours now!

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, 7 August

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

Tuesday, 8 August

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

Wednesday, 9 August

- ♦ **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.
- ♦ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochydore)

Thursday, 10 August

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

Friday, 11 August

- ♦ **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, 12 August

- ♦ 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, 13 August

19th 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) with Children's Church
- ♦ **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, **Eli and Lilley-Jayde Rocca, Oscar Haynes, Iyla Dickenson, Quinn and Harper Berryman** and **Toby Sheahan** who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially **Eileen Fortune** 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.

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



Grandparents Day

With last week being Catholic Education Week, what better way to culminate the festivities than to celebrate Grandparents Day at Siena Primary.

It was a beautiful day with the grandparents arriving at school being entertained by our Concert band. Waiting for them in the Daintree was a lovely morning tea supplied by Meals on Wheels and served by staff members and some of our parent representatives.

Our string band played, followed by our senior choir singing some of their favourite songs whilst the grandparents enjoyed the spoils of morning tea.

The school children then arrived, and we celebrated a liturgy asking God to bless and thank our grandparents for the love and constant care they give even if they couldn't be there in person. We also prayed for those of our grandparents who now share eternal life in heaven.

Thank you to Fr Isaac for leading our prayer celebration and for the school children and staff for making the liturgy a truly blessed experience for all.

Classroom visits then followed with the children delighting in showing their grandparents their work and classroom.

All students and grandparents added a link to a chain to symbolise the incredible bond that is family and school here at Siena.

God Bless

Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



The culmination of last week's **Catholic Education Week** celebrations for Stella Maris school, was the biannual *Stella Fair*, held at Aussie World on Saturday evening. It was a wonderful event that brought students, staff and families together and was organised by the fabulous band of hardworking volunteers in our Community Engagement Group. This year's theme, *'Where heroes come to life!'* provided lots of scope for those brave enough to wear costumes and there was great delight as attendees were greeted by Batman, Robin and Bat Girl at the entry. Rides, raffles, a silent art auction, delicious snacks and lots of socialising provided many activities to keep all ages entertained. Huge thanks to our organisers and to our sponsors for helping to spread such joy.



Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



We have taken a breath this week – to recover from the busyness of last week's Catholic Education Week and to prepare for our Year 8 Camp and Siena Day celebrations. That doesn't mean, however, that it has been a quiet week!

Our Year 7 and 10 Geography students were out-and-about on excursions, the Debating season began, our SRC members participated in a 'Festival of Ideas' brainstorming session, our 1sts Netball Team competed in the Vicki Wilson Cup finals series, a significant number of teachers were involved in In-service and, of course, staff and students continued to engage with the curriculum across all subject areas.

On Wednesday morning, our Year 7 students attended the Community Mass at St Catherine's. During his homily, Fr Isaac challenged us to reflect on what it is that we do that might inspire others and to think about how our encounter with God might change us. Wednesday afternoon saw our Year 11 students participating in the Worthy Siena Women and Worthy Siena Men program. This event is always a fantastic opportunity for students to explore and discuss the big issues that are currently impacting their lives.

Thursday afternoon saw the staff gather with Br Damien Price to consider the topic of Service-Learning. During what was a very thought-provoking afternoon, we explored the idea of service as *an other-centred encounter that creates a more just and loving world that is respectful of the innate dignity of all.*