

# PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend of the 16/17 November 2024

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3 Second Reading: Heb 10:11-14,18 Gospel: Mk 13:24-32

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.

### Understanding Advent: A Season of Hope and Preparation

As we approach the celebration of Christmas, the Church enters the liturgical season of Advent—a time of spiritual preparation, anticipation, and reflection. Advent, which begins four Sundays before Christmas, marks the start of the Church year and invites us to prepare for the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and His coming again in Glory.

#### What is Advent?

The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming." It is a season of hope, joy, peace, and love. Advent has a dual focus: we reflect on Christ's first coming as a child in Bethlehem, and we prepare for His second coming at the end of time. This season calls us to open our hearts, to live with expectant faith, and to wait with patience and watchfulness.

#### The Four Themes of Advent

Each week of Advent centres on a particular theme:

1. **Hope (First Week)** Advent begins with a focus on hope—the anticipation of Christ's arrival and the fulfillment of God's promises. Hope is not just wishful thinking but a firm trust in God's faithfulness.
1. **Peace (Second Week)** The second week invites us to reflect on Christ, the Prince of Peace. We are called to be peacemakers in our relationships and in our communities, working toward reconciliation and harmony.
1. **Joy (Third Week)** On *Gaudete* Sunday, the third week of Advent, we celebrate joy. This is the joy of knowing that Christ is near, and it invites us to rejoice in His presence and in the promises He brings.
1. **Love (Fourth Week)** The final week focuses on God's love, manifested in the gift of His Son. Advent calls us to respond to this love by loving others and living with compassion and kindness.

#### Advent Traditions and Practices

Advent offers many ways to deepen our faith, such as lighting the candles of the Advent wreath or using a daily devotional. These practices help us focus on the true meaning of the season and prepare our hearts to welcome Christ.

Advent is also a time to be spiritually alert. We are reminded to stay awake and watch for Christ's presence in our lives, both now and in the future.

#### Conclusion

Advent is a season of preparation, renewal, and transformation. Let us use this time to draw closer to Christ and prepare our hearts for His coming. May this Advent be a time of hope, peace, joy, and love for all.

#### 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, 18 November

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

## Tuesday, 19 November

- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Primary School Chapel)

## Wednesday, 20 November

- ◆ **Mass** (7.00am, St Mary's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am St Catherine of Siena)
- ◆ Scripture Study Group (9.30am, Zoom)
- ◆ Rosary (5.15pm St Catherine of Siena)
- ◆ Latino Prayer Group (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

## Thursday, 21 November

- ◆ Rosary (8.00am St Peters Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8.30am St Peter's Church)
- ◆ Rosary (2.00pm Stella Maris Church)

## Friday, 22 November

- ◆ Rosary (8.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ Stations of the Cross after Mass
- ◆ Craft Group (9.30am Stella Maris Function Room)
- ◆ Community Meal for the Homeless, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged (6.00pm, Stella Maris)

## Saturday, 23 November

- ◆ Sisterhood Retreat (8.30am Stella Maris Primary School)
- ◆ **Mass** (9.00am 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, 24 November

***Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe***

- ◆ **Mass** (6.30am Stella Maris Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (7.30am St Peter's Church)
- ◆ **Mass** (8am 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)
- ◆ Young Adults 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.*

## 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)

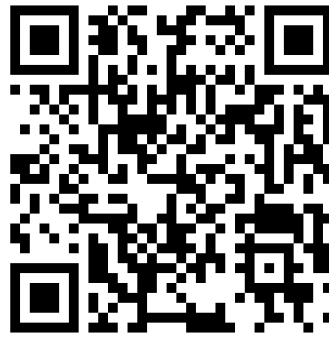


## At Your Service

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?**

Last month 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.**



Simply using your phone and this QR

code 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 [maroochydore.flocknote.com/register](http://maroochydore.flocknote.com/register) as 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!**



Join us at Stella Maris on December 1st for a special Craft Sale featuring the Sisters of Mary Morning Star!

The Sisters will be present at the 6:30pm, 9:00am, and 5:00pm Masses, offering a variety of handmade crafts and goods. This is a wonderful opportunity to support their mission while finding unique gifts for the holiday season. Be sure to stop by and see the beautiful items they have to offer!



What's on at  
Stella Maris  
Parish?

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS**  
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 [maroochydoireparish.com.au](http://maroochydoireparish.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

## ADVENT

Advent begins in 2 weeks time and it is a short, focused season of expectation – waiting for Emmanuel – God is with us! A great way to help prepare is by spending a little time reflecting on the approaching birth of the Christ Child as part of an Advent programme. Each Wednesday during the 4 weeks of Advent, commencing November 27<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to join our Advent programme at St Catherine's. Please call Helen Matchett on 0403 617 512 for more details.



We have a possible 50 children interested in attending **Fun Days with God - Advent Adventures**, on Monday the 16 of December. However, at the moment, I can only accept 30 children with the current number of adult volunteers. We are certainly missing our NET Team. You don't have to be young, just young at heart, enthusiastic, and eager to make a difference. We'd love for you to join us in this inspiring ministry! Your involvement can help bring more joy and connection to our parish family. If you are interested in giving your time from 8:45-3:00pm on that day, it would be greatly appreciated. To be a part of this wonderful opportunity, reach out to **Bernie Baillie** at [bbaillie811@gmail.com](mailto:bbaillie811@gmail.com)

With the silly season not far away, please think of our Youth Group 10:10, Junior Ministers and our Fun Days with God Ministries. Did you know our parish has a "Container for Change" account? When you drop off your recyclable cans, beer, wine, and spirit bottles, as well as poppers and small flavoured milk containers, please quote our parish **Scheme ID number C10193859**. Put in your mobile under Containers for Change so you'll always have it. All the money goes to our Parish Youth. Alternatively if you attend the 5:00pm Sunday Mass at Stella Maris you can give the cans directly to Bernie Baillie ([bbaillie811@gmail.com](mailto:bbaillie811@gmail.com)). Thanks so much for your support.



## ON THE JOURNEY—WHERE LIFE MEETS FAITH

We welcome into God's Family, the Church,  
**Devyn Medina, Jack Bebbington & Henrix Louis** who will be baptised this weekend in our parish.

We pray for all those who have died.

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



On Monday, our school gathered at the Heart of Hope to commemorate Remembrance Day.

The ceremony included the presentation of symbols such as the cross, flags, a candle, and poppies, each representing the sacrifices made by soldiers and civilians. A reading from the Gospel of John and prayers for peace and freedom were shared, followed by a minute's silence with Mr Wynyard playing the Last Post.

This liturgy was a moving tribute to the courage and selflessness of our armed forces. The prayers, led by our students, called for peace in our world and hearts. Each class bought forward a wreath they made and laid them at the Heart of Hope.



The service concluded with a prayer for God's guidance in living lives of love and compassion, reminding us of the importance of honouring those who have given so much for our freedom. Lest we Forget.

## Stella Maris Primary School

Stella Maris Way,  
Maroochydore

pmaroochydore@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mark Ballam



As part of Humanities and Design Technology learning, Year One students have been exploring ways that people look after places; how plants and animals are grown for food and clothing; and how food is selected and prepared for healthy eating.



To enhance this learning, they invited the team from TribalLink to bring their Mobile Cultural Learning Centre to school and speak to them about caring for Country and bush tucker foods. Each class participated in a range of activities to deepen student understandings.

The TribalLink instructors shared First Nations wisdom and culture through storytelling, art and singing. There is so much that we can all learn from First Nations peoples. The next step for the students is to apply their learning by developing some garden spaces that they can care for themselves.



## Siena Catholic College

60 Sippy Downs Drive,  
Sippy Downs

ssippydowns@bne.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Sharon Collins



It has been an incredibly busy week at the College as we celebrated the Cultural life of the College, but also participated in the farewell events for our Year 12s.

Monday night saw us gather for the annual Arts Fest and the wonderful celebration that it is of Art, Music and Digital & Performing Arts. All present were treated to an amazing gallery of student art works and entertained by our very talented music students. The other highlight of the evening was the official opening of our new College mural. I'm sure



that you will agree it is a stunning representation of both our Dominican Pillars and our First Nations heritage.

The ceremonies of graduation for our Year 12s are now complete. On Wednesday night, we gathered at St Catherine's for our final Mass - thanks to Fr Isaac and our NET team for making this such a memorable event. We then moved down to our multi-purpose centre, which had been transformed into a beautiful space in which to celebrate our 2024 Year 12 cohort. Friday morning was our final event and was an opportunity for a whole community celebration that culminated in a very emotional guard of honour.



It has never been so easy to get in touch and keep up to date with the many ministries and activities of our Sunshine Coast Parish. Why not start by visiting our Parish 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 and Instagram page.



The protocol for all our Eucharistic Ministers who take Communion to our sisters and brothers who are sick, housebound or in hospital and 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, and 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