

Star of the Sea

A celebration of history, faith and music

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"Commissioned by Stella Maris Catholic Primary School, Maroochydore, in celebration of Queensland's Sesquicentenary, 2009"

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Program Note:

Celebration is a wonderful thing. When we ask ourselves what we have to be thankful for or what reasons there are for us to be joyful we surely come up with a list that borders on boundless!

“Star of the Sea” is about celebration. It is about being in Queensland which celebrates being 150 years old in 2009. It tells of our history and the wonder of a bountiful land with stories that go back beyond everything but memory. It celebrates a faith which binds us and gives us hope.

“Star of the Sea” remind us that the energy and enthusiasm of young musicians can and should be a mirror of our joy and celebration at this time too.

Rehearsal Note:

The primary consideration in preparing this work is a consistency in pulse and tone quality. Work toward having the band play a steady march tempo that moves smoothly from 4 to 3 and back again.

The character changes must come with control of tone. Never allow the ensemble to play sounds beyond their capacity to control. Teach them to support all extremes of range and dynamic with the breath and teach them how to realise accents correctly also. Be sure to play them examples of fine tone in march and overture settings.