

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of 4/5 November 2023

First Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13 Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

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

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

As we look to the future needs of our Parish we must make sure our primary ministries and programs continue to thrive. Therefore, it is with great enthusiasm that I join with our Parish Finance Committee to inform you about the creation of the *Maroochydore – Stella Maris Parish Endowment Fund*.

As you may know, an endowment is a fund in which the principal deposit (minimum \$20,000 per parish) is permanently invested for growth and never spent down. It is managed by the Catholic Foundation and each year the fund distributes a percentage of the balance back to the Parish (currently 5%). As the fund matures over time through investment growth and contributions, the distributions increase and become a steady stream of annual income for the good works of our Parish.

This Endowment Fund will support the programs and ministries of Stella Maris Parish in perpetuity. My hope is that this Fund will continue to grow significantly with gifts from parishioners over the years. For example, you can be an Eternal Guardian of your faith by leaving a gift to the Maroochydore – Stella Maris Parish Endowment Fund in your Will as a meaningful way to build up the Fund and financially sustain the Stella Maris Parish for generations to come. This is a way for parishioners, who believe in sharing their gifts and reaching out to others, to leave a legacy of care and support far beyond their lifetime. I hope that each of you will prayerfully consider a gift today or in your Will as a special offering to our Maroochydore - Stella Maris Parish Endowment Fund.

Please also consider a gift in your lifetime to launch our parish endowment. You can put an extra cheque marked "endowment" into your giving envelope or put your donation into a plain envelope marked "endowment".

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and generosity. Please join me in praying that our new endowment fund grows like the loaves and fishes!

God bless

Frs Peter, William and Isaac

At Your Service

Fr Geoff Baron

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: maroochyshoreparish.com.au

ALL SOULS AND ALL SAINTS DAY

Thank you to those who attended our additional Mass at Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore, on All Souls Day. We had a large congregation of family and friends who lost a loved one in the past year. We remember the dead often in our weekly Sunday Mass during the Eucharistic prayer, but our Thursday celebration was a wonderful dedication to the Souls who journey closer and closer to God's heart. Keep an eye out for the Remembrance Book located near the entrance of each Parish Church to place the names of your loved ones in the book as we pray for them throughout this month.

SOUNDS OF CELEBRATIONS

Next week on Sunday 12 November St Vincent De Paul Society, Coolum, will host their 'Sounds of Celebration' fundraising event. All parishioners are welcome to attend the afternoon, beginning at 2pm. Tickets for entry will be sold at the door for \$15 per person. There will be choirs and voices from around the Sunshine Coast blessing us with their presence and talents. Raffles tickets are also selling fast, so get into the draw for your chance to win some fine wine, a TV or maybe even appliances. Come along on Sunday to enjoy this wonderful occasion.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM MEMBERS

Safeguarding is an essential role in the parish community. As a parish, we're dedicated to providing safe spaces for our children and vulnerable adults but we need your help. We're looking for representatives from each parish community to be part of a team that cares for our Parish community. If you're interested and would like to learn more about how you can get involved, contact the Parish Office to speak to Fr Will or send an email to stellam@bne.catholic.net.au with your details.

SISTERHOOD - PARISH WOMEN'S RETREAT

You may have seen some of our parishioners giving out flyers last week to a women's retreat that is happening on Saturday 25 November from 8:30am-4:30pm. The day retreat will include input from Karen Doyle, founder of the Genius Project and Genius Podcast, wife, mother and mentor to many women around Australia. If you're interested in being part of this exciting new initiative, log onto the parish website and go to the Sisterhood page (under the Connect tab). Register online with your details. The day retreat will cost \$30 per person. Sign up today for this wonderful and meaningful time.

GREETINGS ALL FROM FR GEOFF

From now and for the next 2 months I'll be helping out round the parish with Masses and other sacramental ministries until Fr Peter returns. Running a parish is more demanding than years ago, and thankfully, in retirement, I'm free from that! So I will have time on my hands. If anyone would like me to knock on their door for a home visit just for a chat about whatever - plus a coffee and biscuit - I should be able to comply. It used to be called Home Visitation in the old days. Phone the parish office and I'll give you a call to arrange a date and time.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS

Our parish is extending a welcoming hand to our regulars and visitors through Hospitality on the first Sunday of every month and at funerals and special occasions, but we need more volunteers. Across the parish we have St Peter's Church who have a morning tea every Sunday morning after Mass, St Catherine's who have a cuppa after every Sunday morning Mass, and St Mary's and Stella and St Peter's who have something light every first weekend of the month. This good work relies on the help of volunteers and we're currently looking for more hands. If you're free to assist in any way be it through your baking skills, lifting skills or mingling skills, we would love to hear from you and connect you with a team. Contact the Parish Office to volunteer your time and talents to this wonderful ministry in our Parish.

PARISH ENDOWMENT FUND

As you may have read on the front cover of this newsletter, our parish now has an Endowment Fund. Parishioners and supporters of the parish... if you're interested in donating to our Endowment Fund there's several options for you. The first is by making a Cash, Cheque or Credit Card Gift. Simply request a donation form from the Parish Office. This form will then be sent to the Catholic Foundation Office in Brisbane. You could make a gift online via the website:

www.catholicfoundation.org.au/ways-to-help/endowments/parishes/

Then select "Maroochydore - Stella Maris Parish" and make a secure donation using credit card. Parishioners and supporters can also make a gift over the phone by calling the Catholic Foundation on (07) 3324 3200. Finally, you can choose to make a gift via Electronic Funds Transfer. Donations can be made by bank transfer to the Maroochydore Parish Endowment Fund.

ACCOUNT name: Religious Ministries Fund

ACCOUNT number: 100022581;

BSB: 064 786

REFERENCE: *Donor SurnameSMEND

*It is important to include the Reference when donating via EFT as well as completing the Donation Form

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, *Torin O'Connor, Ellie Shephard, Lilly Waller, Jethro Gray, Bodhi Gray* and *Nea Viviers* who will be baptised this weekend in our Parish. We also welcome *Quang Thien Le (Luke)* who will be received into the Catholic Church through the RCIA ritual.

We prayerfully remember all those who have died, especially *Max Lennox* whose funeral rites will be celebrated on Monday. May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, parishioners and family members, through the rich mercy of God,

Rest in Peace.

MEET THE PARISH



Today we meet two very faithful parishioners, (L to R) Mirjana Bek-Zembic and Maricel Morris. You might have seen these ladies working with Nicole Mennie to set up and decorate Stella Maris Church's space for our weekend and major liturgical celebrations. Mirjana has been doing flowers since 2021 and Maricel has been doing it since 2017. When asked what was the most fulfilling aspect of this ministry, Mirjana said 'when it's done!' Seeing the beauty of their time and effort come together at the end gave her a sense of accomplishment especially when they've sourced beautiful flowers from someone else's garden (hahaha). Maricel found that when they put the time and effort into preparing the space it really enhanced the liturgy itself and brought life to it. Both Mirjana and Maricel said that their favourite season in the life of the Church was Easter, although it is a busy time it was certainly a rewarding time. Thank you to Mirjana, Maricel and team for all the work they do around Stella Maris Church Maroochydore. We are blessed to have creative and committed women in this role.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

As you may already now, the Catholic Leader will no longer be sending out bulk deliveries to parishes, and will stop production of their digital online editions from the end of the year. Their new subscription-only model means they will be able to print their newspaper with less excess and streamline delivery so readers will receive the newspaper straight to their door. The Catholic Leader is always full of local and global Church news, and well worth reading. If you would like to receive them call their office on 07 3324 3555 or go online on catholicleader.com.au/subscribe. (Every new subscription will go into a draw for a chance to win from a range of weekly prizes like movie tickets, books and restaurant vouchers.)

MENALIVE SMALL GROUPS

This coming week marks one month since our menAlive weekend in October. We hope the men are still connecting with one another since then. This coming Thursday at 6pm we will meet at Stella Maris Maroochydore to solidify our small groups and catch up with everyone to see how our men are going. We warmly welcome any other men in the parish who would like to connect with a small group for prayer, support and fraternity.

PARISH WELCOME NIGHT

On 20 November from 6pm to 8pm we have our Parish Welcome Night. This informal gathering welcomes new parishioners to the area and extends a hand of friendship and companionship to them. This coming welcome night, we also include our newly baptised children and their families. We hope to stay connected with you as a community that supports and cares for each other. If you are new to our parish and haven't yet completed a Welcome Pack, available at our church entrances, we invite you to do so this week.

SOCIAL GROUP

Stella Maris Social Group will be meeting again on Tuesday 7 November at 11.30 for our usual morning tea, chat and socialising. This group started to assist parishioners to meet and chat with others after the disruption of the pandemic caused numerous folk to isolate and lose social contacts. Please join us at Connection Café, The Avenue, 32 Baden Powell St. opposite the church. To book call Angelina on 0410 660 890 or Angela on 0447 016 779.

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, 6 November

- ♦ Funeral of Maxwell Lennox (12noon, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ 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, 7 November

- ♦ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ♦ Parish Social Group (11.30am, Connection Café)

Wednesday, 8 November

- ♦ **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, 9 November

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

Friday, 10 November

- ♦ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ♦ Young Adults Group (6.00pm, St Mary's Church)
- ♦ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 11 November

- ♦ Reconciliation 8.30am to 9.30am (Stella Maris)
- ♦ Baptism of Nathan Harris, Adeline Harris, Evelyn Harris (10am, 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, 12 November

32nd 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)
- ♦ Sounds of Celebration Concert (2.00pm, St Peter'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.*

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



Day for Daniel is a very important day on the Siena calendar. The school, through child safety activities and lessons, continues to promote the Daniel Morcombe Foundation message that child safety is everyone's responsibility.

Events like these are crucial in educating young minds about personal safety and encouraging open discussions to increase their knowledge and confidence to recognise potential dangers, react appropriately and report any concerns.

During the day each class participated in child safety lessons in the classroom and then held a discussion at the Heart of Hope. School students and staff then proceeded to tie a red ribbon on the school fence to remember Daniel and promote child safety to our community. We continue to pray for Daniel's family, and that they are reassured that through their dedication to child safety it has equipped a generation with the necessary skills to be proactive and remain safe.



Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



As part of our Religious Education Curriculum, all students learn about our Holy Mother, Mary, with distinct focus in each year level. In Prep, for example, students learn about Mary as the mother of Jesus, living in Jewish culture in first century Palestine. In Year One, students learn the Hail Mary prayer and explore how Mary is honoured through prayer, images and music. It is in Year Five, however, that students really focus on the Rosary (and a variety of other Marian prayers) and explore Mary's role in the wider Church. There is no doubt, however, that all students love to have the opportunity to hold their own set of Rosary beads and experience praying the Rosary together. During this October, the Month of the Rosary, students and staff took time to pray the Rosary during our whole school Christian meditation time. What a blessing!



Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Acting Principal: Pat Toohey



Last Friday, staff and students from the College gathered at Suncoast Christian College for the annual Day for Daniel Walk. This event is a significant one in our calendar, as we commemorate Daniel (a past student of Siena) and support the work of the Foundation established in his name. The aim of this Foundation is to spread the message of child safety and to encourage all of us to – *Recognise, React, and Report* – in order to keep children safe.

On Friday night, more than 100 students and staff participated in the Vinnies Sleepout. This overnight event was designed to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless here on the Coast, and was an opportunity for students to encounter, for even a short time, some of the realities associated with this.

