

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

3rd September , 2017



PASTORAL LETTER

Same-Sex Marriage The Most Rev Denis J Hart
Archbishop of Melbourne, The President of the Australian Catholic Bishops
August 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We Catholics in Australia love our nation. Indeed, so much of what is cherished as good in our society is, in fact, the fruit of Christian culture. So, we want our 'story' to continue to be heard in all the great debates about the foundations of our society. Our voice is not the only voice but it is an important one.

One such debate currently concerning us all is the issue of same-sex marriage. We have always sought to contribute to our society as good citizens. We strive to act and speak out for the common good especially for the poorest and suffering among us.

We seek to cherish the dignity of the human person and support all in need: especially families, our indigenous brothers and sisters, migrants, refugees and all who need the compassion and mercy of Christ.

We pledge ourselves to continue to do everything we can to contribute to the common good of all Australians. As Catholics, we want to build up and strengthen our great diverse multicultural community here in Australia.

Our point in relation to the current debate about same-sex marriage is simple. We make it in good faith according to the demands of our consciences.

The Catholic Church, along with other faith traditions, teaches that marriage is a natural institution established by God to be a permanent union between one man and one woman, intended towards the formation of a family in which children are born and nurtured.

Any legislation that changes this definition of marriage recognised by all the major cultures of the world demands careful consideration by all Australians. It is vital that we Catholics vote, so that our viewpoint can be heard on this vital public issue. Its outcome will affect our society and families profoundly in the future.

We understand that ours is not the only viewpoint in our diverse society. Many do not agree with it. Many people see this as an issue about ensuring equality for every and all relationships. Yes, human rights are important. But so are human responsibilities. We are responsible for the impact of our decisions on future generations.

Therefore, we ask all to consider the profound implications of possible legislation that will embed this desire for equality of relationships in our laws.

This debate on same-sex marriage raises profound questions about who we are. Fundamental issues are at stake.

(Continued overleaf ...)

St. Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Masses

Sunday 7:00am & 8:30am

Weekday Masses

Monday & Wednesday
7:00am

**Gold Coast University
Hospital**

Friday 10:30am

Guardian Angels' Church

99 Scarborough St., Southport

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 7:00 & 10:00am

Mass in Korean

Sunday 5:00pm

Weekday Mass

Friday 12:30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30pm

Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive,
Ashmore

Sunday Masses

8:30am & 6:00pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9:00am
Thursday 5:30pm

**1st Thurs of the Month,
Holy Hour 4:15pm**

PARISH CONTACTS

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info@scp.org.au

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07 5582 7250

De Paul Manor Estate

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(Manager)
07 5582 7999

(Continued from previous page ...)

This debate on same-sex marriage raises profound questions about who we are. Fundamental issues are at stake.

Why do humans exist as male and female? Is that distinction simply marginal? Is it simply a social construct?

Do our children also have rights? We are all children of a male and a female. Should not this be a central consideration in our decisions about the way children should be ideally nurtured and educated in our society.

We understand that these are complex issues. But certainly, no legislation should be enacted without a deep public conversation in which we all engage about such issues that goes beyond slogans and soundbites.

In a pluralist community, we maintain that respect for difference should be as important as a demand for equality. Things can be equal in all respects without having to be uniformly the same.

We sincerely believe that there is a core and fundamental wisdom and truth in the traditional definition and understanding of marriage that should not be ignored and is worth keeping for the health and future of our society.

As Pope Francis has pointed out: 'The family is threatened by growing efforts on the part of some to redefine the very institution of marriage, by relativism, by the culture of the ephemeral, by a lack of openness to life.'¹

Some will naturally be disappointed in our stance. Some even question our right to speak and follow our consciences.

It is entirely possible future legislation about same-sex marriage could infringe fundamental human rights of freedom of religion and conscience. It could result in restrictions on the right of ministers of religion and religious bodies and organisations having the freedom to teach, preach and speak about marriage between persons of the same sex being contrary to their religious or conscientious beliefs.

We as a church affirm the dignity of all those who identify as having a same sex orientation. Like all human beings they are created in the image and likeness of God. They have a right to expect to be loved and welcomed and not subject to unjust discrimination.

So where do we go from here?

In all our conversations and encounters, let us imitate Pope Francis, who asks us to be humble and never judgemental.

In that spirit, the Catholic Church will continue to teach and preach the truth that marriage is a union of one man and one woman and encourage all people of good will to embrace the fullness of that truth.

We will also work to promote and strengthen marriage and families.

We will strive to uphold the dignity of every human person, including persons who experience same-sex attraction, welcoming them as our brothers and sisters.

As Catholics concerned for the common good may we join all our fellow citizens of Australia in an active and respectful engagement in this critical public conversation.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Abp Denis J Hart

The President of the Australian Catholic Bishops

Venire Youth Group To nurture and support young people of the Catholic tradition in the context of their everyday lives. An opportunity to meet like minded friends and create an opportunity to lead Mass.

Who: Grade 7-12 Students

What: Prayer, Talk, Discussion, Food and Games

When: Sunday 17th September 4-5:30pm (before 6pm mass)

Where: Mary Immaculate, RSVP southport@venireyouth.com

Any questions please contact Catherine on 0466512811



Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Lionel Veale who celebrated his 99th Birthday on Wednesday 30th August. Lionel was the first person to be involved with St Vincent de Paul Society and served them for 40 years. May God bless you.

Fatima Day at Marian Valley on Wednesday, **13th of September** and help celebrate Fatima Day. The bus will pickup at 7 Lind Ave, Palm Beach, at 7:45am and then pickup again at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters, at 8:15am. The cost for the bus is \$20 return. Please book your seat early with Paula on 0402 930918 or 5582 7950 or Madeline on 0405 252 367 or 5529 1573.

Annual leave on Tuesday, 5th September Fr Jan begins his holiday. During this time **Fr Frank Devoy, Fr Warren Kinne and Fr Paul Taubman** will assist Fr Van Huong in his pastoral work within the Southport Parish. **Fr Van Huong** will appreciate the support and assistance of the parishioners while Fr. Jan is away.



God Bless all Fathers of our Parish and deepen their love for their wives and families. By their work and example and prayer, may they lead their children to follow the Gospel teaching.

Thank You – Sacrament of Confirmation

Last Thursday 31st of August, **63 children** of our Parish celebrated with Abp Mark Sacrament of Confirmation. These girls and boys were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and many of them completed their journey of Christian Initiation. I thank the parents and Stephen Lunn (the Sacramental Coordinator) for preparing the children for this significant step in their faith journey. Having worked with their children since the end of June, the parents have done a great job and I thank them for their dedication in preparing the children for our Thursday celebration. I have no doubt that through Confirmation the faith of our young parishioners will grow and come to its fruition in the adult lives. Last Thursday's event wouldn't happen without a great deal of effort and organisation. Many parishioners, through music, singing (**Mick and Sharon Walsh**) and other ministries have generously contributed to the Liturgy of Confirmation. Today, I say a big thank you for making Thursday celebration a prayerful and memorable experience of faith for children, their parents, families and visitors. Fr Jan



Today We Welcome Into God's Family

Gianna Bella Natoli daughter of Shayne Natoli & Denise Kingi

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

Recently Deceased: Teresa Adamson, Roger Wittaker, Joe Allen

Anniversary: Barry Toomey, Frank Burmingham

Sick and in Need: Lee Kozanic, Patrick Sullivan, June Doherty, Teresita Adrid, Jean Smith, Barbara Raymont, Orlean Subramanian, Michael Ward, Jim Kiely, Michael Skinner, Dulia & Lucio Dumas Debbie Poulton, Stephanie Alijahn, Douglas Bateman, Robin Bourke, Christopher Browne, Jan Buttigieg, Matthew Byrne, Albert Chandler, Anne Chandler, Amado Dizon, Ely Deganos, Clare Dobozy, Bernadette Douwes, Narelle Dwyer, Patricia Ferguson, Candy Guillon, Patrick Guillon, Shirley Harris, Freda Lyall, Evelyn Martinac, Maureen McCabe, John Morgan, Mariel Nicdao, Maria Pal, Yvonne See, Angela Sannen, Angela Taylor, Mladen Topic, Joe Tuesley, Fr Vince, David Walters, Alison, Marg Pullen, Harry Hunter, Bill Phillips, Victor Williams, Emily Valenzuela, Andrei James Celes, Mary Achilles,

*Immaculate Heart of Mary we trust to your gentle care and intercessions
those we love and those who are sick or lonely or hurting.*

Help all of us Holy Mother to bear our burdens in this life until we share eternal life with God.

Sacraments - Calendar 2017

Children's Liturgy

Anyone interested in assisting with Children's Liturgy can contact Stephen Lunn on email at: StephenL@scp.org.au

Term 3 Children's Liturgy dates are:

10th of September 2017.

Parish Bus Trip Thursday **21st September** a round trip through the Lockyer Valley, devastated and re developed since our last trip. 10 seats available. All money raised goes to Angels Kitchen. For bookings please call Pat on 5539 5849



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: **0450 221 088** or email: asupeli@gmail.com as the Registered Facilitator for the Ministry of Marriage Preparation in the Southport Catholic Parish.

Baptismal Preparation Classes Parents planning to baptise their children in our parish, note that the next Baptismal Preparation Class will be held on **Tuesday the 12th of September at 10.30am** in the hall next to **Mary Immaculate Church**, Ashmore.

Women's Night of Spirituality - St Ignatius Parish presents the 12th Annual, Ecumenical Women's Night of Spirituality on Tuesday 5th September 2017 ~ 7.30pm - 9.15pm at Stuartholme School Chapel, Birdwood Terrace, Toowong. No Booking Required. Donation at the door. Supper provided. Parking Available - Please check Stuartholme School's website www.stuartholme.com for details on the day.

Video Volunteers are requested - to help in the recording of the Mass for De Paul Villa Aged Care every Sunday (Based on the Roster). If interested please send a text message with your phone number to Janet Ferguson on 0437 644 768 and she will call you back. (Training will be provided).

Parish Date Claimers

Holy Hour. **First Thursday of the month** at 4:15pm Mary Immaculate, 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 11:30am in the Annex of St. Joseph. Beginners welcome.

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.**

Walking Group. Our parish walking group meets each Saturday at Gold Coast Aquatic Centre Car Park, Marine Parade, at 6:30am. 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.

Lost & Found If anyone has lost a piece of jewellery at Guardian Angels Church in Southport, Please contact Chris Nicholas on 5571 5228 or 0405 576 561



Next weekend **9th-10th of September**, we are going to support financially the Annual Catholic Campaign in the same way as it has been done previously. On the seats parishioners and visitors will find the campaign envelopes for the contributions.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We are Called

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain:

**We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly,
We are called to serve one another;
To walk humbly with God!**

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness
will be no more! R.

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Glory to God in the highest,

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.

*Glory to God in the highest and on earth
peace to people of good will. Amen*

GIFTS PROCESSION

The Summons

Will you come and follow me if I but call
your name?
will you go where you don't know and
never be the same?
will you let my love be shown, will you
let my name be known?
will you let my life be grown in you and
you in me?

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**My Soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.**

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call
your name?
will you care for cruel and kind and never
be the same?
will you risk the hostile stare should your
life attract or scare?
will you let me answer pray'r in you and
you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call
your name?
will you set the pris'ners free and never
be the same?
will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you
in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but
call your name?
will you quell the fear inside and never be
the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to
reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in
you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when
you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be
the same.

In your company I'll go where your love
and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you
and you in me.

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Connection

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

When we eat this bread and drink this
cup we proclaim your death, O Lord, until
you come again.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Table Of Plenty

Refrain

**Come to the feast of heaven and earth!
Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need,
here at the table of plenty.**

O, come and sit at my table,
where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
to share the cup of my love. **R**

O, come and eat without money;
Come to drink without price.
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit
with faith and fullness of life. **R**

Your fields will flower in fullness;
Your homes will flourish in peace.
For I, the giver of home and harvest,
will send my rain on the soil. **R**
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Bread Of Life & Cup of Hope

Bread of life and cup of hope
we come as gift to you
Change our hearts; fill us with peace.
Transform our lives anew.
Open our eyes so that we might see
your presence in one another
Your life, poured out in love today
unites us all in you.

Loving Lord, Creator God open
our eyes to see
the good that lives in each of us
that called the world to be
and when we fail to see the good,
when friendships falter and crumble,
give us the courage to forgive
that we may live in peace.

Living Word, O Son of God,
Your love shows us the way
that we may live in harmony,
and from you never stray.
Wipe all oppression from our midst;
give us a love for all people.
Your song of justice sing in us,
to live for peace today.

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

My Soul is Joyful

My soul is joyful; my spirit is glad!
Jesus is my Saviour! He is my Lord!
Deep is His mercy, gentle are His ways!
He has filled me with gladness all my
days!

I am His servant; He is truly my God!
I will serve Him forever;
strong in His love!
From this day onward all people
will see
God has fashioned His Handmaid; God
lives in me!

Holy is His name! Mercy given to all.
Sure and simple His wisdom! Proud
hearts will fall!
Good news for children! Food for all who
need.
Strength and life in the Spirit given to
me!

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