

# PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 13/14 July 2024

First Reading: Amos 7:12-55 Second Reading: 2 Eph 1:3-14 Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

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.

This weekend, we hear the story of the "Great Commissioning", the sending out of the 12 apostles to proclaim the Good News. This story appears in Mark's gospel, which we hear today but also in Luke's and Matthew's gospel. In all 3 accounts, they are to take nothing with them except a staff or a sturdy walking stick, but interestingly only in Mark's version are they to wear sandals! In Matthew's account of the "Great Commissioning", such footwear is forbidden and Luke does not mention sandals at all!

What is so special about sandals? Why does Mark include sandals in his account of the "Great Commissioning"? Indeed, I wonder what sandals looked like in Jesus' time? When I think of sandals today, I immediately think of Franciscan monks and their sandals or people from the South, who always seem to wear socks with their sandals. Even though they have good ventilation, and are versatile the advent of good walking and running shoes means that sandals are not as popular as they once were. Certainly, there are some ridiculously expensive sandals out there!

When you hear today's gospel, the first thing that strikes you is the call to travel light – ***take no bread, no haversack, no coppers for your purse*** – you can't even take a spare tunic! So in travelling light, we are to focus on the task at hand, proclaiming the Good News, being heralds of the Kingdom of God, allowing God to work through our lives so that his mercy, compassion and forgiveness can be experienced and celebrated. The fear is that if we don't travel light we will be distracted by what we carry, what we accumulate, what we are afraid to lose.

Perhaps, the wearing of sandals highlights what it means to travel light because it allows the disciple to go further in the proclamation of the Gospel. Not to be afraid to step out off the beaten track and through our lives and faith, bear witness to the Good News. Sandals remind us that each step we take this week can be a moment of grace, an encounter with the holy, an opportunity of transformation and healing.

It is easier to take those steps in the service of the Gospel and the proclamation of the Good News if we are not weighed down by fear that somehow we will be missing out if we put our faith into action.

Another way of looking at travelling light is to imagine if an angel appeared to you and said take out a ticket in this Saturday's Gold Lotto. The angel then said that God has authorised the angel to grant you one of two prayers:

**You can either ask for a win on Gold lotto and this week the estimated winning is 5 million,**  
***but you can only spend it on yourself!***

**Or you can ask in this life you will always have enough to meet your needs**

– and ***true needs are those determined by God and not our own judgement.***

### **Which one would we be tempted to choose?**

I have this rather uneasy feeling that for most of us..... one of those prayers has already been granted! So this week, travel light, travel far, knowing that each step you take has the potential to be a moment of grace for you and those you encounter along your journey.

*Fr Peter Brannelly*

### **At Your Service**

Fr Peter Brannelly

Fr Isaac Falzon

Deacon Michael Khoury

Bishop Brian Heenan

*Bishop Emeritus*



### **Stella Maris Parish Office**

Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church  
Office Hours 9am—2pm Weekdays

Telephone: 5443 3488

Email: [suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)

Website: [maroochydoreparish.com.au](http://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, 15 July St Bonaventure

- ◆ Benediction (5.15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm, Stella Maris Church)

## Tuesday, 16 July

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris School Chapel)
- ◆ First Communion Parent Information Evening (5.00pm Stella Maris)

## Wednesday, 17 July

- ◆ **Mass** (7.00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, St Catherine of Siena)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Latin Prayer Group (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

## Thursday, 18 July

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

## Friday, 19 July

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

## Saturday, 20 July

- ◆ Reconciliation (**8.30am -9.30am** Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Julian Christians, Tilly Smith (10.00am Stella Maris)
- ◆ Baptism of Ellianna Hawthorne, Asher McBride (10.00am St Catherine Of Siena)
- ◆ El Shaddai group (11.00am, Sippy Downs)

- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

## Sunday, 21 July

### *16th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8.00am, St Catherine of Siena Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am, Stella Maris Church) Blessing & opening of Bliss & Duffy Rooms
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.00pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Young Adult Group (6.00pm Stella Maris)

*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.*

## First Communion – This Tuesday

This Tuesday, July 16, we begin our First Communion Sacramental Program with a short meeting with parents at 5pm at Stella Maris. All parents need to attend this meeting where we will go through the guidelines of the programme, confirm registration and answer any questions. Because of numbers and our obligation to provide adequate preparation, once the programme has started we will not be accepting any additional First Communion candidates.

Please note that First Communion candidates are not required to attend the parent session on Tuesday. Please see our Parish website for further information and all scheduled First Communion dates. For all enquiries, please contact Carolyn Watt, our Sacramental Coordinator at [cspsy.sacraments@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cspsy.sacraments@bne.catholic.net.au) or call the parish office.

## Grief Support Morning Tea

The Grief Support Morning tea will be held on Friday 19 July after the 9.00am Mass at Stella Maris Church. Please join us in the parish boardroom for a cuppa.



## Welcome Back

Our NET team returns this week after a couple of weeks away. During that time, they participated in some inservice, were on retreat and managed to get a

couple of days holiday, which allowed them to visit family and friends. They return to us eager to embrace the final 6 months of the year. That means you will be seeing their smiling faces around the Parish and the Young Adults gathering after the 5pm Sunday evening Mass recommences this weekend. Our NET team will be providing an update of their goals for the next 6 months and ministry initiatives in the next couple of weeks.

## New To The Neighbourhood?

We live in an extremely mobile society, and especially here on the Sunshine Coast there are always people coming and going. If you are new to our Parish, or if you are reconnecting with the Church, we would love to welcome you more formally to our Parish Family. You will find "welcome packs" at the entrance of our churches, and if you complete and return the forms we will be in contact with you.

## Faith in Action

Congratulations to Michael Dunne who takes over the presidency of the Coolum St Vincent de Paul conference from Marshall Morison. The president of the Maroochydhore conference is Carmel Barbagallo. We keep in our prayers our fellow parishioners who are members of the two parish St Vincent de Paul conferences at Coolum and Maroochydhore. For many in our community, they are the face of the church in action and the practical support they give does make a difference.

## 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. Why not 'share' it with a Facebook friend also?

## ON THE JOURNEY—WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,

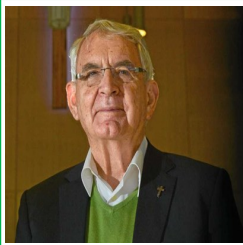
**Nathan McCallum, Bonnie Timms, Madeleine Timms, Willow Timms** and **Maya Correa-Jimenz** who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died, especially **Friedhelm "Fred" Laqua, Mario Bricalli, Kazimiera Rajwer**

Fred Laqua's Funeral Rites were celebrated on Thursday 11 July at Stella Maris Church, Mario Bricalli's on Friday 12 July at Caloundra and Kazimiera Rajwer on Friday 12 July at Stella Maris Church.

*May their souls, and the souls of all our faithfully departed priests, religious, family and parishioners, through the rich mercy of God.*

*Rest in Peace.*



## Next Sunday Morning

We will be welcoming back our former Parish Priest, **Fr Joe Duffy** who will celebrate the 9am Stella Maris Mass next Sunday, 21 July. After the 9.00am Stella Maris Mass, Fr Joe will bless and name the two meeting rooms - The Duffy Room and The Bliss

Room. It will be a great opportunity to catch up with Fr Joe and enjoy the hospitality of the Parish after the 9.00am Mass. Please let your friends know about our gathering with Fr Joe.

## Important Gathering

The **Dilemma of Dementia**, a presentation on **Dementia Awareness!** We have invited **Leah Keating** to visit the Parish to answer some questions surrounding dementia vs normal aging and modifiable risk factors for dementia. For many of us, dementia impacts our lives as we care for loved ones and friends—for the rest of us, we all have questions. **Have** you ever wondered what is dementia vs normal aging? **Do** you know about modifiable risk factors for dementia. **Are** you a carer for someone living with dementia? **Would** you like to learn more about communication strategies or how to best support your loved one as their brain is changing with the disease?

If you care for someone living with dementia, or would like to learn more about how to best support your loved ones with dementia, come along to this free presentation and morning tea on **Friday, 26 July after the 9.00am Stella Maris Mass. This event is sponsored by Holy Cross Funerals.**



The churches, schools, parish infrastructure of our Stella Maris Parish is a living legacy of the vision, sacrifice and determination of those who **handed on the faith** to us. They created the foundation for our Catholic Community through their generous sharing of their talent, time and treasure. Without their vision and determination, our parish would look completely different!

One of the challenges we face today is how we honour and build upon the sacrifices and vision of those who **handed on the faith** to us and gifted us the resources and ability to be who we are today as a Parish Family. If we are honest, most of us have a deep fear that if we make any substantial gift to the parish it will not be appreciated or valued and in the end be squandered! **It is a legitimate fear!**

In other parts of the world, especially in the United States, endowment funds have been established to precisely address this concern. An endowment fund accepts and invests any contribution and only uses the interest as income. In practical terms for a parish endowment fund, the parish uses the annual interest and income for the mission of the church, while the initial contribution remains in place. So, a person or family has the confidence that their financial contribution will still be working for the mission of the Church and Parish ten, fifty, a hundred years from now!

With the support of the Parish Finance Council, the Stella Maris Endowment Fund has been established. This fund, independently and professionally managed, will support the work and mission of the parish in perpetuity. It is a option for anyone, or any family wishing to make a contribution to the long term mission and maintenance of Stella Maris. **There are information envelopes at the entrance to the church.**

By inviting you to consider supporting the Stella Maris Endowment Fund by remembering the fund in your will or making a pledge today, our hope is that the fund will continue to grow. In this way, we all have the opportunity to **hand on the faith** and provide a lasting legacy.

Thank you to our Baptismal Support Group for coordinating last Sunday's special 9am mass for all who have been baptised over the past 12 months and their families – it was a



great occasion for all of us to renew our baptismal promises. Over the past year, we welcomed into the Church 246 infants and the challenge for us as a Parish is to support them and their families along the journey of faith. Special thanks to the members of our local Knights of the Southern Cross, who generously cooked and served the sausage sizzle and for all fellow parishioners who provided the additional food for our gathering after Mass. Our baptismal preparation takes place on the first Thursday of the month at Stella Maris at 6pm. Go to our Parish webpage to register, download paperwork and get further details.



See our parish website for the photo gallery.

## Sisterhood

### Our Parish Women's Ministry

Our July gathering of Sisterhood is on Tuesday week, **July 23**, at Stella Maris beginning at 6pm. We are continuing on with our theme from May and June, this month we will be digging deeper into the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. For our July gathering, there will be a focus on prayer and reflection, along with some worship. As always, there will be the joy of meeting new people and sharing our faith with others. Come join us, all women in the parish are very welcome – **why not invite a friend or neighbour?**

# 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



‘The 4 Cares’ at Siena

At Siena Primary we want every student: to ‘Be who God meant them to be and set the world afire’

To be the best they can be is to follow our ‘4 Cares’.

Care for Others, Care for Self, Care for Learning and Care for Siena.

Over the next few weeks, our school focus will be, ‘Care for Learning’. We also ensure the other cares are promoted but as a school we go in-depth as to what ‘Care for Learning’ looks like, feels like, and sounds like in every context of the school life and learning.

Some of the ideas are lifelong attributes that are good for both adults and children alike as we are all learners.

Focusing on the task at hand

- Listening to and responding to feed back to improve their work.
- Persisting when the task is difficult
- Taking risks when learning
- Completing work in a timely manner

Each day the teachers will incorporate some of these ideas.

## Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,  
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



It’s Athletics Carnival time at Stella Maris.

We finished Term 2 with two days of athletics for students in Years 4-6. They ran, jumped and threw their way to glory as they very ably participated in their athletics events. The atmosphere was electric and the sportsmanship showed by all was highly commendable! We were so grateful for the assistance of the St John's College students who helped with measuring, changing bar heights, dancing with the Preps, organising dodgeball and soccer games and generally keeping everyone active!

We’re beginning our new term with athletics as well. This week, it’s time for our Prep to Year 3 students to join in. Their carnival is due to happen on Friday. We are hoping that the sun will be shining enough to dry our fields so that the event can go ahead because there are lots of very eager athletes ready to shine.

We also want to give a big shout out to our principal, Mark Ballam, who participated in the Vinnies Sunshine Coast CEO Sleepout on the last school night before we headed off on school holidays. Joining with Fr Josh from Caloundra Parish and 3 other Sunny Coast BCE Principals, Mr Ballam braved the very cold temperatures to experience a night in the life of a homeless person and to raise funds for Vinnies.

## Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Sharon Collins



With half of the school year now completed, we have all returned to the College for Term Three, which is always one of our busiest.

Despite being on holidays in the last two weeks, our students continued to represent the College with distinction. Ten students participated the Sunshine Coast Youth Orchestra’s tour to Sydney and performed at the 32nd Australian International Music Festival. Special congratulations to Year 12 student, Indigo C, whose composition entitled “Bloom” was performed by the orchestra.

Our QISSN Netball team competed in Townsville in the first week of the holidays. As competitors in Division 1, they met the toughest teams in the draw, and we are so proud of their achievements. They made it through to the semi-finals and in a nail-biting match against Flinders, they finished the carnival in third position.

On Wednesday, our Junior and Senior Boys competed in the next round of the AFL competition. The Senior Boys reached the Grand Final but were narrowly defeated by Nudgee College. The Junior Boys also had an amazing day, winning their GF and now moving through to the next phase of this competition.

## Keeping in Touch

Communication in our modern world is vital for any organisation including churches! At the entrance to our churches, you will discover new information envelopes – for new parishioners, planned giving programme and our Endowment Fund. Over the next couple of weeks, you will also notice work on our social media presence and a deliberate attempt to connect us with the wider community. Also, in the second half of this year, we will be conducting a census to help re-establish a reliable Parish data base— more information to follow. Keeping our Parish Family up to date with technology and connected is our biggest contemporary challenge.

## ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE SYNOD24

“I am making all things new” Rev 21:5.

This year, the Archdiocese will celebrate SYNOD24 to mark the Implementation Phase of the Plenary Council. Together, we’ll discern the practical and Spirit-led actions that we, as the Archdiocese of Brisbane, need to undertake to be a more co-responsible church on mission. These actions will take into consideration what is already happening across the Archdiocese that should be affirmed, what learnings can be harnessed and shared, and where the gaps and needs are. SYNOD24 will take place over two sessions, 6 and 7 September as well as 11 and 12 October, with the Opening and Closing Masses open to the public. More information on the SYNOD24 journey will be released regularly, so head to [www.aobsynod2024.com](http://www.aobsynod2024.com) to refresh yourself on the Plenary Journey so far and to learn more about SYNOD24.