

**The Presentation
Of The Lord
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A**

SUNDAY February 2 2014

The Presentation of the Lord

Christmas holidays are over, schools have started, and Hot Cross buns have appeared in many shops! The hectic activity usually associated with Christmas and “back-to-school” preparations often prevents us from reflecting on the wonderful feasts we celebrate each year.

Today we celebrate one of those wonder-filled feasts, the Presentation of the Lord. The Gospel for today’s feast summarizes some of the finest of the Jewish faith tradition from which Jesus emerged. To fulfil the Law it was really only Mary who had to go to the Temple after the birth of her first-born son. But Joseph and Mary both went to the Temple and presented the offering of the poor—two small birds, instead of a lamb. Luke’s Gospel describes how the parents of Jesus made the offering of the poor rather than any ostentatious gift.

This gesture gives us an indication of the type of teachings Jesus would develop and the focus of His future ministry. Our present Pope is certainly encouraging all of us to follow in the footsteps of this kind of Jesus. Even the latest edition of the *Rolling Stone* magazine has a photo of Pope Francis on the cover! The magazine contains a feature article about the Pope’s emphasis on a life of simplicity and changes he is making in the Vatican. One of the most telling aspects of the feature article is the cover line for the Pope’s photo: “The times they are a-changing”.

Yes “The times they are a-changing” as the song said long ago but Pope Francis is challenging and encouraging each of us to ponder the life of Jesus and to reflect our belief in Him and His teachings for today. How could we strengthen our belief in Jesus and reflect His teachings in these changing times? This is the challenge! Challenges will come whenever we really try to live as followers of Jesus in our modern multi-faith Australian society.

As we begin a New Year and prioritize our commitments how could each of us make time and find an appropriate space for silence? Then like Anna and Simeon in today’s Gospel story we too will become more conscious of our God.

Sister Helen

Fr. Jan Bialasiewicz
Parish Priest

Fr Teri Nueva
(Associate Pastor)

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Maryanne Finder
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**St Joseph the Worker
Church**

44 Imperial Parade,
Labrador

Sunday Mass

7.00 am
8:30 am

Weekday Mass

Monday -7.00am
Wednesday-7.00am

**Guardian Angels’
Church**

99 Scarborough St
Southport

Saturday

6.00pm

Sunday Mass

7.00 am
10.00 am

Weekday Mass

Friday - 12.30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday - 4.30pm

**Mary Immaculate
Church**

31 Edmund Rice Drive
Ashmore

Sunday Mass

8:30 am & 6.00pm

Korean Mass

Sunday 3.00pm

Every last Saturday of the
Month 6.00pm

Weekday Mass

Tuesday - 9.00am
Thursday - 5.30pm

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION—2014



Parents are invited to an information gathering on **Tuesday, February 11**, in the meeting room at Mary Immaculate church.

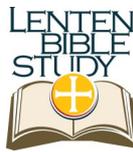
During the gathering our parish-family based preparation will be explained. This information session will be at 4.00pm and repeated at 7.00pm. Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish on

Thursday, June 12. Children will receive their

First Communion on **Sunday, June 15.**

Please contact Sister Helen helenw@scp.org.au to register for this gathering and the time you wish to attend.

LENTEN STUDIES



Many of us are still recovering from Christmas and the start of the new School Year, but we also have to turn our minds to Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5.

During Lent in our Parish we have Lenten Studies groups. If you would like to join a group, or

be part of a group, please contact Sister Elisabeth (55 102 222 at the Parish Office or lis@scp.org.au) as soon as possible so she can order the necessary books. It is essential you have a book, it is a very helpful reflection for the Sundays of Lent. Cost \$8.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at Marian Valley Canungra on Tuesday February 11, with Eucharistic procession to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. Benediction and Blessing of each person present with the Blessed Sacrament Holy Hour from 10.00am—Mass of Healing 11.00am Also Fatima Day Thursday, February 13. Bus will leave Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters, on both days at 8.15am. For bookings call Viviane on 55 359 623.

AUSTRALIA DAY AT LABRADOR

The Mass at St Joseph the Worker on Australia Day was a very moving experience. Concelebrated by Father Jan and Father Dom who were celebrating their first Australia Day in our Parish. Father Jan's life and faith experience provided a rich resource for his homily.

Following Mass all met in the "Annex" for a great Aussie morning tea. A great BIG THANK YOU to all who helped make the day such a wonderful success. Sister Elisabeth mustered several ladies to make traditional damper which was enjoyed with lashings of Golden Syrup by all over a cuppa and chat.

SIGN-ON SUNDAY

FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 2nd February, 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' will resume during the 8.30am Mass at Mary Immaculate church during school terms.

What 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' means

'Children's Liturgy of the Word' refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during the Liturgy of the Word and gathering elsewhere to celebrate a separate Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding. Children are usually of primary school age. Some Sundays each term, all children will have the experience of celebrating all of Mass with the entire community.

Gathering together with the whole assembly.

Before children participate in the Liturgy of the Word in a separate space, they *gather with the whole assembly to celebrate the introductory rites.*

Processing to the place set aside for the celebration of the word.

After the opening prayer, the priest invites the children to come to the front of the church. The *Lectionary for Masses with Children* and a candle are given to two children before all the children and their helpers are formally sent to the place where they will celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word.

Parents are invited to bring their children to 'Sign-On' Sunday to enrol their children in Children's Liturgy for 2014. For more contact Sister Helen helew@scp.org.au

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

We recognise that the weekly newsletter is one of the most widely read documents in our parish. As such, we acknowledge that a parish newsletter has a vital role to play in the area of educating parish members about the teachings of the Church and about what Catholicism actually espouses, together with news of what has happened and what events are to take place in our parish. We try to capture some of this dogma in bite-size pieces, so it can be digested easily by those attending Mass each weekend. As I commence my sixth year as your editor I pray that God will give me the grace and help that I need to be able to fulfil these requirements and that I am able to continue to do so into the future. **ED**

THE FRANCIS EFFECT

The Gospel offers us the chance to live on a higher plane, but with no less intensity: Life grows by being given away, and it weakens in isolation and comfort. Indeed, those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others.

Pope Francis, November 2103

EUCHARIST—A PLEDGE OF FUTURE GLORY

The Eucharist is a pledge of future glory because it fills us with every grace and heavenly blessing. It fortifies us for our pilgrimage in this life and makes us long for eternal life. It unites us already to Christ seated at the right hand of the Father, to the Church in heaven and to the Blessed Virgin and all the saints.

WORDS OF WISDOM

This week marks the anniversary of the ordination of Bishop Christopher Saunders back in 1996, as the Church head in the Western Australian diocese of Broome. We congratulate him on this important milestone and wish him every blessing. In a pastoral letter to his fellow Catholics, to mark Pentecost last year, Bishop Saunders wrote: "saint Seraphim of Sarov once said: "The true aim of our Christian life is to acquire the Holy Spirit of God." This holy Spirit communicates Grace to us, just as at the First Pentecost Grace was bestowed on the Apostles, to live as God has invited us to live in wholeness and in fulfilment, fully human, in the image of God.

MASS ON DEMAND

Modern technology is now bringing Mass to more Australians through Mass on Demand. The daily service will come from the Jesuit parish of St Mary's, North Sydney where the first Mass of the day will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube. It will then be available for 24 hours until the next service is recorded, allowing people to access Mass anytime of day or night. The move will bring Mass to the broader community especially those people who are isolated by distance, age, illness or simply by busy schedules. The link to Mass on Demand is available at www.cathnews.com or by searching for Mass on Demand on YouTube.

DO YOU KNOW

Australia's southern Indian faithful are celebrating the landmark appointment of their own bishop after Pope Francis announced he would establish a new Syno-Malabar Eparchy in Melbourne. More than 35,000 Syno-Malabar Catholics who reside in Australia will fall under the new ecclesial.

Pope wants bigger role for women. Women's distinctive skill sets and sensibilities make them invaluable not only for building 'peace and harmony' in families, but for all of humanity, too. Pope Francis said. In his speech to a women's conference 'I strongly wish that opportunities and responsibilities may open themselves up further to the presence and participation of women'. he said.



Today we welcome into God's Family

Ayla Rose Ryan, daughter of Jake and Rebecca Ryan

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE FATHER.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Florecita Hoersch, Marian Harriss.

ANNIVERSARY: Joan Hammond, Lucy Fernandes, John Raleigh, Docie Whitefield, Syd Smith.

ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED: Jack Kennedy, Kobi Pescud, Christine Wheldon, Lynn Rann, Bernadette Fagan, Bong, Tanie and Gie Ubald, Babes Valenzuela, Vicki Smith, Lee Henry, Mary Porrill, Sheila Galvin, Dean Lewis, Kitty McIntosh, Susanne Howarth, Patrick Guillon, Phyllis Miller, Julie Rowen, Janine Wharton, John Stowers, Ross McAlpine, Gary O'Connell, Carter Family, Jack McAlpine, Joe Buttigieg, Phillis Elshaug, Peter Platell, Cal Zinkel, Marie Hancock, Natasha Byrne, Ron and Evelyn Martinac, Laurie, Emelita and Adam Woodley, Mathew Byrne, Caroline Pember, Michael Skinner, Tim, Tracy and Vicki Howard, Angela Taylor, Gary Burdett, Christopher Lewis.

Lord Grant your people protection and grace. Give them health of mind and body. Amen

FEAST DAYS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, February 5, St Agatha

Those of you who have experienced breast cancer, or who know someone that has, might be interested to know that St Agatha who has a feast day this week is the patron saint for breast cancer patients. St Agatha is also the Patron Saint for bakers, wet nurses and the country of Malta. Although we have evidence that Agatha was venerated at least as far back as the sixth century, the only facts we have about her is that she was born in Sicily and died there a martyr. We are told she belonged to a rich important family. When she was young she dedicated her life to God and resisted many men who wanted to marry her. One of these men, Quintian, was of high enough rank that he felt he could force her to acquiesce. He had her arrested and tortured, expecting her to give in, but she simply affirmed her belief in God. Quintian had her imprisoned in a brothel but Agatha never wavered, proclaiming that her freedom came from Jesus. Quintian has her tortured again and her breasts cut off. Agatha died saying a final prayer: "Lord my Creator, you have always protected me; you have taken me from the love of the world and given me patience to suffer. Receive my soul"

WORTH A SMILE

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with these guys? We must have been waiting 15 minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I have never seen such inept golf!" The priest said, "here comes the green-keeper. Let's have a word to him." he said, "hello George, what's wrong with that group ahead?" The green-keeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime." The group were silent for a moment. The priest said he would say a special prayer for them. The doctor said he would contact his ophthalmologist college to see if there is anything she can do. The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER CROCHET CLASSES

Classes will commence again in the "Annex" at St Joseph the Worker on Tuesday, February 11, at 9.30am. Any parishioner who may be interested in attending these classes should contact the teacher, Susannah Bishop, 55 775 917, who will advise the necessary requirements.

VOCATION VIEW

A child's handful of pulled dandelions will bring joy to a mother. A small act of kindness will surprise the lonely heart. Who will bring joy and kindness today?

PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2014

First Sunday of each month, Morning Tea at the "Annex" after 8.30am Mass at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador.

Each First and Third Sunday of the Month, 11.30am Charismatic prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels Church.

Bridge, every Wednesday 10.00am to 1.00pm Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners welcome.

Catholic Women's League, Meeting Second Friday of each Month, Guardian Angels Meeting Room, followed by Mass

Care and Concern, Meet Fourth Monday of each month, Mary Immaculate Meeting Room, 10.30am.

Southport Parish Book Club. Meet in the Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate on the 1st Monday of the month from 10.00am to 12 noon.

Choir Practice, Each Monday 7.00pm to 8.30pm Mary Immaculate Church.



SPY. Southport Parish Youth. Meet in the meeting room at Mary Immaculate on the last Friday of each month. 6.30pm

Tuesday, **February 11,** Information gathering for Parents of Children joining Sacramental Preparation Program Mary Immaculate Church 4.00pm and 7.00pm Wednesday, **March 5,** Ash Wednesday, beginning of Lent. Thursday, **June 12, 2014.** Confirmation Sunday, **June 15, 2014.** First Eucharist Sunday, **In July,** ARTICO Concert.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS; (RCIA)

Sessions will begin again on this coming **Thursday, February 6,** at 7.00pm This is a week later than the dates on your list. I look forward to catching up with you all again
Sister Elisabeth

TRAINING SESSION

For Readers and Minister of Eucharist.

Sister Elisabeth will be holding Training Sessions at Mary Immaculate of Saturday February 15 for anyone interested in becoming a reader or Minister of Eucharist. Readers 9.00am Ministers of Eucharist at 10.00am. If you would like to attend please contact Sister Elisabeth 55 102 222 or email lis@scp.org.au so material can be arranged

MARY IMMACULATE CRAFT GROUP

Ladies are reminded that Craft will commence again at 9.30am on Thursday, February 6, 2014. in the library at Mary Immaculate, Church.

HYMNS

BLEST ARE THEY (David Haas)

Blest are they, the poor in spirit,
theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow,
they shall be consoled.

Refrain:

Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones,
they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst,
they shall have their fill. **R.**

Blest are they who show mercy,
mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart,
they shall see God! **R.**

GLORY TO GOD: (Mass of St Francis)

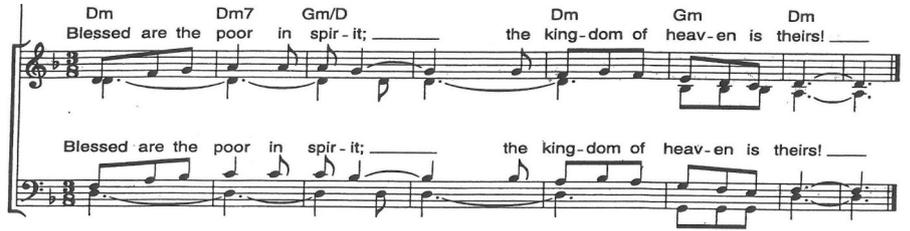
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father.
Amen, Amen.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Blessed are the poor in spirit
The kingdom of heaven is theirs!

This News Sheet is proudly
sponsored by
MAX'S MITRE 10
Australia Fair, Pacific Fair.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR
NEXT SUNDAY**
Isaiah 58:7-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and
life:
You have the words of everlasting
life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GIFTS PROCESSION OUR BLESSING CUP

(Bob Hurd)

**Our blessing cup is a commun-
ion with the blood of Christ;
And the bread we break, it is a
sharing in the body of the Lord.**

How can we make a return for all
the goodness God has shown?
We will take the cup of life,
and call upon God's name. **R**

Precious indeed in your sight the
life and death of those you love.
We are your servants, for you have
set us free. **R**

Gracious and merciful God, we
give you thanks and bless your
name:

With all your people, praise and
glory to your name. **R**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, saviour of the world,
For by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.

AMEN

Amen, Amen, Amen

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, have mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, have mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION PROCESSION THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit
for theirs is the kingdom of heav-
en,

blessed are the gentle for they
shall

possess the land.

Blessed are they, that hunger and
thirst after justice.

Blessed are they that suffer gladly
for justice sake.

Blessed are they that mourn
for they shall be comforted,
blessed are the clean of heart
for they shall see God.

Blessed are you when they revile
and harm you,
and speak all evil against you
untruly for my sake.

Blessed are the merciful for
mercy they will find,
Blessed are the peace makers f
or they shall be called God's children.

OUR SUPPER INVITATION

(Kevin Bates)

Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.
Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.
Let me befriend you now; eat, take your fill.
Don't be afraid to dream;
love has its will.

Take up your burden now,
walk 'til you find
Just what the journey means;
walk while there's time.
Food for the journey will answer your need.
Don't be afraid to walk;
love, my love will lead.

Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.

Be a sweet nourishment
to good friends of mine.
Let me befriend you now;
eat, take your fill.
Share with your people,
that love has its will.

Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.
Take of my life and live,
branch of my vine.

RECESSIONAL

BLEST ARE THEY (David Haas)

Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith,
the glory of God is theirs.

Refrain:

Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of
me.

Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom:
Shine for all to see. **R.**

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