

# PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 9/10 November 2024

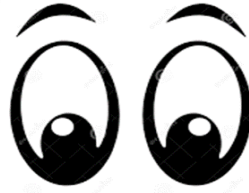
First Reading: Kings 17:10-16 Second Reading: Heb 9: 24-28 Gospel: Mk 12:38-44

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.

WHAT WE SEE



WHAT GOD SEES

Widows feature prominently in the Bible. Today's readings showcase two widows as examples of extraordinary generosity. However, we must remember that, in biblical times, widows were not only poor, but also without any security. Indeed, very few were below them on the social and economic pecking order! They were the most marginal of the marginalised and extremely vulnerable. On losing their husbands, they had lost their only means of livelihood and had to depend totally on charity to survive. When you hear the word widow in this weekend's first reading and gospel, think of poverty, destitution, rags and desperation.

On the surface, both of these two widows appear reckless and foolish, for they give, not from their abundance, but all the meagre means they have for survival. Certainly in the first reading when the great prophet Elijah asks the widow for food and even in her desperation, she trusts ultimately in God's goodness.

***But it is the gospel account of the widow in the temple that captures my imagination.***

The temple in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus was a busy place. Thousands of pilgrims were arriving each day. There were people praying, rabbis teaching their students, merchants selling animals for sacrifice and, of course, vendors selling whatever was the first century equivalent of the modern t-shirt and holy hardware. In the midst of the chaos and crowded activity what Jesus notices is a poor widow. A widow who is probably the most insignificant person in the whole temple area.

Jesus not only notices her, but he knows her story. He knows that she is desperate. He knows that the few coins she puts into the temple treasury are all that she has. As a widow without family or friends, she was a largely invisible person to the powerful and rich people in the temple area. Yet she pushes her way through the crowd to reach the treasury and offer her two small coins. She believes that God will see her small act of faith. God does. Jesus sees her and loves her.

I think it is a simple and yet subtle reminder that we are never invisible to God! When we find ourselves in desperate situations like the widow, we are tempted to say, ***"No one knows my pain. No one understands my struggle. No one sees the burden that I carry."*** ***This weekend's gospel begs to differ!***

We all carry quiet, personal burdens along our journey. The relationship that hasn't flourished, the emptiness caused by past, foolish choices, the bullying at school or work, the derogatory remarks that leave us isolated and completely alone. We put on a strong face. We try to laugh along with the hurtful remarks, but inside we are afraid. Afraid of who might turn up and what they might say. We say, ***"No one knows the fear that I carry"***. ***Well, perhaps this weekend's Gospel begs to differ!***

The truth is that we are never invisible to God. God sees the burdens that we carry and loves us. Therefore, when we find ourselves in desperate situations like the widow, whatever small steps we can take towards life, whatever weak faith we can offer, whatever small coins we can give, all of these things are of great value. ***Because, if God sees us and loves us, there is hope!***

### New to the Neighbourhood?

We live in such a mobile society. Apparently, data from the census revealed that Queenslanders had one of the highest rates of residents who have changed addresses in the previous 5 years. Also, the Australian Bureau of Statistics mentioned that Queensland was the most popular destination for Australians to move to from other states. ***So, sitting beside or in front of you might be someone new to our Parish Family – make sure that you make them feel welcome!*** If you are new to the Parish could you pick up a welcome pack at the entrance of the church so that we can formally welcome you to your new Parish family. ***On Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> we are hosting a "New Parishioners Cocktail Party"*** which is really just a fancy name for a gathering at the presbytery to welcome you! So please, if you are new to our Parish Family or if you have been here a while but have never been formally welcomed, take home a welcome pack, complete and return the details and we will be in contact with you.

# 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, 11 November

- ◆ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 4:30pm
- ◆ Benediction (5.15pm, Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.30pm)

## Tuesday, 12 November

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Primary School Chapel)
- ◆ Craft Group (1pm St Peters Church)

## Wednesday, 13 November

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

## Thursday, 14 November

- ◆ Rosary (8.00am St Peters Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am St Peter's Church)
- ◆ Rosary (2.00pm Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Maroochydore 10:10** (5.30pm at St Catherine of Siena-Parish Youth Group)

## Friday, 15 November

- ◆ Rosary (8.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion** (9.00am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Stations of the Cross after Liturgy
- ◆ Grief Support Team Meeting (9.30am Stella Boardroom)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

## Saturday, 16 November

- ◆ Reconciliation 8:30—9:30am (Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Baptisms (10am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ El Shaddai group (11.00am Sippy Downs)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (4.30pm, St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Vigil Mass** (6.00pm, Stella Maris Church)

## Sunday, 17 November

### *33rd 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)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.30am St Mary's Church)
- ◆ Junior Ministers (3.00pm Stella Maris Bliss Room)
- ◆ **Mass** (5.00pm 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.*

## Stella Maris Parish Office

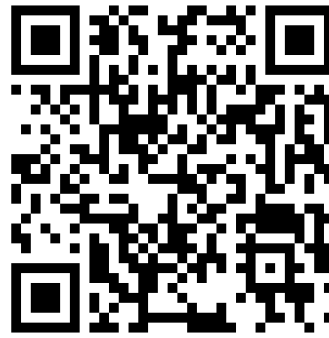
Adjacent to the Stella Maris Church  
Office Hours 9am—2pm Weekdays  
Telephone: 5443 3488  
Email: [suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Website: [maroochydoorparish.com.au](http://maroochydoorparish.com.au)



## At Your Service

Fr Peter Brannelly  
Fr Isaac Falzon  
Deacon Michael Khoury  
Bishop Brian Heenan  
Bishop Emeritus

**Have you gone online to become a registered member of your Parish?** Two weeks ago, we launched across our community the invitation to register using **Flocknote**, our new, church designed, Australia wide data programme. **There are three ways for you to register.**



By simply using your phone and this QR code, it will take you directly to the parish sign-up page. You will receive a confirmation code which will allow you to securely enter your family details.

When you are sitting in front of your computer, follow this



link [maroochydoor.flocknote.com/register](http://maroochydoor.flocknote.com/register) it will also take you to our Parish Flocknote data page. Feedback

tells us that it is an easy process when you are sitting in front of your computer!

If you haven't got a computer or if you have tried and technology has beaten you then at the entrance to the church you will discover a hard copy of the registration form – please complete it and return it to the parish so that we can register you.



**Finally**, if you are having trouble or if you have any suggestions please send us an email [stellam.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stellam.suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)

Flocknote is a work in progress and every parish is different with unique ministries and needs – only with your feedback and involvement can we continue to refine Flocknote so that it lives up to its full potential as an instrument of the Good News! **Thanks for registering!**

Waves of Harmony and St Vincent de Paul Society Coolumb good works Present

# Sounds of Celebration

With performances by Waves of Harmony and Sunshine Blues Band and other Special Guests

All proceeds go to the St Vincent de Paul Society for Homelessness Programs

\$15 (includes afternoon tea)  
Sunday, 10 November @ 2pm  
St Peter's Church  
Elizabeth St  
Coolumb Beach

Raffle & Door Prizes

Save the Date

Our annual **Christmas Thank You** party for all the generous volunteers of our Sunshine Coast Parish Family will be on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 6pm to 7:30pm. Everyone is invited! **Thank you from a grateful Parish!**

## Sisterhood Retreat Day

You are warmly invited to join us for the 2024 Stella Maris Sisterhood Retreat Day! This is a day to come and receive, be formed and connect with other women. We are so excited about what is in store for us this year and the way God is unfolding His grace filled plans for us already. You don't want to miss what is going to be a truly anointed day. We are thrilled to announce our guest speakers for 2024 are Renee Doyle and returning from last year Karen Doyle. These are two inspiring Catholic women who have a gift for teaching and preaching with passion and grace. Karen Doyle is the host of Genius Podcast, the author of the Catholic Women's Masterclass and is founder of the Sisterhood Australia's National Catholic Women's Movement. She is also co-founder with her husband of Choicez Media which provides faith based puberty, sex, and relationship education for adolescents. Renee Doyle is the director of leadership and development at NET Ministries, she has over 15 years experience helping individuals and teams grow in faith.

Come along and be blessed, meet other women and be nourished and fulfilled. Please register by the 15 Nov via our website [maroochydoreparish.com.au](http://maroochydoreparish.com.au) (news&events>sisterhood) or the parish office 5443 3488.

\*SATURDAY  
\*23 NOVEMBER  
\*8.30AM -4.30PM  
\*STELLA MARIS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
5 STELLA WAY  
MAROOCHYDORE

**All Junior Ministers** – children between grade 3 and grade 6 – are invited to our weekly gathering on Sunday afternoon from 3pm to 5pm. This term, in addition to altar serving, we're excited to offer training in a variety of ministries including **readers, computer operators, welcomers, and money collectors**. After each training session, we'll relax with pizza, drinks, and a mix of fun games, wrapping up just in time to join the **5:00pm Mass**—where we'd love to see our young members serve when they're ready!



If this sounds like something you'd love to be a part of, don't wait! email **Bernie Baillie** at [bbaillie811@gmail.com](mailto:bbaillie811@gmail.com) to learn more and register.

## Misa en Español

On the second Saturday of every month, our Spanish chaplain, Fr Luis, celebrates Mass in Spanish at St Mary's, Buderim. It is a great celebration with hospitality and a warm welcome to new faces. The next Mass in Spanish will be on Saturday, 9 November at 6.00pm at St Mary's. Their Facebook page is Comunidad Catolica Latina de Sunshine Coast (CCLSC).

## Następna polska Msza św

Every fourth Sunday of the month the Polish chaplain joins us at St Mary's Buderim to celebrate the Eucharist. The next Mass in Polish will be celebrated at St Mary's on Sunday 23 November at 4.00pm - tell your Polish friends—all welcome.

Our parish is built on solid foundations and that is obvious by the witness and ministry of the Knights. Although the **Knights of the Southern Cross** Queensland celebrated 100 years of Fraternal service in 2021, our Maroochydore branch wasn't established until April 1979. We currently have 19 members and meet once a month to review and discuss what's happening in our Parish and the Worldwide Church, as well as learn more about our Catholic faith through our Formation Program.

As a group, we are always on the lookout for ways to assist our Priests and the Parish. In recent times we have donated the food, drinks and manpower for the parish volunteers BBQ, the "Men Alive" dinner, the Women's retreat lunch and Fr William's farewell sausage sizzle. Our income comes from our Bunnings BBQ's, which enables us to donate financially to Vinnies, Veterans Care, Rosies, our Parish Youth, and our newly ordained priests.

Socially, we like to share a beer and fellowship after our meetings and we have a couple of lunches during the year, so that we can thank our wives and partners for their support. Apart from enjoying the friendship and support of your fellow members, **"being a Knight gives you an opportunity to contribute to rebuilding the Church"** (Pope Francis). A warm invitation to any men who would like to discover more of our mission and ministry or to join us – simply call Kerry on 0403 461 650 for more information.



## ON THE JOURNEY—WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,  
**Maddison & Byron Blacka, Aria & Jay Kim, Nicolas Berg & Ayley Negara**  
who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We wish our former Parish Priest, **Fr Joe Duffy**, every blessing on his birthday this Saturday, November 16. We pray for all those who have died, especially **Michael Nicholson**. Also **Maureen Jones** and **Beverley Farmer** whose funerals we celebrated this week .

May all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, through the rich mercy of God, **Rest in Peace.**



# 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



Siena Primary is buzzing with exciting lunchtime activities that go beyond the usual play on the oval. We are proud to offer a variety of



clubs that cater to different interests and help our students develop new skills and friendships. One of our popular clubs is the Mindfulness Club, where students learn techniques to relax and focus, promoting mental well-being. They can also draw, read or play quietly. The Gardening Club is another favourite, allowing children to get their hands dirty while learning about plants and sustainability. These clubs provide a wonderful opportunity for students to explore their passions and unwind in a supportive environment.

In addition to these, our Adventure Playgrounds offer a thrilling alternative for those who love a bit of excitement. These playgrounds are designed to challenge and engage students, encouraging physical activity and teamwork. Other lunchtime activities include dance club, library, Daintree games and of course oval play. Our lunchtime activities are designed to enrich our students' school experience and foster a sense of community.



We are thrilled to see our students thrive and enjoy their time at school through these diverse and engaging activities.

## Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,  
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



It's Vinnies Christmas Appeal time! This year, our Year 2 cohort have taken on the role of promoting the appeal at school as it links so well to their learning in Religious Education lessons, where they are investigating how the mission of Jesus is continued today.

Last week, Kate Evelyn (our Schools Engagement Officer for Vinnies) came to speak to the Year 2 students about the work of Vinnies and how we are all called to do good for others in our community. When reflecting specifically on the needs of families during the Christmas season, the students were able to identify ways to support local families in need, especially in helping them to celebrate over a special meal. Kate then worked with three students to plan how Year 2 could share their learning with the rest of the school community.

This week, our Year 2 representatives launched the appeal at our whole school assembly, calling everyone in our school community to bring along donations of non-perishable food items so that our local Maroochydore chapter of Vinnies can make hampers to deliver to families this Christmas. That's one way we carry on the mission of Jesus!



## Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Sharon Collins



On Wednesday, we farewelled our NET Team, acknowledging all of the wonderful work that they have done within our community for the past nine months. They have engaged in all aspects of school life, including events such as retreats and camps, youth group and encounter sessions, lunch-time activities and the Ignite Conference. They have also been regular participants in RE classes and at year level and whole school assemblies. We have certainly been blessed with this wonderful group of young men and women whose faith, witness and role modelling, as well as their energy, enthusiasm and commitment, have been inspirational. We wish them well as they move into the next stage of their life journey!

It's hard to believe that this time next week our Year 12s will have finished school. They have just a couple of days remaining before exams and they then move into the different ceremonies of Graduation. Please keep them in your prayers for the week ahead.

The Parish Office will be placing an order for annual liturgical books on Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. If you would like a **Daily Mass Book** (\$20), **Break Open the Word** (\$20), or an **Ordo** (\$15), simply place your request and contact details in an envelope and include the required amount and we will include your order with the Parish order. Alternatively, you can go directly to the website of Liturgy Brisbane and place your own order.

The protocol for all our Eucharistic Ministers who take Communion to our sisters and brothers who are sick, housebound or in hospital or nursing homes is before you place your pyx on the offertory table, please record your name and the names of those whom you are going to see (the folder is at the entrance of each church). This important ministry always takes place on the day, ideally following when commissioned at the end of Mass. Only commissioned Eucharistic Ministers are allowed to take the Blessed Sacrament from the church.

Planning Ahead: As a community that also has to welcome many holiday makers and visitors, we have to plan ahead. For your information, our **Christmas schedule** is as follows:

**Communal Rite of Reconciliation**, Caloundra Saturday morning December 21, 9am

**Communal Rite of Reconciliation**, Maroochydore Monday evening December 23, 5pm

**Christmas Eve**: Maroochydore 4pm, Coolum 5pm, Sippy Downs 5pm, Maroochydore 6pm, Maroochydore, Midnight

**Christmas Day**: Maroochydore 6:30am, Coolum 7:30am, Maroochydore 9am, Buderim 9:30am