

CHRISTMAS AND THE CROSS



In popular culture, Christmas is wholeheartedly embraced by the wider community outside the Christian communion. It is a time of family barbecues, present-giving, cricket on the beach, and cold beers. So often amidst our rejoicing and songs commemorating the “choirs of angels” we forget the enormity of the occasion, when God became incarnate to offer us redemption from sin and death. Christmas is part and parcel of the Easter message.

The birth of Jesus only derives real significance from his ultimate death and resurrection. For it was only in the light of that experience that Jesus’ first followers eventually came to see that Jesus was God incarnate. His birth in obscurity was conceived anew as the centre point of history. Hence, the story in Matthew does not shirk from hinting at the end that awaits this babe and that of those who fail to heed his message. The wise men offer gifts that include myrrh, an aloe used for anointed dead bodies (Matt 2:11); a jealous secular King orders the massacre of innocents to try prematurely to destroy the “newborn king” (Matt 2:16-18); and, a fiery prophet warns of the coming wrath of God against the wealthy, the powerful and self-satisfied who refuse to repent (Matt 3:7-13).

This Christmas, as we come to kneel before the crib in our churches, let us remember that the shadow of the cross looms large over the little stable by the altar. And amid the strains of jaunty carols and festive well-wishes, may we also hear the words of John the Baptist calling us to “produce good fruit as evidence of repentance” (Matt 3:8).

Ian J Elmer © Majellan 2019

FEAST OF OUR LADY THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, 9th of December

7am St Joseph the Worker
12:30pm Guardian Angels
5:30pm Mary Immaculate

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

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.

- *St Joseph the Worker, 8th Dec following the 8:30am Mass
- *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.

Fr Jan



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 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.

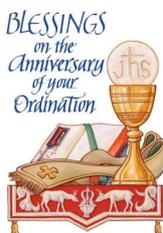


Awaken: Together in Christ Come for a Spirit Filled Night of Worship on Friday, 13th December 2019 at 7pm St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Tce West End. Suggested Donation - \$30 Family \$10 Adults \$5 Child. Nibbles & Refreshment provided. RSVP by Wednesday 11 Dec 2019.

Guardian Angels' Church Getting ready for Christmas! Parishioners who would like to sing at 10:30pm Mass at GA church email Audrey at acksiew@gmail.com. **Practice - every Wednesday 7:30pm at Guardian Angels. Hope to see you all there.**

Cherish Life (Gold Coast Branch) Meeting. All Life minded people are welcome, 6.30pm Monday, 9th of December 2019 Parish Hospitality Centre, 50 Fairway Drive Clear Island Waters.

Walking Group our parish walking group meets each Saturday at **St Joseph the Worker, Imperial Parade, Labrador at (please note) 6:00am**. Interested persons wishing to join us should ring **Janece on 0408 763 772**.



This Sunday, 8th of December Fr Stephen is celebrating 5th anniversary of his ordination. Our prayers and congratulations on this special day go to Fr Stephen. We are blessed to have him in our Parish, for his commitment to the pastoral work in the Parish and the hospitals. **Thanks Fr Stephen.**

Fr Jan

The Mass with the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick (the anointing Mass) will be celebrated at Guardian Angels Church on Friday, **December 13, at 12.30 pm.** (the regular Friday weekly Mass) Those parishioners who are unwell and in need of the sacrament of the sick are invited to join us for this celebration.



A VOCATION VIEW: Isaiah says: "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord." Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching

today? To talk to someone about your vocation, contact our office or visit our website 1300 133 544 vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

RECONCILIATION 2019

Tuesday, 10th Dec. Mary Immaculate 9am
Wednesday, 11th Dec. - St Joseph the Worker 6:45am
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 10 am 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.



HAPPY 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TO JUAN AND LOURDES ABELARDO!

Juan & Lourdes has been a parishioners at Southport Parish for over 20 years! Most of the time they attend the Sunday Mass at St Joseph the worker - Labrador.

Congratulations on your 65th Wedding Anniversary (12th of Dec.) May God continue to bless your marriage and for all the years of your lives! God Bless you both!

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year A/2

1st Reading - Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 - 2nd Reading - James 5:7-10 - Gospel - Matthew 11:2-11

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

PHONE: 1300 304 550 EMAIL: AOB@stopleveline.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: Eileen O'Keefe

Anniversary: Fritz Kumpf, Maria Valencia

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, Wiktoria Stojanovic, Patrick Sullivan, Pasqual Tantengo, Angela Taylor, Joe Tuesley, David Walters, Bernadette Ward, Victor Williams, Lorraine Wilson.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Today, we Welcome into God's Family

Julie Kim Ferreira Reis & Leonardo Kim Ferreira Reis
Children of Igor Ferreira Martinho Reis & Heayjoo Kim

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.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOTW)

Mary Immaculate Church Date:

Today, Sunday, 8th December is the last Children's Liturgy for this year. The next one will commence **2nd of February 2020.** **Special thanks** to our volunteers, older group - **Andrea, Sean, Pauline, George, Iman, Lilli -Ann, Mila, Mya** and the younger group - **Raphaelle, Lily, Lisa, Darna** for their commitment for teaching the of God, representing our Church and for being an inspiration to the Children of our Parish.

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

Practice at Mary Immaculate Church:

Today Sunday, 8th of December (9:45am)
(at the Meeting Room)

Saturday, 14th of December (10am)

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

PRAYER FOR RAIN

O merciful God, our Creator,
you are the source of all life.
It is through your divine providence
and infinite power/
that the wonder and splendour of all
creation surround us.

We pray to you/
to provide us with sufficient rain/
to meet our needs at this time.

During this time of drought,
we are mindful/ of our
dependence on you.

We pray for rain/
that will once again/ bring life
to the fields and crops/
that feed us/
and the cooling shade of the trees.

We also pray for all those/
who are suffering from
natural disasters,
especially the victims
of the recent bushfires.
May they look to you/ for the strength /
to restore their lives/
and heal their wounded land.

May your grace refresh our souls.
We ask for these blessings/
through the intercession of Mary,
Queen of Heaven and Earth.
Amen.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the Way

There was a man of God
whose name was John.
He came to speak for the light,
the voice of one in the wilderness.

Refrain:

Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.

Mountains and hills
shall be brought to the ground,
the winding paths be straightened
and all on earth shall see his face. **R**
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PENITENTIAL ACT 2

Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord.

People: For we have sinned against you.

Priest: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

People: And grant us your salvation.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

GIFTS PROCESSION

Jesus Come to Us

Refrain:

**Jesus, come to us,
lead us to your light.
Jesus, be with us,
for we need you.**

Lord, we come before you,
listen to our prayer.
Fill us all with hope, and your love. **R**

Lord, we come to praise you
for your faithfulness through night.
You will be with us, this we know. **R**

Lord, you give us wonders,
your glory to all.
We believe in you, come to us. **R**
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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

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**

My bread will ever sustain you
through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow
like a sea of gladness
to flood the depths of your soul. **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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REFLECTION HYMN

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blest is the fruit
of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of death. Amen.

Refrain

**Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star,
so strong and bright,
gentle mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom,
teach us love.**

You were chosen by the Father,
you were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women
and for woman, shining one. **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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presses de Taize

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.**



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