

# TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 9/10 September 2023

First Reading: Ezekial 33:7-9 Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

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

### NOT FOR SALE

Each year this second Sunday in September is observed as *Safeguarding Sunday* (formerly *Child Protection Sunday*). Safeguarding embraces not only children, but also vulnerable adults. This past week has been National Child Protection Week, an important event in our national calendar since 1990, aimed at raising awareness of the need and duty we all have to protect the most valuable "asset" of our country, our children. There is nothing more important than ensuring every child and teenager has the opportunity to enjoy their childhood which should be happy, creative, adventurous and safe from all forms of abuse. As with all these "yearly observances" we can easily become a little complacent and think "I've heard it all before" or "that's someone else's responsibility", whereas it is the responsibility of us all to create a safe environment for God's little ones.



This Sunday is a yearly reminder for each of us and all of us together to play our small but important role in safeguarding God's little ones.

Any complacency on my part went out the window last Monday when I decided to go the movie "Sound of Freedom". It is based on a real life, heart-wrenching story of a U.S. Homeland Security agent who goes to Colombia to rescue children from six traffickers. "God's children are not for sale" takes the movie right to the heart of the evil which is kidnapping, trafficking and selling vulnerable children. The agent, Tim Ballard, who had children of his own and a supportive wife (it's a real life story) is played by Jim Caviezel, who also played the role of Jesus in the movie *The Passion of Christ*. Caviezel said his role in "Sound of Freedom" was the second most important film he has acted in after *The Passion of Christ*.

The Director of the film, a Mexican, Alejandro Monteverde, grew up in Mexico where children were afraid of being kidnapped. But in making the film he came to realise that many children in sex trafficking are manipulated and groomed by adults and not kidnapped, and that much sexual abuse of children happens in the home. Monteverde, the Director, also said that children are a world heritage and the abuse of a child or children has a ripple effect. "If a child gets abused in Russia or in Haiti, eventually that pain will travel", and one way it travels, of course, is by the internet (the Dark Web).

It is estimated that 1.2 million children are trafficked annually and that worldwide as many as 10 million children are trafficked in modern forms of child slavery, some for slave labour, some for sexual abuse. The movie "Sound of Freedom" sheds some light on this darkest of evils in the world today.

I left the theatre wanting to talk to others about this movie. It has given me a deeper and better understanding of this thing we call "Safeguarding". May the week ahead be a happy and safe week for us all. And if you are a parent hug your children, young and teenagers, and tell them that you love them.

*Fr Brian Connolly*

#### At Your Service

Fr Brian Connolly

Fr Isaac Falzon

Fr William Aupito Iuliano

Deacon Michael Khoury



#### Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church

Office Hours 8:30am - 4:30pm Weekdays

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## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](http://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

## DAY TRIP TO THE CATHEDRAL

In line with celebrating 150 years of St Stephen's Cathedral, our parish will send a bus load of parishioners to the Cathedral on 17 October. The bus will begin in Coolumb then make its way to Maroochydore and eventually, down to the Cathedral. Parishioners will go through a guided tour of the Cathedral and then enjoy a weekly Farmer's Market Day out on the lawns. There are limited spaces on the bus, but if you would like to be a part of this day trip then contact the Parish Office (5443 3488) to secure your spot.

## GOD'S WORD 2024

We now have some copies of next year's book in the Parish Office. It's always very popular, so come and get your copy quickly! God's Word is a useful resource for unpacking the scriptures and getting a different perspective on the readings. It's a worthwhile investment especially for spiritual reading. Copies are being sold for only \$17.

## PASTORAL CARE OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

Please consider joining this team of people who seek to respond to the religious, spiritual and pastoral needs of the patients, their families and the staff at Buderim Private Hospital (this is different to our team that bring Holy Communion to the patients). You will be supported; and the next formation program will be offered by the hospital in October as preparation before you start. This formation is just carried out over two days (7 and 14 October), and is provided free by the hospital for our parishioners involved in this ministry. Please contact the parish office (5443 3488) if you are interested.

## DO YOU HAVE ANY PYX?

Each of our churches have pyxes which we lend to those who take Communion to the Sick. If you have any at home that you no longer need, it would be appreciated if you could return them to the church. We're just running a little short at the moment. However, please keep your pyx if you are still using it.

## CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

A Religious Instructor was talking to me about some of her students in class, and she mentioned that one boy was glowing because he was receiving First Holy Communion. The boy was so excited by the whole process and loved sharing the information he learnt in catechesis with the students of his class. We're blessed to have Catholic schools that teach our children, over time, of the beauty of our faith but we also have children who need to be taught the faith in our Public Schools. If you're a retired teacher or know you have skills in this area contact Georgia at the Christian Religious Education Program - Sunshine Coast via phone [0481 528 381] or email [[admin@fantheflame.net.au](mailto:admin@fantheflame.net.au)] to get involved today!

## ROSARY GROUP RE-STARTING AT SIPPY DOWNS

This Rosary Group will be starting to gather at St Catherine of Siena Church again. Every Thursday at 5.15pm, starting next week (14 September). Everyone is invited to join them.

## MESSAGE STICK

The Message Stick is travelling around the Archdiocese of Brisbane. This week it will be in our parish, from Sunday to Thursday. This journey is designed to herald the 150th Anniversary of the completion and opening of the Cathedral of St Stephen. The Message Stick holds an invitation for parishioners across the Archdiocese to come together on Pentecost Sunday in 2024 at the Cathedral to celebrate this momentous occasion. We will have a reception of the Message Stick at our Tuesday morning Mass at 9am, Stella Maris Primary School.

## BR MICHAEL HERRY FMS

Come along Tuesday 3 October to Stella Maris Church for a workshop with one of Australia's contemporary hymn composers. Br Michael Herry is a Marist Brother who has contributed to the liturgical musical scene over the years. The night is open to all people. For more information contact Michael Fitzpatrick on 0419 876 195 or email [mfitzpatrick@ozemail.com.au](mailto:mfitzpatrick@ozemail.com.au).

## JUNIOR MINISTERS - GET INVOLVED

On **Sunday, September 10**, we are holding a Junior Ministers "Fun and Formation" session afternoon for all Junior Ministers within our parish. It will be in the Stella Maris Church Function Room beginning at **2:30pm with training**. This is a great way to get involved in the life of the parish. This is then followed by our fun, social get-together where we will be playing games so we can all get to know each other. We **finish at 4:30pm**, that way you can join us for Sunday night Mass at 5:00pm. Your parents can either pick you up at 4:30pm and join us for Mass or pick you up after Mass at 6:00pm. During the afternoon we will be having a snack of pizza and a soft drink. We need to know numbers in advance for catering purposes so could you please email Bernadette Baillie at [bbailie811@gmail.com](mailto:bbailie811@gmail.com) or ring the Parish Office on 5443 3488.

## WHAT'S THE ROSARY? - FR JEREMY SANTOSO

The month of October is the month of the Rosary and in preparation for this time, we've invited Pauline Father, Fr Jeremy Santoso, to speak to the community about the rosary. Fr Jeremy is a passionate, young priest whose devotion to our Blessed Mother has guided him throughout his spiritual life and priesthood. Have you ever wondered about the rosary, or about its meaning and place within the life of the Church? If so, join us on Saturday 23 September at 11am, St Mary's. Fr Jeremy will lead us through a rosary and talk. Bring some food to share for lunch afterwards. See you there!

## CATECHESIS CORNER

What is the Sacrament of Confirmation? Many of you will remember receiving Confirmation after First Holy Communion. Perhaps you were prepared by being called 'Soldiers for Christ' which picks up on this sense that as a Christian, you are to rise to the call, enlist in the mission of the Church - it's a call to arms. Herein lies the hint for our theology around Confirmation, for in Baptism your parents profess the faith on your behalf, whereas with Confirmation, you are to rise to the occasion. In this way too, Confirmation is linked to a natural maturation of the person. Catechism #1285 says, for "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the Baptised] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. This is not to undermine the validity of Baptism, but emphasises the free gift of 'self' made at Confirmation. At our Confirmation we say "I'm yours" to Christ and we're renewed by the joy of the Sacrament as the gifts that were given to us at Baptism **limber up** for use now as an adult. In the past, Confirmation was done after First Holy Communion but as a way of strengthening the union between Baptism and Confirmation, the diocese decided to change the order of reception.

## TOTUS TUUS - CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

For those in the parish who speak Spanish, you're invited to a time of prayer and reflection through the Consecration to Jesus through Mary. This consecration to Jesus through Mary will begin on September 25 at 6:30pm in the Function Room of the Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore. For more information contact Patricia Zuluaga 0480 304 643 or email [patriciazg\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:patriciazg_1@hotmail.com)

## MEN ALIVE

Registration is still open for the Men Alive weekend but spots are filling up quickly. With the celebration of Father's Day last week, this might be another gift we can give to the fathers of our parish. Invite a man you know is in need of good fellowship and fraternity. For more information contact Ross McNally (0418 962 837) or contact the Parish Office to speak with Fr Isaac.

## DON'T FORGET!

We have a Youth Mass this coming Sunday at 5pm. There will be an Ignite Conference Fundraiser hosted by the Knights of the Southern Cross. Bring some change along for a snag and help the Youth of the parish as they journey towards this Conference in Brisbane.

## GOLDEN WEDDING

### ANNIVERSARY MASS CATHEDRAL

Several of our parishioners celebrate milestones this year in their life as a married couple. Modern media has diminished the value of married life in many ways, but the love and commitment that many of our parishioners have showed to each other in their married life provides hope for all people. Even though you've had your ups and downs we especially congratulate the couples celebrating 50, 60, 65 years together. Couples are invited to join the celebrations at the Cathedral on 30 September at 11:30am. To register your attendance at the Mass and for catering purposes, please RSVP [cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au) or call 3324 3030. Parking available via the Charlotte St entrance.

## 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, 11 September

- ◆ Funeral of Marion Pasioka (10.30am, Gregson & Weight Chapel, Buderim)
- ◆ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Librum Et Legere Club meeting (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Catholic Formation course (6.30pm, Function Room, Stella Maris)

### Tuesday, 12 September

- ◆ **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, 13 September

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ 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, 14 September

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

### Friday, 15 September

- ◆ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ 9:30am Technology for the Third Age (Apple)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

### Saturday, 16 September

- ◆ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Penelope Kube (10am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Elijah O'Donnell (10am, St Peter's)
- ◆ 11am El Shaddai group meets (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

### Sunday, 17 September

#### 24th 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) with Children's Church
- ◆ Interment of Simone Boulton (following 9am Mass, 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, **Renzzen Savilla, Oliva Millach, Oliver Blakey, Ava Burgess** and **Halle Alberti** who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially **Bobby Cook** (Sydney) who recently 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



### Father's Day Celebrations at Siena

Last week we celebrated Father's Day by hosting a delicious breakfast for the dads and grandads.

Again, many thanks to our wonderful P&F lead by the amazing Tanya Aspinall for the organisation and preparation of the Father's Day Breakfast.

It was a wonderful morning full of laughter, sunshine, a burger and a cuppa.

A Father's Day liturgy followed, led by Year 1 and Fr Will. The children prayed and asked God for his blessings on all dads. And of course, dad jokes were also part of the liturgy.

We hope all dads had a great day last Sunday. We ask God's blessing on you all.



## Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,  
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



There was great excitement this week, when our new Prep and Year 1 playground was opened for the first time. While the children already have a mud-kitchen to explore, soccer fields to run around on, a cubby house, obstacle courses, quiet spaces and sandpits to relish, this playground provides new sensory experiences to enjoy. There's a bumpy crocodile to roll on, a whale to sit on, a 'spider web' to climb, steering wheels to spin, a rope bridge to cross and colourful 'drums' to play, all on rubber soft-fall. We can see that our youngest little learners are set for lots of fun as they explore this new space.



## Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, we recognised that *where we start is here* ... so this week, like all weeks, we promised to be a safe and supportive community for all people.

During the week we also wrapped up some significant sporting seasons and celebrated the breadth of our Music and Co-curricular Academic endeavours.

Girls Rugby and girls and boys Water Polo, Basketball and AFL seasons concluded with closely fought games against some of our closest rivals. We achieved some nail-biting wins and heart-breaking defeats, but all team members put in 100% effort and were proud ambassadors for the College.

On Monday night, our choir, big band, guitar and string ensembles presented at the annual Musica Siena evening. Congratulations to all involved for what was a wonderful showcase of our Music program. On Thursday night, students presented a series of TED-Ed talks. These 5 to 7-minute presentations were highly entertaining and thought-provoking, covering topics including *High Expectations*, *the Power of Self Belief* and *Disability Awareness*.

