

PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Weekend of the 20/21 April 2024

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12 Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2 Gospel: John 10:11-18

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 are paramount.

ANZAC Day this year falls on next Thursday. The Honour Rolls on the big city cenotaphs or small country memorials remind us that the Dardanelles Campaign and World War I touched every family and affected every community in Australia. Accompanying our young men as they left our shores for distant lands were countless other Australians needed to support the troops: doctors and nurses, cooks and stretcher bearers. Also accompanying the troops were chaplains. During the week, I came across the biography of the West Australian priest, Fr John Fahey, and it reminded me that World War I left a lasting legacy at every level of society.

John Fahey was born in Ireland on 3 October 1883. He was ordained in 1907 and not long after this, he arrived in Perth. Shortly after the declaration of war, like so many others, he joined the Australian Imperial Force on 8 September 1914. He was assigned to the 11th Battalion and was the first chaplain to go ashore at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, disregarding the order to stay on the ship, asserting his duty to go with his men.

His work, consoling the wounded, burying the dead and encouraging the living, was widely appreciated and he became a very popular figure.

He was evacuated, due to illness in November 1915, but rejoined the battalion in Egypt before being transferred to France in 1916. He was mentioned in despatches and awarded the "Distinguished Service Order" for "gallantry under fire".

About the soldiers he ministered to, he reflected that "the more I knew them, the more I loved them their bravery has been written in deeds that will live to the end of the world". Fr Fahey was the longest serving front-line chaplain of any denomination.

He returned to Australia in March 1918 where he resumed pastoral duties in various Perth parishes until his death in 1959. He was a faithful pastor, kept up his AIF contacts and occupied a number of minor diocesan positions. He died at the St John of God Hospital in Subiaco on 28 April 1959 and is buried in Karrakatta cemetery. About 2000 people attended his funeral.

109 years later, we remember the landing on the rocky, narrow beaches of Gallipoli and we stand in awe at the courage and sacrifices made by all our fellow Australians who volunteered and served in the First Australian Imperial Force. We will remember them at Mass at Coolum this Thursday morning. *Lest we forget.*

Confirmation Programme ~ It Starts this Wednesday !

Our Confirmation Programme starts this Wednesday evening with an hour long adult information and preparation meeting at Stella Maris church beginning at 5.00pm. Theologian and author, Fr Richard Leonard SJ will lead the session. If you have a child in Year 3, or older, please enrol online via our website. Please visit our web page for further information and to register your child. maroochydoireparish.com.au

At Your Service

Fr Peter Brannelly
Fr Isaac Falzon
Fr Joe O'Keefe SJ
Deacon Michael Khoury
Bishop Brian Heenan
Bishop Emeritus



Stella Maris Parish Office

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church
Office Hours 9am—2pm Weekdays
Telephone: (07) 5443 3488
Email: suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au
Website: maroochydoireparish.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, 22 April

- ◆ Benediction 5.15pm
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Catholic Formation Hub, 7.00-9.00pm
- ◆ Holy Week "Thank You" get together 6.00pm

Tuesday, 23 April

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

Wednesday, 24 April

- ◆ **Mass** (7am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9am, St Catherine of Siena Church).
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom).
- ◆ Confirmation Sacramental Programme Parent Information meeting, Stella Maris 5.00-6.00pm

Thursday, 25 April ANZAC Day

- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ 2.00pm Rosary & Divine Mercy (Stella Maris)

Friday, 26 April

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Mass Stella Maris)
- ◆ Craft Group, Stella Maris 9:45am
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6pm, Stella Maris)

Saturday, 27 April

- ◆ Reconciliation **8.30 to 9.30am** (Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptisms 10.00am William Stone, (Stella Maris)
10.00am Miles Grant, Poppy Wallace & Hugo Wallace (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, 28 April

Fifth Sunday of Easter

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8.00am, St Catherine of Siena)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.00pm, Baptism of Amber Eichman Gould Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ 6pm Young Adult Group

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.

The Word Day of Prayer for Vocations coincides with this weekend's Good Shepherd Sunday. It's a day when we as a Church community remember the Lord's Instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2). We especially pray for our youth and young people as they consider the call to Ordained, Married, Single or Religious life. Visit the Vocation's Office webpage for more information. www.vocationbrisbane.com



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

21 APRIL GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



Feeling Crafty

Our Craft Groups meet next Friday, 26 April 9.00am after the mass at Stella Maris. New members are always welcome – come along and join us – we meet at the function room, just down from the parish office.

A New Ministry

Over the last two years, we have deliberately concentrated on upgrading and improving our audio visual and sound equipment across the parish. You might have noticed last week wider screens at Mass. Next week, hopefully a new projector will be installed in Stella Maris – being so close to the sea the atmosphere has a detrimental effect upon all our equipment. Finally, we have the ability to reintroduce live streaming of our Masses and other liturgical services at Stella Maris. This is an important service we provide to our Catholic brothers and sisters who cannot join us at Mass. We want to start a new ministry and develop a roster of parishioners who are willing to help with the live streaming. It is a very simple and straight forward ministry with clear guidelines – would you like to be involved? Is this ministry for you? Please email the office suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au, or give us a call to register your interest.

Back in Action

Our Young Adult group continues every Sunday evening after the 5.00pm Mass. All senior students, young adults and university students are welcome to join us at 6.00pm for a semiformal sharing of some food and faith development. *Bring a friend!*

Tell Your friends

Preparations are well under way for this year's Multicultural Mass and cultural celebrations. On **Sunday, 16 June** our diverse Catholic community will come together at 11am for Mass followed by an afternoon of celebrating our universal faith and the many unique groups that form our Parish Family. Make sure you tell your neighbours and don't forget to invite your friends.

ON THE JOURNEY – WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church, Zoie Axtell, Hugh Hemphill, Robert Keeley who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially this weekend we pray for Fr Marty Larsen, Aida Hulse, Lynette McIntyre, Gwenda Wyles and Elaine Wishart.

May the souls of all our departed priests, religious, family and fellow parishioners, through the rich mercy of God,

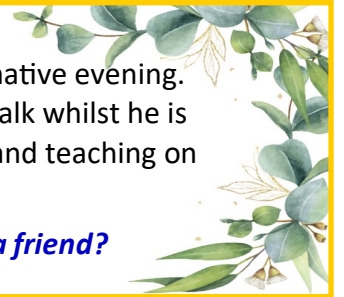
Rest in Peace.



Our next sisterhood gathering is this Tuesday, April 23.

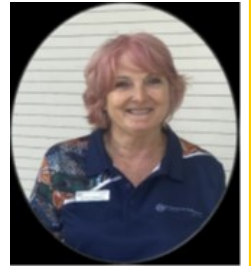
Our April meeting is shaping up to be another fun filled and formative evening. We've jumped at the opportunity to have Fr Joe give us a short talk whilst he is here, we're looking forward to being inspired by his knowledge and teaching on symbols in the Church.

Come join us Tuesday 23 April , 6.00—8.00pm. *Why not bring a friend?*



Commissioning Mass

Last Friday members of our Maroochydoore St Vincent de Paul conference gathered for the Commissioning Ceremony of Carmel Barbagallo as the new President of the St Gerard Majella Conference, Maroochydoore. It was also a chance for the members of the conference to recommit themselves to the important work of Vinnies. For many in our community the men and women of St Vincent de Paul are the face of the Church and practical faith in action. Our local and very busy Vinnies Conference is always happy to welcome new members and if you would like more information please talk to a member of the conference or pay a visit to their centre at 1 Norval Court.



Together ~ A True Team Effort

With the glow of the Easter Resurrection still illuminating our journey and the memory of so many liturgies over Holy Week still fresh in our minds, it is important to recognise and acknowledge everyone who helped make it all possible. We are privileged to belong to a parish of very generous people! Throughout Lent and Holy Week, so many nameless fellow parishioners were involved in making our liturgies moments of grace and hope. From cleaners to musicians, sacristans to liturgical art, readers to office staff and helpers, so many people were involved – and each person a valuable and indispensable part of our faith community. *A grateful parish says thank you.* As a way of acknowledging everyone who played a role in ensuring all our Holy Week ceremonies went so smoothly, I would like to invite all those involved to a small thank you party on Monday evening, April 22 at 6.00pm. *If you played any part – don't be shy!* If you can bring a plate that would be great. To help with catering if you RSVP by contacting the Parish Office it would be appreciated. (5443 3488)



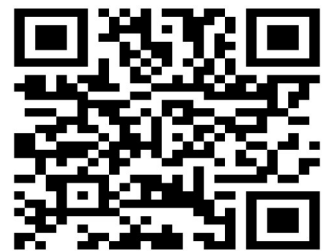
Meet the Family

Last Monday evening the Parish Welcome Committee hosted a reception at the Stella Maris presbytery for new and returning parishioners. Representatives of all four of our church communities were on hand to introduce themselves and add to the welcoming atmosphere. Being a welcoming Catholic community is everyone's responsibility! Each week there are new faces and families at Mass and in such a large and busy parish it is easy for new members of our community to get lost in all the activity and busyness. Thank you to the members of the Welcome Committee and all the local representatives for this important ministry.

Still Some Distance To Go!

Fr Isaac has a long way to go if he wants to rival some of the truly great mullets! During April, he will grow a mullet to raise awareness of the Black Dog Institute in support of their important work in combating mental illness. One in five of us will experience symptoms of mental illness in any given year so the funds raised by Fr Isaac will support the Black Dog Institute to provide awareness for suicide prevention and mental health research. If you would like to financially support my Mullet, simply follow the link to donate via the QR Code.

Thanks for your support



Hearing is a sense we all rely on in some way, but we cannot assume that everyone hears the same way, or equally as well. For people with hearing loss the ability to hear speech and important sounds is diminished. At Stella Maris church we have a Assistive Listening System that transmits audio directly from the source to the listener's ear without amplifying ambient noise. If you would like to access the system or find out more about the system please contact a Mass coordinator or one of the sacristans.

May is the month of Mary and a group of men on the Sunshine Coast have formed a group that will focus on the rosary during May. Recently, a small group of men from the Our Lady of the Rosary in Caloundra took the initiative to start a local Sunshine Coast Men's Rosary Crusade. In this year of "invitation," we extend this call to all who resonate with our purposes and intentions. Their inaugural rosary gathering will commence on May 1, the first Wednesday of the month. This Holy Rosary will be carried out each first Wednesday evening at 6.30pm at the OLR Church. However, we encourage everyone to join our WhatsApp group using the QR code, in case of any special events, news, or scheduled activities change. For further information please call Carlos on: 0402 220 029

Go to our parish facebook page for more information.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN OUR PARISH

Siena Catholic Primary School

58 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

psippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Glen Bucklar



The Resilience Project

This year Siena Primary is partnering with The Resilience Project to support student wellbeing and mental health.

The Resilience Project delivers emotionally engaging programs to schools, sports clubs and businesses, providing practical, evidence-based mental health strategies to build resilience and happiness. Through presentations, school curriculum and proven strategies the project will instil the qualities of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness, and easy ways to practise these in everyday life. also incorporate Emotional Literacy to support children to know and use language to support their wellbeing.

We call it our GEMs – and try to be Grateful, show Empathy and practice Mindfulness.

Some of the practices include the children sharing at the end of the day one thing they are grateful for. Practicing being grateful each day forms a habit to look for the positiveness in life and be thankful for those gifts.

Here is the year 3 P Gratitude tree. On the leaves are things, people, and experiences that they are grateful to have in their lives. The title for the tree is: Within the feeling of GRATITUDE is the seed of kindness!



Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



Stella Maris Update – T2 W1

Our school community finished Term 1 with a special liturgical service to reflect and pray on the events and lessons of Holy Week. Every year level took on a particular part of the story to lead and did so through drama, music and dance. Our Preps started us off, waving palm branches and singing 'Hosanna!' before we listened to the story of Palm Sunday. Year 3 helped us to reflect on the Last Supper before Year 2 modelled the 'Washing of the Feet' as we sang a song about Jesus calling us to service. Year 4 used liturgical dance to assist us to focus on how Jesus must have been feeling on Holy Thursday evening in the Garden of Gethsemane, while Year 5 took us through the sombre events of Good Friday with a dramatic procession of the cross. How lucky are we that we know the story doesn't end there. Year 1 and Year 6 helped us to focus on the gift of hope that comes from Jesus' Resurrection.

We continued the story this week, reflecting on the Emmaus story from the Gospel of Luke. As we journey together through this term, we pray that we may all see the risen Christ in the people and moments of each day.



Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Sharon Collins



This week we welcomed our community back from their Easter break. Many thanks to the staff and students who assisted with Easter liturgies throughout the Parish. Special thanks to those who assisted with the Good Friday Stations of the Cross at St Catherine's and to the students who attended the Alpha Spheres Retreat with our NET team.

Despite being just a four-day week, we have managed to fit in a wide variety of events. On Tuesday, our Year 11s completed a Worthy Siena Men and Women session, while our 1sts Netball team retained the J.U.S.T Cup, remaining undefeated this round-robin challenge against the other Sunshine Coast Catholic Schools. On Wednesday, the Year 10s listened to a valuable presentation from Real Talk, which explored topics of personal identity and relationships, while the evening saw the start of what we hope will be a very successful Rugby season. On Thursday, members of the College Leadership Team and our College Captains attended Fr Marty's funeral in Brisbane, while the afternoon was given to the annual Cross Country carnival. Finally, Friday, saw us participating in an early ANZAC day commemoration. Our Year 12s will be on their Retreat next week - please keep them in your prayers.

If this week is a guide, it looks like it's going to be a busy Term Two!



Your continued and generous financial support makes all our parish ministries possible – thank you.