

Who are we expecting?



Amidst the rush of the 'festive season', who are we expecting this Advent? A Messiah perhaps? If so, what sort of Messiah do we imagine will turn up? John the Baptist, in prison, sends messengers enquiring of Jesus are you the one, or must we wait for another?

Last week John declared Jesus was the one who is to come as the prophet Isaiah had foretold – but now he's not so sure. He's puzzled by what he's heard. Jesus responds by saying, "go and tell John what's been happening throughout Galilee". What disorients John is that not only does Jesus instruct, he also heals the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf, the poor, and those with no one to turn to. A new creation is happening – a re-creation – and Matthew's gospel has called our attention to it from the beginning.

The ascetic, prophetic John of last week – calling people to repent, dressed in camel hair and eating off the land – has told of the one who will bring a fierce judgment. So, who is this? Is this what the prophets foretold? Yes, Jesus calls people to repentance, but, by calling up the words of the prophet Isaiah again, lets it be known these healings are a sign of the new age that the Messiah will usher in: the kingdom of heaven is here.

The question for all of us at this time is what have we seen and heard this year? What is happening among us? Do the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, do the poor get dental care, the homeless a place to live? Is the good news good for them? Is Jesus the one, or must we look around for another? These questions are being asked of us, all the more pointedly at this moment, which is why we have to make a response.

If there are no signs, or few that we can discern, then we might, like John in prison, become more and more uncertain of this person and wonder whether he is the one we continue to say he is. And we may turn away from him, because we had expected someone, something different. Jesus, recognizing God's grace, says: 'Happy is the man who doesn't lose faith in me'.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan 2019

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2019

Tuesday, 24th of December

Mary Immaculate - 6pm

Guardian Angels' - 6pm

Guardian Angels'
10:30pm

Wednesday, 25th of December

St Joseph the Worker
7am and 8:30am

Guardian Angels'
7am and 10am

Mass in Korean - 5pm

Mary Immaculate
8:30am

Thursday, 26th of December

St Joseph the Worker - 9am

NEW YEARS DAY

Wednesday, 1st of January 2020

St Joseph the Worker - 9am

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish email address

info@scp.org.au

Parish Website

<https://scp.org.au>

Parish Phone Number

5510 2222

St. Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Masses
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 (Vigil) 6pm
Sunday 7:00am & 10:00am

Mass in Korean - 5pm

Prayers & Adoration

Wednesday 12noon - 1pm

Weekday Mass

Friday 12:30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:30pm to 5:15pm

Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Sunday Masses

8:30am
6:00pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9:00am
Thursday 5:30pm



Before Mass speak with God



During Mass, let God speak with you



After Mass, speak with others



Fr Gerard McMorrow has been appointed as Parish Priest of Southport, with effect from early February 2020. In recent years, Fr Gerard has been Parish Priest of Wavell Heights and Chermside West. Chermside Parish is well-known for its Christmas lights display. From the beginning Fr Gerard has been the driving force behind this wonderful event that brings many so people together in these days of Advent. I believe that some parishioners of Southport visited Chermside at this time of the year, and they could see the enormous work involved in preparing such a fantastic event. Let us pray Fr Gerard and his ministry in Southport.

Thank you to all the parishioners who have come forward to take part in practicing Christmas Carols for the 10:30pm Christmas Eve Mass at Guardian Angels. Many thanks to Audrey Chung for taking the role of the choir master and coordinating the music ministry for this special Mass.



Also Thank you to The family of Joseph Duy Le and Anna Hanh Nguyen and their Parents Joseph Ly Le and Maria Lua Nguyen for donating and setting up the Nativity scene in front of Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore.

Fr Jan

Farewell for Fr Jan. Fr Jan's new appointment as the Maroochydore Parish Priest will be effective from 1st of January 2020 and his departure will leave a gap in our Parish. His leadership and new initiatives have strengthened the Parish and many will want to farewell him before he departs. You will have the opportunity to do so at a series of morning teas following Masses that will be celebrated by Fr Jan.

- *Guardian Angels', 15th Dec following the 10:00am Mass
- *Mary Immaculate, 22nd Dec following the 8:30am Mass

Please bring a plate to these morning teas. Also you will be able to contribute towards a farewell gift by placing a marked envelope on the collection plate or leaving a collection after Mass.

Parish Council

We are calling for more Eucharistic Ministers. If interested to join this ministry and are able to serve at the 10:00am Mass at Guardian Angels Church, please contact the Parish Office at **5510 2222**. New Eucharistic Ministers will be provided training in January 2020 - time and date to be advised in the coming weeks. Watch this space! Meantime, there will only be two chalices of the sacred wine until Christmas because of the shortage of Eucharistic Ministers at 10:00am Mass, We will return to four chalices when we have enough people to support the ministry. New rosters to be published in the beginning of the new year.



St Gerard's Carols by Candlelight, Saturday, 21 December at 7pm, Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West. All are welcome. Outdoors, pls bring a chair and the Aerogard.

Thank you. I would like to thank you for welcoming me into your community and for the way you have made me feel right at home here. I have enjoyed celebrating Eucharist with you in each of the three churches and have enjoyed experiencing the many different ministries you have here in Southport Parish. Throughout these ministries, I have appreciated your company and getting to know many of you. Some of the ministries I have engaged with and worked with many of you have been Masses, visiting the sick at the Gold Coast University Hospital, giving two minute Gospel reflections at the Hospital Mass, being a part of Baptisms and Funerals, setting up for parish functions (many of you will remember setting up for the Christmas party in the blistering heat), sharing morning tea and lunch with staff, joining some of you for a meal at your home and bringing back memories of my teaching days by visiting classes at Guardian Angels' Primary School. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to share my journey towards the seminary with students and be able to engage with them by helping them with their schoolwork.

Throughout these experiences, my highlights were engaging with the school and my time at the hospital. My time at Guardian Angels' school gave me great inspiration for my future ministry of how a priest can create interaction between parish and school, and my time at the hospital gave me firsthand experience at bringing comfort and the love of Jesus to those doing it tough.

Again, I would like to thank you for making me part of your parish community over the last month; and I would like to offer special thanks to Fr. Jan, Fr. Stephen and Fr. Huong for sharing your priesthood with me during my time here. It has been a privilege to witness different styles of priesthood. Merry Christmas to you all and may God bring you many graces and blessings throughout the new year. Blessings,
Bradley Davies

WORD on FIRE The new project of our, Parish Pastoral Council offers another opportunity to grow in faith and reflect on our journey through this year Advent. If your email is not registered with the parish, or if you would like to add additional addresses, please to register at bestted78@gmail.com I thank the PPC for this great initiative that employs modern technology in spreading the Good News among us. I also thanks Eddie Doherty for working behind the technical side to keep it simple.

RECONCILIATION 2019

Monday, 16th Dec. - St Joseph the Worker 6:45am
Friday, 20th Dec. - Guardian Angels 12noon

2ND RITE RECONCILIATION

Thursday, 19th Dec. - Mary Immaculate 6:30pm

PLUS RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday afternoon - Guardian Angels 4:30pm - 5:30pm
And every Wednesday during prayers and adoration 12 Noon—1pm

The ministers of the Word of God (readers) for Guardian Angels Church, **(the 10am Mass)** in case of your absence please contact **Audrey Chung, (0417 798 662)** the coordinator of the ministers of the Word of God of the 10 am Mass. Audrey will organize an alternate reader on the current roster to prepare and fill in the vacancy.

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year A/2

1st Reading - Isaiah 7:10-14, - 2nd Reading - Romans 1:1-7 - Gospel - Matthew 1:18-24

**STOPLINE RECEIVES INFORMATION ABOUT SUSPECTED ABUSE,
MISCONDUCT & SERIOUS POLICY BREACHES BY ARCHDIOCESAN CLERGY, EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS.**

PHONE: 1300 304 550 EMAIL: AOB@stoline.com.au ONLINE: www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)

Guardian Angels Church
Rebecca - 0414 994 928

Mary Immaculate Church
Raphaelle - 0414 915 047

St Joseph the Worker Church
Cathy - 0414 982 749 (Chinese)

Our Parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. We are committed to high standards of recruitment, screening and selection of all our employees and volunteers and undertake intentional strategies to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment for all.

*Immaculate Heart of Mary we trust to your gentle care and intercessions
those we love and those who have died, who are sick, lonely or hurting.
Help all of us Holy Mother to bear our burdens in this life until we share eternal life with God.*

Recently Deceased: Polo Forero (Columbia), David Deeth, Josephine Cools, Kerry Edwards, Lynde Schubert, Eustequia (Taking) Tamayo, Colin Randazzo, (father of Bishop Anthony Randazzo), Edith Galvez Soyosa

Anniversary: Nathan Westwood, Herb Newlyn, Isabel Valencia, Rae Patricia Porter (wife Paul),

Sick and in Need: Mary Achilles, Teresita Adrid, Stephanie Alijahn, Peter Allen, Elias Arulappan, Matt Aquino, Sandy Balasabas, Sue Barker, Douglas Bateman, Nicolai Bicher, John Booth, Robin Bourke, Christopher Browne, Theresa Birmingham, Matthew Byrne, John Camiolo (Fr Stephen's dad) Andrei Celes, Anne Chandler, Janette Cooper, Neil Cremin, Dave Curran, Graham Dank, Amado Dizon, Ely Deganos, Leoncia Dizon, Mario Jose Dizon, Conchita Djosovic, Clare Dobozy, Patricia Dowde, Lucio Dumas, Narelle Dwyer, Mandy Egbune, Patricia Fisher, Sheryl Fleet, Tootsie Francia, Bernadette Gaspard, Murray Geale, Ron Gledhill, Marcelle Guillon, Karen George, Patrick Guillon, James Healy, Efen Hatulan, Harry Hunter, Semeon Illescas, Margaret Iringan, Veronica James, Claire Keefe Linda Kerr, Andrea King, Bede Lawner, Elena Lazaro, Maria Malate, Angelina Mandarino, Stephen Markwell, Evelyn Martinac, Ron Martinac, Maureen McCabe, Morin Min, Elizabeth Morris, Merlyn Morris, Terry Neal, Kevin Nicholson, Rochelle Nicholson, Grace Ogilvie, Francisca Park, Parekura Parekura, Debbie Poulton, Marissa Raymundo, Garth Rippin, Mervyn Ryan, Lisa Roggenkamp, Michelle Sarri, Yvonne See, Peter Selby, Arthur Smith, Wiktorija Stojanovic, Patrick Sullivan, Pasqual Tantengo, Angela Taylor, Joe Tuesley, David Walters, Bernadette Ward, Victor Williams, Lorraine Wilson.

BAPTISMAL PREP

Baptismal Preparation Classes at Mary Immaculate Church. For Parents planning to baptise their children in our parish, our **Online Baptismal Registration is now available.** The next Baptismal Prep will be on **Tuesday, 17th of December at 10:30am (Mary Immaculate Church Meeting Room).** To book please Register Online <https://scp.org.au> (Baptism/Baptismal Prep/Registration) **Please note that Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday's @11am at Mary Immaculate Church.**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2020

The Sacrament of Reconciliation - will commence in **Term 1, 2020.** As per the Archdiocese Sacramental program requirements, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is on offer to those candidates who are Baptised Catholic and who are at least 10 years of age in 2020 (School Year 5). **The online registration will open on Monday, 13th January 2020 and close on Monday, 7th February 2020.**

The Sacrament of the **First Communion** will be offered in **Term 2, 2020** and will be available to candidates who are 9 years of age (Year 4) or older. **The online registration will open on Monday, 16th March 2020 and close on Thursday, 16th April 2020.**

The Candidates for this Sacrament must be a Baptised Catholic, and **at least one parent must be a Baptised Catholic.** Those candidates who are unsure if they qualify. Please contact Maria Blancia on 5510 2222.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND NATIVITY WORKSHOP
FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS (6PM)
AT MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH, ASHMORE**

Practice at Mary Immaculate Church:

Sunday, 22nd of December (9:45am - Last Practice)



SCL Thank You

As the season of celebration of the birth of Our Lord nears ever so closer and we reminisce about the past twelve months that have traversed so quickly, Southport Christian League (SCL) would like to thank all those who have made 2019 such a successful year.

Without the support of Fr. Jan, SCL would not exist in our parish today. We are ever so grateful for his understanding and acceptance of the role of the laity in our Southport Catholic Parish (SCP). We sincerely thank him and wish him all the best in his future parish.



To all supporters of our movement including John Murtagh and members of the PPC as well as all our parishioners who have attended our activities, we truly recognise your wonderful patronage and encouragement. A special mention goes to Mick and Sharon who never hesitate when requested to provide musical backing for any SCP event.

Who can forget the marvellous social events and Christian group we have provided this year to achieve our motto of **"Growing Together In Christ"**. These did not happen without the commitment of a small but dedicated band of people known as the SCL Organising Group. The whole parish is indebted to their desire to make this a more social, Christ-like and learning community. Each has our staunch and total recognition and appreciation for your outstanding efforts.

In conclusion, we wish all a happy and wonderful Christmas as we look towards a fruitful 2020.

John Wintour for SCL

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Lord, come and save us

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, O Long Expected Jesus

Come, O long expected Jesus
born to set your people free,
from our fears and sins release us,
in your heart our rest shall be.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope to all you shall impart,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born, your people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now your gracious kingdom bring.

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GIFTS PROCESSION

Advent Chant

Twilight, then darkness,
night falls and candles glow.
Gently surrounding us
a new birth of hope.
Watching, waiting,
awakening a new birth of hope.

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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION^(ICEL)

When we eat this Bread and drink
this Cup, we proclaim your Death,
O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you,
O Israel.

O come, true wisdom,
from on high,
and order all things far and nigh.
To us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go. **R**

O come, O come,
great Lord of might,
in ancient times on Sinai's height
you gave your chosen tribes
the law,
in cloud, and majesty and awe. **R**

O come, O branch of Jesse free,
your children from all tyranny,
from depths of hell
your people save,
and give them victory
o'er the grave. **R**

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way
that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. **R**

O come, O dayspring,
come and cheer our spirits
by your advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds
of night, and death's dark shadows
put to flight. **R**

O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind.
Bid ev'ry sad division cease
and be yourself
our Prince of Peace.

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REFLECTION HYMN

My Soul in Stillness Waits

Refrain:

For you O Lord,
my soul in stillness waits.
Truly, my hope is in you.

O Lord of Light,
our only hope of glory.
Your radiance shines
in all who look to you.
Come, light the hearts
of all in dark and shadow. **R**

O spring of Joy,
rain down upon our spirits.
Our thirsty hearts
are yearning for your Word.
Come, make us whole,
be comfort to our hearts. **R**

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Wait for The Lord

Refrain:

Wait for the Lord,
whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord,
keep watch, take heart!

Verse sung by Cantor

Refrain

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Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible
and invisible.**

**I believe in one
Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father
and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**



3RD WEEK OF ADVENT