

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 23/24 September 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9 Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

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

Our parable today is filled with such depth that even though we mine what we can here, there is still more to discover. Perhaps this interpretation might be able to assist in further reflection on the Word.

We hear about an owner, who we would rightly judge as God. This owner has a vineyard which we would consider as 'The Church.' The labourers are the people who proclaim God's name to the faithful. The hours might be slightly different, but so that there's an understanding, let's say that the owner went out at 6am, 9am, 12pm, 3pm and 5pm.

Now let's take a step back and look at this from a broader view. The people hired at 6am were the chosen ones from the beginning of the world, people from Adam to Noah. The ones hired at 9am were the ones from Noah to Abraham. Those hired at 12pm consisted of Abraham to Moses and the ones hired at 3pm were from Moses to Jesus. The final hour shift are those hired at 5pm which stems from Jesus until his return at the end of time. This includes the apostles, the saints and us.

Once the Lord had spoken to his chosen people, the Israelites, he chose to extend the invitation and the hiring of labourers to the Gentiles (the rest of the world).

With this in mind, we ourselves are the hired hands recruited in the last hour of the shift, labouring for the owner. There are several ways we can look at this but perhaps the most appropriate way to receive this knowledge is with humility and thanks. God has been generous to us. Unlike those who have gone before us, we know the Lord's name. Unlike those who were hired earlier in the labouring, we've seen the face of the Lord. Unlike those who were lost for words when speaking the Lord's name, we've been given doctrines, teachings and scripture to speak to the world, so that if people out there who say 'Nobody has hired me,' it'll be up to us to invite the unemployed into the owners vineyard.

It's our task as labourers to labour for the owner and the vineyard. This will mean not being afraid to speak Jesus' name. Showing others the face of Christ by the way we live, and speaking to them of the truths of our faith that bring life, hope and love to a world without purpose or meaning.

Take up your role in the life of the Church, and offer yourself as worker for God.

Fr William Aupito Iuliano

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

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WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

This Sunday 24 September is the international day when we recognise the migrants and refugees all over the world. In this year's World Day for Migrants and Refugees Message, Pope Francis focuses on the theme, "Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay." In the message he points out that for a healthy society there should always be "the freedom that should always mark the decision to leave one's native land." Migration movements throughout the world continue unabated. The Pope insists that we should always be 'ensuring that that freedom is a widely shared pastoral concern.'

FR JAMES ALISON TOUR

On Thursday, 12 October at 6pm, Bishop Tim Norton will host a discussion panel with Fr James Alison at Stella Maris Primary School, 5 Stella Way, Maroochydore. Fr James Alison is notable throughout the world for bringing the theology of the great French thinker, René Girard, to a wider public. He is also known for his firm but patient insistence on truthfulness in matters concerning same-sex attracted Catholics in a Catholic setting. If you are interested in hearing from him, come along to the Stella Maris Primary School for a conversation that promises to be challenging but rewarding. <https://jamesalison.com/>

BR MICHAEL HERRY - MUSIC WORKSHOP

Br Michael Herry is a Melbourne-based Marist Brother and Pastoral Musician who has composed and presented liturgical music within the Australian Church for many years. He is passionate about the role music plays in worship and prayer, and in bringing us to a deeper experience of God, on truly 'holy ground', far beyond the horizon of mere thoughts and words. Br Michael will be here on 3 October at Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore. The night will begin at 5pm and finish around 7pm. Everyone is welcome. If you're interested in coming along kindly contact Michael Fitzpatrick on 0419 876 195 for catering purposes or email mfitzpatrick@ozemail.com.au.

SIGN UP FOR 24HOUR ADORATION

Take the time to sign up for our 24hour Adoration in honour of the month of the rosary. Adoration will begin after the morning Mass on the Friday 6 October, and continue until its conclusion at the Saturday morning Mass the following day. We had a good response to our last 24hour Adoration and we welcome people to participate again. Adoration is a sacred time of encounter with our Lord. If you've got some time free, particularly in the early hours of the morning, spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament. Schedules are available at the entrance of our churches so you can select one (or more) timeslots - we need to ensure someone is present with the Blessed Sacred at all times.

RELIC OF ST JOHN BOSCO

To celebrate the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil, the relic statue of St John Bosco, also known as Don Bosco, will tour Australia, and it's coming to Maroochydore. Many of our Parishioners were taught by the Salesians and the Church in Oceania has been a recipient of the good work of the Order. The wax replica of the saint will arrive in the Parish on 14 October. Parishioners are invited to visit the relic in the Function Room of Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore. We're looking for people that might spend some time in prayer with the relic - ring the Parish Office to book a time slot.

CATECHISM IN A YEAR

This coming Wednesday we have our Catechism in a Year class. For those that are interested we'll cover the topic of the 'Conscience.' Look to paragraphs #1776-1802 of the Catechism to get up to date with what we'll cover in the class. Our discussion will begin at 6:30pm on Wednesday night at St Mary's Buderim. See you there.

CATHEDRAL DAY TRIP

Good news, the bus to the Cathedral is filling up quickly. Join the trip as Fr Isaac and many of our parishioners travel to the Cathedral to learn more about our spiritual home in this Archdiocese. There will be tour guides, good food provided by the farmers market and some time well spent with fellow parishioners. Get in quick to secure your place on the bus. Tickets are being sold for \$25 each and promises to be an enjoyable trip into Brisbane. Ring the Parish Office on 5443 3488.

3 DAY BOOK & PLANT SALE

St Vincent de Paul Society (Kawana Conference) are once again holding a fundraising event at the Kawana Catholic Community Centre, Nanyima Street, Buddina. Friday 13 & Saturday 14 October from 8am-2pm and on Sunday 15 October from 9am-1pm. As always, there will be a lot of great things to buy. All proceeds go to assisting the St Vincent de Paul Society (Kawana) in continuing to support and give a hand up to those going through difficult times due to homelessness, domestic violence, high rents and general cost of living. For more information or donations call Maria on 0427 181 089.

CALOUNDRRA PARISH EVENT

You are all invited to Our Lady of the Rosary Parish's big event to celebrate their Feast Day. Celebrations will start at 4.00pm with a Rosary Procession, followed by 5.00pm Mass in Our Lady of the Rosary Church. Then join them afterwards for pizza, chicken kebabs and sausage sizzle with celebratory cake. All parishioners and friends are welcome.

SAVE THIS DATE

Once again, St Peter's Church will be holding a *Sounds of Celebration* concert which supports the works of St Vincent de Paul Society in our area. This is always a fun afternoon of music, singing and great company so please note the date in your diary. - Sunday 12 November at 2.00pm. Tickets will be only \$15.00. More details about booking will be available soon.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION OF BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS

This exhibition will be in the Function Room at Stella Maris Church on the weekend of 21/22 October. Acutis was passionate about the holy Eucharist. "The more often we receive the Eucharist," Acutis wrote on his website, "the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this Earth we will have a foretaste of heaven." Note this date in your diary - more details will be available soon.

CATECHISM CORNER

We're slowly going through the Sacraments, and today we have another instalment on the Sacrament of Confirmation. What normally happens at the rite of Confirmation? The catechism in paragraph #1293 talks about the *Anointing* within the rite that signifies and imprints a spiritual seal.

We have different anointings within the Sacramental life of the Church but when it comes to the anointing for Confirmation with the oil of Chrism, we anoint to signify a consecration. In Confirmation you are sealed or 'marked' with the Holy Spirit. Like a soldier is marked with their leaders *seal* or coat of arms we're imprinted as belonging to God by this Sacrament. Oil itself as a symbol provides rich meaning because oil cleanses, it limbers up, and provides healing. It also makes the individual radiant with beauty and health.

All these are being reaffirmed in the candidate who receives Confirmation. Those of us who have made our Confirmation are consecrated to the Lord and God's mission, may we then be zealous in our endeavours for God as people who have been marked by the anointing of Confirmation.

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

The Synod on Synodality is set to launch the first of two assemblies on October 4. The global meetings in Rome are the culmination of two years of preparation, and during that time, much has been said about synodality, including by the Pope.

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down
the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.



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, 25 September

- ♦ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ♦ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ Librum Et Legere Club meeting (Stella Maris)
- ♦ Consecration to Jesus through Mary, in Spanish (6.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ Catholic Formation course (6.30pm, Function Room, Stella Maris)

Tuesday, 26 September

- ♦ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ♦ Funeral of William Voeten (11am, St Peter's Church)

Wednesday, 27 September

- ♦ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ♦ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ♦ Funeral of Paul Robson (1pm, Kulangoor Cemetery Chapel)
- ♦ CIAY meeting (6.30pm, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochydoore)

Thursday, 28 September

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

Friday, 29 September

- ♦ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church), including St Vincent de Paul Society celebrating their Feast Day
- ♦ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 30 September

- ♦ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ♦ Baptism of Hugh Mackinley, Alice Sammut, Ava Ramsay (10am, Stella Maris)
- ♦ Baptism of Gus Simmons (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, 1 October

26th 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) with Children's Church

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, *Joni D'Elboux, Charlie McCathie, Hudson McCathie, Isabelle McCathie* and *Jonathon Longfield* who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially *William Voeten* whose funeral rites will be this Tuesday, and *Paul Robson* whose funeral rites will be this Wednesday. May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH

MANY THANKS!

Last weekend at our Youth Mass we had a fundraiser for our young people attending the Ignite Conference. We warmly thank the Knights of the Southern Cross for their active role in assisting with the BBQ and for those that generously donated to the cause. We pray that our young people might come to encounter the living God through this experience and return with a renewed sense of faith and mission.



CATHOLIC FORMATION

We have a vibrant group of learners who gather on Monday evening for a Catholic Formation Scripture course. Participants value the unpacking of the scripture which has helped them form a deeper appreciation of God's Word.



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Some of our young adults went out for axe throwing a couple of weeks ago, and some hit the target well!

