

PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Weekend of the 24/25 February 2024

First Reading: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Second Reading: Rom 8:31-34 Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

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 Parish has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

Jesus took Peter, James and John and they went up a high mountain together. These three Apostles had no idea what was coming. It is possible that while on the way, they were complaining interiorly, wondering why they had to go up the mountain. The mountain is a symbol of our upward journey towards Heaven. It takes focus and drive, commitment and resolve to get there, and it is an elevated place, away from the ordinary occurrences of life.

While on this difficult climb up the mountain, the disciples stopped, in shock and awe at the sight before them. They saw Jesus, changed in a glorious way, His clothing whiter than any white they had ever seen and Moses and Elijah, the great Law-giver and the great Prophet, there, conversing with Jesus.

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 time apart, to be with our Lord, so that, just as He revealed Himself to them, He may reveal Himself to us. We may not see anything as spectacular as what the three disciples saw that day, but when we turn our eyes to Jesus, we will recognize His presence and glory in many moments, situations and interactions in our lives.

During this time of Lent, as we prepare for Easter, we could make a special effort to set time aside to be simply and fully present to God so that He can be fully present to us. There may be many things we have chosen to do or not do during this time of Lent. Whatever we choose, let us remember what Jesus told us about fasting and praying;

“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, do not let it be obvious to others when you are fasting, but only to your Father who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret will reward you”.

Wishing you every blessing for this next week of Lent,

Deacon Michael Khoury

Confirmation 2024

Registrations are now open for Confirmation, if you have a child in grade 3 or older, please enrol online via our website. Parent information night will be held at the Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore on Wednesday 24 April at 5pm. Please visit our web page for further information and to register your child: maroochydoreparish.com.au

Parish Clergy
Fr Peter Brannelly
Fr Isaac Falzon
Deacon Michael Khoury



Stella Maris Parish Office
Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church
Office Hours 9am—1pm Weekdays
Telephone: 5443 3488
Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: maroochydoreparish.com.au

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, 26 February

Adoration 4.30pm, Stella Maris

- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Spanish Group—Consecration to Jesus through Mary, (6:30pm, Stella Maris)

Tuesday, 27 February

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel). All Welcome.
- ◆ Sisterhood Meeting (6-8pm Stella Maris)

Wednesday, 28 February

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Latin Prayer Group (6pm Stella Maris Function Room)

Thursday, 29 February

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

Friday, 1 March

- ◆ **Healing Mass** (9am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ World Day of Prayer (10:30am—Stella Maris) Followed by morning tea
- ◆ Young Adults Group (6-9pm St Mary's)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 2 March

- ◆ Reconciliation **8.30 to 9.30am** (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptisms **10am** Hallie Charles, Billie and Luca Fitzgerald, Maverick and Milla McKenzie (Stella Maris) Maggie Harris (St Catherine's)
- ◆ 11am El Shaddai group meets (Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

Sunday, 3 March

Third Sunday of Lent Hospitality Weekend

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ Junior Ministers (2:30pm Stella Maris)
- ◆ **Mass** (5pm, Stella Maris Church)

Gluten-free hosts are available. To arrange, simply contact the sacristan or Mass coordinator before Mass. The priest will always distribute the gluten free host at communion.

World Day of Prayer 2024

Stella Maris Catholic Parish will be hosting the annual World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1st, at 10:30 am to be followed by morning tea. (Please note change of date) World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Appropriately, this year's prayer service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine. The theme is **"I beg you... to bear with one another in love"**. We hope to see many of our parishioners there to extend a warm welcome to the visitors from other faith traditions. On the same day in Coolum this year the World Day of Prayer will be hosted at Coolum Christian Family Church while in Buderim the Uniting Church will host the service.

Anointing & Healing Mass

Every First Friday, there is an Anointing & Healing Mass at Stella Maris. Because the next Anointing Mass coincides with the World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1st, parishioners are invited to stay and join fellow neighbouring Christians for the short service followed by morning tea.

Preparation

Once again in June we will celebrate our the diversity of our universal faith at our Multicultural Mass. To ensure that it is once again an enjoyable and successful occasion on Saturday, March 9th, 9:30am at Stella Maris there will be an initial planning meeting. All coordinators and parishioners interested in helping organizing this year's gathering are warmly welcome.

Morning Tea

Stella Maris Social Group meets for a cuppa at 11.30am at Connections Cafe, 32 Baden Powell Street (opposite the church) on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Come along, bring a friend, make new friends or meet up with old friends. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, March 5th. For more information contact Angelina on 0410 660 890.

Następna polska Msza św

The next Mass in Polish will be celebrated at St Mary's Buderim this Sunday, February 25th, at 4pm. Tell your Polish friends—*all welcome*. We celebrate our Mass in Polish every fourth Sunday of the month at St Mary's.

The Way of the Cross

Stations of the Cross is a popular practice in parishes during Lent. This form of devotion arose after pilgrims began to visit the Holy Land from the end of the 4th century to follow the path that Jesus trod in his last week of life. Christians who were unable to travel to Palestine themselves reproduced a parallel devotion at home. The Franciscans popularised the practice during the Middle Ages, but the number and subject of the stations was not settled until the 18th century. The fourteen stations that were established were a blend of biblical and legendary material. There is no set way of praying the Stations and the Church has never provided an official ritual for the celebration. During Lent, you are invited to walk the Stations on a Friday morning after the **9am Stella Maris Mass** or alternatively, at **6pm every Friday evening at St Catherine's, Sippy Downs**. All welcome.

Thank you for remembering your Parish when making your will

Celebrating and Remembering

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,
Goldie and Hunter Thornton and **Eloisa Calligaris**
who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Janette Therese Garcia** May John's soul and the souls of all our departed through the rich mercy of God, **Rest in Peace.**



**Come join us
this
Tuesday 27 Feb
6.00 - 8.00pm
Stella Maris Church,
Maroochydore**

Light supper provided

Pizza
&
Punch

"Sisterhood" is the new and emerging women's ministry of Stella Maris Catholic Parish. After a successful one day retreat at the end of last year, we are moving into the new year with great anticipation and excitement for what God has in store for the women of the parish.

It is our desire to connect and walk in shared faith alongside other women of all ages and stages of life.

It is through a sense of deeper, intentional relationships and fellowship with one another that Sisterhood will offer women an opportunity to move deeper into their faith, receive formation and connect with women with whom to share life.

A Sisterhood evening will be held at Stella Maris Church once a month and YOU are most welcome.

Come and meet other women and be part of a movement that inspires women to receive and live out their God given purpose.

First sisterhood evening will be held on Tuesday 27 February, 6.00-8.00pm.

If you require transport a list has been placed in all of our churches, please add your name and we will endeavour to help out where possible.



Stella Maris Parish Facebook

Visit our Facebook page! You will receive updates on what's happening within the parish, religious articles and content of interest. It is also a way we contact you with urgent news. "Like" our Facebook page, and you will be kept notified of new posts and help to promote the Parish page to more viewers. Just go to www.facebook.com/mission.stella/ and click on the 'thumbs up' under any of our posts. Why not 'share' it with a Facebook friend also?



Lenten Mission

Last Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday parishioners from across our parish family and beyond gathered at Stella Maris for our annual Lenten Mission. This year evangelist and journalist, Jo Hayes, was our mission director. Over the three evenings Jo reflected upon how we hear God on a daily basis and how that builds intimacy and has the potential to transform living our daily lives. She then explored the notion of holiness, what it looks like and how it is lived. Finally, on Wednesday night Jo reflected on Lectio Divina, harnessing the power of the Word of God.

DON'T MISS OUT!

On **Sunday, March 3**, we are holding our first Junior Ministers "Fun and Formation" session afternoon for the year. This is for all Junior Ministers within our parish and for any interested in becoming Junior Ministers. Junior Ministers are young people who would like to be involved in a ministry within our parish, as an altar server, musician, welcomer, or computer operator. They are usually people who have made their First Holy Communion but those who will be preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Eucharist this year, are also welcome if they would like to serve in our parish in the future.



It will be held in the function room - the room next to the church kitchen at Stella Maris Church, beginning at **2:30pm in the Church with training** for all the Junior Ministers (new and experienced). 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 Bernie Baillie at bbailie811@gmail.com or ring the Parish Office on 54433488 by **28th February** and let us know.

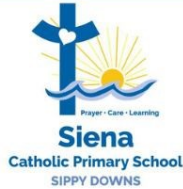
Catholic Education in our Stella Maris Parish Family

Siena Catholic Primary School

58 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

psippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Glen Bucklar



Last Sunday, we as a Siena Primary School community were blessed to celebrate Mass with the parishioners of St Catherine's church. The Mass brought together the school children, families, and parishioners in a spirit of joy and Eucharistic celebration. Led by the Fr. Isaac, the Mass was a testament to the sense of community and faith that thrives within the Siena and St. Catherine's family. As the choir filled the church with their delightful voices, singing beautifully hymns led by Mrs Khoury and Mrs Summit, it added an extra layer of spirituality to the occasion.

Following the Mass, the atmosphere continued to radiate positivity during the morning tea. The delicious spread of treats provided a perfect opportunity for everyone to mingle and share in fellowship.. Many thanks to the P&F and the staff for assisting with the morning tea. Siena Primary feels truly blessed to be able to share Mass and community with St Catherine's.



Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam

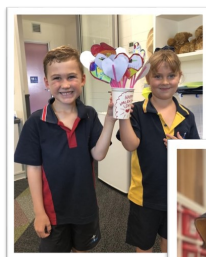


Stella Maris Update – T1 W5

Teachers continue to share the message that all humans are made in the image of God, so all life is sacred, and each person is to be respected, cared for and kept safe. During Lent, as we all strive to turn back to God, we are looking for extra ways to reach out to others in kindness.

Our Year 1 and 2 students have been actively combining their learning in The Arts and Health with their lessons in Religious Education and their Lenten promises, so visitors to Stella Maris School will notice that there is a lot of extra "Love" floating around in the form of heart-shaped messages of encouragement.

Mr Ballam, Mrs Davissen and all our office staff were delighted with their gifts of the beautiful bouquets of messages that they can now share with others.



Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Sharon Collins



We were very happy to welcome the NET team to Siena this week. Gabby, Nathan, Maddie, Sam, Alaina, and Noah have spent the week getting to know how the College works and meeting both staff and students. On Wednesday morning, they joined in with extended House Group activities – enjoying the opportunity to learn some new board games, to consume way too many early-morning lollies, and to meet students in a more relaxed setting.

It's also been a big week on the sporting front. On Monday night, our 17 teams took to the court in the Sunshine Coast Interschool Netball competition. Despite the threat of rain, our teams were happy to start what we hope will be a very successful season.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Year 12s joined our swimming squad at the Nambour pool for the inaugural Combined Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival. We were proud to be named as winners of the event and look forward to our students' continued success at the District and Regional carnivals.

