

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 28/29 October 2023

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

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

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself”.

The words, “Love your neighbour as yourself” are found eight times in the Bible, so it must be important. Jesus coupled the command to ‘love your neighbour as yourself’ with “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength”, emphasising that these are the most important of all God’s commands.

Loving our neighbour means receiving God's love.

To begin to love our neighbour as ourselves, we need to know two things: we need to know what love is and that we are loved. God loves us deeply and unconditionally. We need to understand that God loved us first and is the source of our love. Before we can give this love, we need to receive it for ourselves. We cannot give what we do not have.

Loving our neighbour means loving ourselves as well.

To love your neighbour as yourself, you need to love yourself. This is something that is sometimes misunderstood in the body of Christ. It gets mixed up with ‘dying to self’ or denying oneself. Jesus died for each and every one of us and if He valued us enough to go through this for us, we owe it to Him to value what He values. We need to love what He loves – us. Learning to love ourselves prepares and helps us to love our neighbour.

Loving your neighbour means showing grace.

Knowing God is love and that this love is for you, is not enough. It needs to be developed. Grace takes the seed of God’s love, plants it in the soil of our hearts and creates fruit for the kingdom of God. Grace teaches us how to love and respect ourselves and our neighbour in turn. Freely receiving His grace empowers us to freely give it.

Loving your neighbour means acting with compassion and service.

When Jesus was asked, “Who is my neighbour?” He responded with the story of the Good Samaritan. Even those who have no love for God see the value of the story. Who did Jesus say was being a neighbour? The one who had compassion. Compassion is not simply a warm feeling in our hearts; it does something. A heart that is moved by compassion cannot sit idly by while someone suffers a need. Loving your neighbour as yourself is being moved to serve others to the full extent of your ability. When acts of service are done out of duty, then it is not love. To love our neighbour as ourselves, we should have a sincere heart of compassion and service to others.

Loving your neighbour means speaking kindly.

Words build up or tear down. Speaking words of encouragement to someone who is troubled is an obvious example but there are others. We can always find something good to say if we take the time to look for it.

Loving your neighbour means forgiving.

Jesus frequently spoke words of forgiveness over others that resulted in the healing of their bodies. Forgiveness is freely given to us, and to love your neighbour as yourself is to pass that forgiveness on. Loving your neighbour is to forgive as you have been forgiven.

Den Michael Khoury

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

Telephone: 5443 3488

Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au

Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

WELCOMING

Our next Parish Welcome Night is on Monday 20 November, and we invite any new parishioners to let us know they have joined us. Just ask at the church entrance and we'll give you a New Parishioner Kit. Return the completed form to the Parish Office and we'll send you an invitation. This is an informal opportunity to share some pizza and meet our priests and welcome team.

ALL SAINTS DAY & ALL SOULS DAY

This Wednesday, 1 November, we all gather during our normal Masses (7am at St Mary's Church and 9am at St Catherine's Church) to celebrate All Saints Day. This Thursday, 2 November, is All Souls Day and, as well as the normal 8.30am Mass at St Peter's Church, there will be an additional Mass to remember the deceased of our parish, especially those who have died in the last 12 months. This will be held at 9am in Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore, and will be followed by morning tea - you are invited to bring a plate to share. Everyone is welcome.

JUNIOR MINISTERS

We're building a lot of momentum with our Junior Ministers. On Sunday 5 November we have another gathering at Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore. Children are invited to arrive at 2:30pm for training and then fun and games with pizza. Our meeting will conclude at 4:30pm and children will have an opportunity to stay and attend the 5pm Mass. Please contact Bernie Baillie bbaille@bne.catholic.edu.au for catering purposes. See you there!

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

November is the month that we traditionally remember and pray for our deceased loved ones and those who have gone before us marked by the sign of faith. We start the month with the two great feasts – All Saints on 1 November, immediately followed by All Souls the following day. At the entrance to all our churches this weekend you will discover our **Parish Book of Remembrance**. In preparation for November you are invited to inscribe in the Book of Remembrance the names of your deceased family members and friends and during the month they will be the focus of our prayers.

SISTERHOOD - WOMEN'S RETREAT

A few women of our Parish have been working away in the background to launch "Sisterhood" *The Stella Maris Catholic Women's Initiative*. We would like to warmly invite women of our parish to be a part of this initiative launch by attending our first gathering, which will be on 25 November. The retreat will take place at Stella Maris Primary School, Maroochydore, from 8:30am to 4pm. The cost is \$30 per person. Women can register through the Parish website simply by following the link to the "Sisterhood" page, under the *Connect* tab. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code.

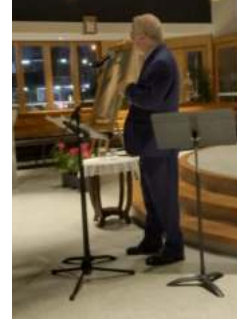


SOUNDS OF CELEBRATION

Make sure 12 November is saved in your calendars for the Vinnies 'Sounds of Celebration' fundraiser. It promises to be a collaboration of musicians and songs for all ages. Tickets are \$15 per person for the event. This event will be held at St Peter's in Coolumb and begins at 2pm. All are welcome!

TALK BY JOHN CANAVAN

On Thursday night we welcomed Parishioners from around the region, and Mr John Canavan (Divine Mercy Publications, Australia). Along with his wife, Karen, John shared of his story of conversion and how he experienced the Lord's mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We had a healthy turn out of people and a pleasant evening shared over light refreshments afterwards. Thank you to John and his wife



Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, **Liam Gandia, Loisa Gandia, Arizona Bellingham, Charlie Cordwell, Aela Trotman** and **Mia Gobert** who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially **Garry Maher** whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Wednesday, **Alexander McPherson** whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Friday, and **Sr Patricia Heenan** (Bishop Brian Heenan's sister who passed away on Tuesday). May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

WE REMEMBER

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Fay Mason | 15 October 2022 |
| Christopher Chandler | 27 October 2022 |
| Phyllida Warwick | 1 November 2022 |
| Barry Oakenfull | 25 November 2022 |
| Stanley Plichta | 30 November 2022 |
| Pauline Coolican | 4 December 2022 |
| Barbara Currie | 9 December 2022 |
| Bevan Zeller | 19 December 2022 |
| William Ford | 19 December 2022 |
| Cecily Dillon | 20 December 2022 |
| Bernard Creevey | 22 December 2022 |
| Juanita Hartkopf | 8 January 2023 |
| Brian Burke | 12 January 2023 |
| Maria Jorge | 12 January 2023 |
| Desmond Sullivan | 19 January 2023 |
| Vaughan Johnson | 22 January 2023 |
| John Treby | 23 January 2023 |
| Constance Graham | 1 February 2023 |
| Kevin Ryan | 3 February 2023 |
| Dr Daniel Lane | 3 February 2023 |
| Colleen Brady | 5 February 2023 |
| Jack Wills | 3 March 2023 |
| Clorine Richards | 7 March 2023 |
| Bernard Stormonth | 8 March 2023 |
| Kellie Beale | 9 March 2023 |
| Magda Prout | 11 March 2023 |
| Ruth Reeves | 16 March 2023 |
| Sylvester O'Dempsey | 17 March 2023 |
| Francis Jayaraj | 20 March 2023 |
| Ted Dwyer | 2 April 2023 |
| Ivan Brady | 3 April 2023 |
| Brian Quigley | 8 April 2023 |
| Tony Palmero | 10 April 2023 |
| Slav Jordanovich | 23 April 2023 |
| Bernie Bennett | 23 April 2023 |
| George Taylor | 3 May 2023 |
| Elizabeth Allcock | 10 May 2023 |
| Luke Flanagan | 11 May 2023 |
| Cecile Santos | 18 May 2023 |
| James Husband | 21 May 2023 |
| Irene Jobbings | 28 May 2023 |
| Vilma Johnston | 29 May 2023 |
| Wayne Smith | 6 June 2023 |
| Malcolm D'Elboux | 14 June 2023 |
| Ype De Bruin | 14 June 2023 |
| Margaret Simpson | 30 June 2023 |
| Peter Berry | 3 July 2023 |
| Margaret Farrell | 14 July 2023 |
| Shirley Fitzpatrick | 16 July 2023 |
| Lenore Webberley | 18 July 2023 |
| Eileen Fortune | 23 July 2023 |
| Gavan O'Connor | 28 July 2023 |
| Elizabeth Anderson | 11 August 2023 |
| Mike Gillooly | 19 August 2023 |
| Raymond Slade | 25 August 2023 |
| Marion Pasioka | 1 September 2023 |
| William Voeten | 16 September 2023 |
| Paul Robson | 15 September 2023 |
| Margaret Adena | 25 September 2023 |
| John Roberts | 5 October 2023 |
| June Loxton | 15 October 2023 |
| Garry Maher | 20 October 2023 |
| Sr Patricia Heenan | 24 October 2023 |
| Alexander McPherson | 24 October 2023 |
| Max Lennox | 25 October 2023 |



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, 30 October

- ◆ Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Consecration to Jesus through Mary, in Spanish (6.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Catholic Formation course (6.30pm, Function Room, Stella Maris)

Tuesday, 31 October

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

Wednesday, 1 November

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Society Meeting (Maroochydore)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Funeral of Garry Maher (12noon, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Latin American Prayer Group (6pm, Function Room, Maroochydore)

Thursday, 2 November

- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **All Souls Day Memorial Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Society Meeting (Coolum)
- ◆ 2pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism Preparation for infants and young children (6pm, Stella Maris Church)

Friday, 3 November

- ◆ **Anointing & Healing Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church), followed by morning tea.
- ◆ Funeral of Alexander McPherson (11.30am, Buderim Cemetery)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 4 November

- ◆ **First Saturday Mass** (8am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Torin O'Connor (10am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Ellie Shepherd (10am, Sippy Downs)
- ◆ 11am El Shaddai group meets (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church) including Baptism of Lily Waller
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 5 November

31st 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) including Baptism of RCIA Candidate, Quang Thien Le (Luke), and with Children's Church
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ Junior Ministers (2.30pm to 4.30pm, Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (5pm, Stella Maris Church) with Children's Church.

A reminder that we have an additional All Souls Day Mass at Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore at 9am on Thursday 2 November.

We will still have a Mass at St Peter's, Coolum at 8:30am.

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



This week, we came together as a school community to celebrate the incredible individuals who shape the future, our beloved teachers. World Teachers' Day is a momentous occasion to honour and appreciate the dedication, passion, a tireless effort our educators invest in nurturing our children's minds. To mark this special day, our P&F organised a delicious morning tea as a heartfelt gesture to express their gratitude for the positive impact teachers have on the students' lives.

One of the touching highlights of the celebration was the beautiful messages penned by the children and families. These heartfelt notes and letters conveyed a deep gratitude for our teachers and testaments to the positive impact our teachers at Siena have on our school community.

Thank you God for the blessing our teachers are to our community.

Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



The Stella Maris School community has embraced Catholic Mission Month (*Socktober*) this year, responding to Pope Francis' call to us all to be missionary people. Following the *Head, Hearts and Hands* approach, we enabled students to encounter mission in a holistic way: with a learning mind, an open heart and hands for action. This involved:

formation - to develop an understanding of why we are called to be missionary and how we can make a difference through our attitudes and actions;

focus - our *Socktober Challenge Day*, complete with crazy socks and a soccer goal kick-off using home-made sock balls; and

fundraising - to support local communities to provide better access to health care and education to their neighbours.

Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



With our Year 12s now undertaking their external exams it's a lot quieter around the yard, and the car park is a little less chaotic, but we are certainly missing the energy and enthusiasm that our 12s bring to College life. It's hard to believe that in less than a month their 13 years of schooling will come to an end!



Thanks to our Year 11 Mission Ambassadors who spoke about Catholic Mission at some of the Parish Masses last weekend... as promised, here are some photos from our Socktober celebration.



Children bless their teachers on assembly.



A beautiful morning tea catered by the P&F

