

**Eighth Sunday
In Ordinary Time
Year A**

February 26, 2017

Today's Gospel reading is from part three of the Sermon on the Mount's three-part instruction by Jesus on the way of life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Part three deals with trusting God and performing deeds of loving service to our neighbour. The Aramaic word **mammon** does not have a negative connotation. It means "**property**" or "**money.**" What Matthew is pointing out is that since human beings are not self-sufficient, we are dependent on something outside ourselves. It should be God, not the material goods we own. This is not to say that we don't need material goods. But the reading goes on to remind us not to be anxious.

Look at the beauty of nature. The birds do not sow or reap. The flowers do not work or spin cloth. Yet they are provided for by God. Human beings are worth much more than these. How could God not provide for us as well? If what we place first in our lives is God's kingdom and his justice, we will have what we need. Matthew concludes by reminding us to address each day's problems as they come, confident that we are in God's loving care. He is a loving father who holds the whole world in his hands. He will certainly care for us.

Lent begins Wednesday. In this season, we prepare ourselves to celebrate the high point of our Christian life, Easter. Each year, the readings for Ash Wednesday are the same. They call us to a change of heart and teach us about the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These disciplines are to be part of the Christian life during every season, but during the season of Lent, we renew our commitment to them.



"Lent is also a time to ask oneself a number of questions. Where is life really leading me? Is the hope of eternal life my aspiration? Have I tried to grow in the life of the Spirit through prayer, reading the Word of God and meditating on it, receiving the Sacraments, self-denial? Have I been

anxious to control my vices, my bad inclinations and passions, e.g., envy, love of food and drink? Have I been proud and boastful, thinking myself better in the sight of God and despising others as less important than myself?" (Sunday Missal - Prayer book - Hymnal - 2000, page 669).

The meaning behind tracing a cross on our foreheads with ashes (the liturgical sign of Ash Wednesday) is a summary of our Christian life. On one level, the ashes remind us of our origin and our death. (In the words of the prayer said when we receive ashes: "**Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.**") The ashes are also the sign of our victory: the cross of Christ. In His death and resurrection, Christ conquered death. Our destiny as Christians is to receive the victory over death that Christ won for us. We acknowledge that victory when we "turn away from sin and [are] faithful to the gospel."

Blessings Fr Paul

**St. Joseph the Worker
Church**
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador
Sunday Masses
Sunday 7:00am
Sunday 8:30am
Weekday Masses
Monday 7:00am
Wednesday 7:00am

**Gold Coast University
Hospital**
Weekday Mass
Friday 10:30am

**Guardian Angels'
Church**
99 Scarborough St., Southport
Sunday Masses
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 7:00am, 10:00am
Weekday Mass
Friday 12:30pm
Reconciliation
Saturday 4:30pm
(The church is open
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays from
11:00am to 1:00pm.)

**Mary Immaculate
Church**
31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore
Sunday Masses
8:30am, 6:00pm
Korean Masses
Sunday 3:00pm
(Last Saturday of the month
at 6:00pm)
Weekday Masses
Tuesday 9:00am
Thursday 5:30pm
Holy Hour
March 2- 4.15pm

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

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07 5510 2888
Guardian Angels
Stephen Montgomery
(Principal)
07 5510 0055

De Paul Villa
Julie Madden
(Director of Aged Care)
07 5582 7250

**De Paul Manor
Estate**
Jessica Madden
(Manager)
07 5582 7999

Feasts and Saints of this Week

Sunday 26 Feb	Monday 27 Feb	Tuesday 28 Feb	Wednesday 1 Mar	Thursday 2 Mar	Friday 3 Mar	Saturday 4 Mar
7th Sun in OT	Feria	Feria	Ash Wednesday	Feria	Ember Day	St Casimir
Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 - Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11						



Ash Wednesday Masses March 1 Our Lenten journey towards Easter begins this year on March 1, on this day there will be four Masses in **our Parish**.

7 am	St Joseph, Labrador
9 am	Mary Immaculate, Ashmore
12.30 noon	Guardian Angels, Southport
6 pm	Mary Immaculate, Ashmore

Ash Wednesday Masses, In the Cathedral of St Stephen Brisbane, Ash Wednesday masses will be held **8.00am; 10.00am; 12.30pm; 5.30pm**. The Car park will be available for the 5.30pm Mass only.

Stations of the Cross Every Friday night at 7pm at St Joseph the Worker Church, Labrador.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday at Guardian Angels Church. Every Thursday from **March 9 till Holy Week**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from **11.30am -12.30 pm**

Invitation - Lenten Program 2017 On 1 March, with Ash Wednesday, we begin Lent. The Lenten program has a long tradition in our archdiocese and I am sure that this year again many parishioners will take part in this activity. To order enough books for the participants we need to know how many people are interested. If anyone would like to participate in the Lenten Program **please contact** the **Parish Office 5510 2222**. The cost of the booklets is \$8 each while the DVD and CD sets are \$17.

Project Compassion 2017 demonstrates how love for our neighbours can transform lives this year. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia. This Lenten season is themed "Love your neighbour". This year you will be helping to empower our world's most vulnerable neighbours from the Philippines, Timor Leste, Indigenous Australia, Vietnam, and Fiji. The Project Compassion contributions will help to build a better future for our common home.

Filipino Mass next Sunday March 5, at Guardian Angels Church 12 noon.

Calling All Youth The 1st Youth Mass is Sunday March 5th, 6pm at Mary Immaculate. All Youth are invited to be involved in this exciting initiative and we will gather at 3:30pm for games, reflection and rehearsal for the mass. Supper contribution from families is encouraged. Please contact Catherine for details: catherinemaree@live.com.au

Office Furniture We have 4 filing cabinets 2 tables an office chair, a brand new coin counter, some shelves and a couple of desks which the office has no use for. If you are interested please call the parish office on **5510 2222**.

Parish Bus Trip Friday **March 17th**, North Coast Trip leaving the **Manor** 7.15 am, **Ashmore Plaza** 7.30am, & **St Joseph's Labrador** 8.00am. Morning tea Nudgee Beach, Lunch & Entertainment at Maleny. Returning 4.30-5pm. Please ring Pat on 55 395 849 for reservations. Tickets will be sent to the piety stall in the church that you attend. Kindly remove the ticket from the envelope provided, place the money in the envelope and return to the piety stall for collection.

Teddy Bears for Sale Please support Angels Kitchen by buying the Teddy Bears that will be on sale for \$5 at the piety stall at Mary Immaculate. All money received goes to feed the poor. Thank you.

New time for Surfers Paradise Parish Anointing Mass on the first Tuesday of the month. All Parishioners and visitors from other Parishes are advised **that from Tuesday the 7th March 2017** the starting time for the Anointing Mass at Sacred Heart Church, 50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters, will be moved back to **10.00am**. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Mass is followed by a morning tea in the Parish Hospitality Centre.

Rosters I have started on the rosters for all ministers, for April, May, June. Last day for any changes will be Monday 27th February. Please email the office with your changes. If you were not on the last roster and would like to be on this next one please contact the parish office.

Helpers Wanted Recent resignations have created a need for helpers on the Altar Society at Mary Immaculate Church. Duties include cleaning Sacred Vessels and washing and ironing of altar linen. If you would like to volunteer and can spare an hour and a half on a Saturday morning once a month, would you please contact Daloras at the parish office.

Choir has returned for Easter celebration preparation commencing Monday 7.00 pm until 8.30 pm at Mary Immaculate Church. All are welcome. Regulars: Please bring your Easter Music.

Women World Day of Prayer Philippines This year the World Day of Prayer is being held at the Salvation Army, **157 Wardoo St** Southport on **Friday 3rd March 2017** at **9.30am**. The 2017 service has been prepared by ladies in the Philippines. The theme is **"Am I being unfair to you?"**



Today We Welcome Into God's Family

Marla Rose Esteb daughter of Richard & Danielle Esteb
Utah Bronx Barwick son of Julie Barwick

Your Prayers Are Requested For Those In Need And Who Have Journeyed To The Father

Anniversaries: **Barry** Galton, **Barry** Heywood, Francesca Sombilon, Sotero Sombilon

Recently Deceased: **Cayetano Iturralde**

Sick and in Need: **Ray** Balkin, **Michael** Skinner, **Dulia** Dumas, **Debbie** Poulton, **Stephanie** Alijahn, **Douglas** Bateman, **Robin** Bourke, **Christopher** Browne, **Jan** Buttigieg, **Matthew** Byrne, **Albert** Chandler, **Anne** Chandler, **Amado** Dizon, **Ely** Deganos, **Clare** Dobo, **Bernadette** Douwes, **Narelle** Dwyer, **Patricia** Ferguson, **Ian** Finlayson, **Candy** Guillon, **Patrick** Guillon, **Shirley** Harris, **Michael** Jamrich, **Freda** Lyall, **Maurie** Mackenzie, **Evelyn** Martinac, **Maureen** McCabe, **Irena** Molloy, **John** Morgan, **Robert** Murtagh, **Mariel** Nicdao, **Maria** Pal, **Lorraine** Pledger, **Yvonne** See, **Angela** Sannen, **Seraphina**, **Angela** Taylor, **Mladen** Topic, **Fr Keith** Turnbull, **Joe** Tuesley, **Fr Vince**, **David** Walters, **Alison**, **Marg** Pullen

Sacramental

Sacraments - Calendar 2017

Reminder: Candidate registration has now closed for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered to those candidates who are baptised Catholic and who are at least 10 years of age in 2017 (School Year 5).

The Sacrament of First Communion will be offered in **Term 2, 2017** and will be available to candidates who are 9 years of age (Year 4) or older.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered in **Term 3, 2017** and will be available to those candidates who are 8 years of age (Year 3) or older.

Candidates for each of the sacraments must be baptised Catholic and at least one parent must be a baptised Catholic.

Those candidates who are unsure if they qualify should contact **Stephen Lunn** on **5510 2296**. Registration for each of the Sacraments will be online and notices will be placed in the Parish bulletin when registrations are open.

Devotion - Holy Hour On Thursday March 2 there will be a Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at **Mary Immaculate Church**. The Holy Hour commences at **4:15pm** then the weekly Thursday Mass at 5.30pm.

Baptismal Preparation Classes 2017 Parents planning to baptise their children in our parish, note that the next Baptismal Preparation Classes are on **2nd March & 23rd March** at **7:00pm** in the hall next to **Mary Immaculate Church**, Ashmore.

Marriage Preparation For parishioners who are going to marry in the coming months, please contact **Abas Supeli** in order to obtain the **Marriage Preparation Course**. Contact by phone on: **0450221088** or email: **asupeli@gmail.com** as the Registered Facilitator for the Ministry of Marriage Preparation in the Southport Catholic Parish

Safeguard Children and Vulnerable

Adults Workshop All those working with children and the elderly are encouraged to attend this 3 hour course on **Sunday 26th March 2pm – 5pm** Safeguard Children and Vulnerable Adults.

PHC 50 Fairway Dr Clear Island Waters
(tea and coffee and refreshments provided).

RSVP....10th March 2017

Parish Date Claimers

Holy Hour & Benediction Every first Thursday of the Month followed by Mass at 5.30pm at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore.

Bridge. Every Wednesday 9:30am to 12:30pm in the Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners are most welcome.

Craft. Every Tuesday 9:30am to 11:30pm in the Annex of St. Joseph. Beginners welcome. Beginning 7th February.

Morning Tea. On the first Sunday of each month at the "Annex" after 8:30am Mass at St. Joseph the Worker.

Rosary and Novena. At 6:00pm every Wednesday at St. Joseph the Worker. On the first Wednesday of the month, they are followed by Mass at 7:00pm.

SCP Care and Concern Transport Service. This service is for elderly parishioners who require assistance and transport to medical, dental or optical appointments. Phone **0421507554**.

Walking Group. Our parish walking group meets each Saturday at Main Beach Surf Club at 6:00am. The walks are not strenuous and are followed by a fellowship breakfast. Interested persons wishing to join us should ring Janeece on 0408 763772 for further details.

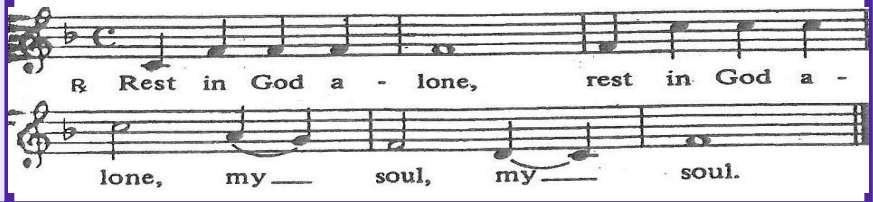
3C- The Catholic Charismatic Community

All nationalities, all genders and all ages are welcome to our 2nd and 4th Sunday Prayer meeting held at Guardian Angels Church from 11:30-1:00PM, then a lunch is shared to complete the fellowship. We are not just a Prayer group- we are also a support group, an intercessory group and most of all a friend if you needed one. Just come as you are. Contact persons: Joey 0439952297 and Stephanie 0421562024

Introduction To Christian Meditation in the John Main tradition. Meditation is a universal spiritual practice that brings us to stillness and silence. You are invited to an introductory course over three Monday evenings in March, 2017 (March 13, 20, 27) 6.30p.m.-7.30p.m. at Residents Retreat, De Paul Manor Estate. Beginners and experienced meditators are welcome. For more information: Judith Keller/ Gerard Sullivan 0448188937, kellsull@ozemail.com.au. See World Community for Christian Meditation website wccm.org

**RESPONSORIAL
PSALM**

**Rest in God alone, rest in
God alone, my soul, my soul**
Gia Productions



PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Strong and Constant

I will be your God who walks with you!
You will be always within My hand!
Take your heart and give it all to Me!
Strong and constant is My love!
Strong and constant is My love!

Should you wander far away from Me
I will search for you in every land!
Should you call, then you will truly
know:

Strong and constant is My love!
Strong and constant is My love!
Copyright ©Frank Andersen 1987 Chevalier
bookshop

GLORY TO GOD- Mass Shalom

Refrain:

***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. **R**

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. **R**

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. **R Amen**

GIFTS PROCESSION

Isaiah 49: I Will Never Forget You

Refrain:

***I will never forget you, My people
I have carved you on the palm
of My hand
I will never forget you
I will not leave you orphaned
I will never forget My own***



Does a mother forget her baby?
Or a woman the child within her womb?
Yet even if these forget,
Yes, even if these forget,
I will never forget my own **R**
©1975 Carey Landry New Dawn Music

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you
come again.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his
righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto
you;

Al -le-lu al le lu-ia.
Al- le- lu -ia, al- le- lu- ia, al-le-lu-ia,
Al- le- lu, al-le-lu-ia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you,
Seek, and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened
unto you;

Al -le-lu al le lu-ia.
Al- le- lu -ia, al- le- lu- ia, al-le-lu-ia,
Al- le- lu, al-le-lu-ia.
©1972, BB Publishing, Karen Lafferty, Maranatha
Music

We Walk By Faith

We walk by faith, and not by sight:
no gracious words we hear
Of him who spoke as none e'er spoke
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod;
Yet in his promise we rejoice and cry
"My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,
and may our faith abound;
To call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found:

That when our life of faith is done
in realms of clearer light
We may behold you as you are
in full and endless sight.

We walk by faith, and not by sight:
no gracious words we hear
Of him who spoke as none e'er spoke
but we believe him near.
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Inc.

Recessional Hymn

Bring Forth The Kingdom

You are salt for the earth, O people;
salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavour of life, O people;
life in the Kingdom of God

Refrain:

***Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy.
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace:
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice.
Bring forth the City of God!***

You are a light on the hill, O people;
light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people;
shine for the Kingdom of God! **R**

You are a seed of the Word, O people;
bring forth the Kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice;
grow in the Kingdom of God! **R**

We are a blest and a pilgrim people:
bound for the Kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland
love is the Kingdom of God! **R**
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Publication



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