



Today is traditionally called *Gaudete* Sunday. Over the first millennium of Christianity Advent was like a late Lent. Both were five weeks long, both were marked by fasting and penance and both gave the faithful a day off half way through. In Lent *Laudete* Sunday is still, roughly, half way through the five-week season. Advent, however, was shortened to four weeks in the tenth century, and Pope St Gregory the Great eased the fasting and penitential aspects of this season in the twelfth century, but the not-so-half-way *Gaudete* Sunday has remained. It is, literally, the 'rejoicing' Sunday when we look more directly at Jesus' coming at Christmas.

To enable us to look at Jesus we start with the man who heralded his mission in the world, John the Baptist. In today's Gospel John the Baptist is the model of humility, opening the way for the Kingdom of Jesus to break in upon the world. We should never underestimate talent spotters, for as this story demonstrates, they all have John the Baptist as their patron saint.

Fleming was a poor Scottish farmer in the nineteenth century. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse cottage. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. 'I want to repay you,' said the nobleman. 'You saved my son's life.' 'No, I can't accept payment for what I did,' the Scottish farmer replied, waving away the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family home. 'Is that your son?' the nobleman asked. 'Yes,' the farmer replied proudly. 'I'll make you a deal. Let me take him and give him a good education. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll grow up to be a man you can be proud of.' And that is what he did. In time, Farmer Fleming's son graduated from St Mary's Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin. Years afterward, the nobleman's son was stricken with pneumonia. What saved him? Penicillin.

The nobleman's name? Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill. John the Baptist, the embodiment of the old covenant, recognises who Jesus is for the world and encourages his foes and friends alike to welcome in the Christ, the new and everlasting Covenant. Just like Farmer Fleming or Lord Randolph Churchill, he could not have known the implications of what he was doing. John the Baptist simply saw Jesus and knew that Love had taken human form. Through his talent spotting and in his promotion of Jesus he enabled the first generation of Christians to see and believe that the promises made to their ancestors had been fulfilled.

No wonder we have him as our focus on *Gaudete* Sunday. And so may we all rejoice today, not only because salvation is always close at hand in Christ the Lord, but because we are also called to spot his love in every act of goodness we see, encourage and promote it as best we can and then watch nature and grace do the rest.

Richard Leonard SJ

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish email address
info@scp.org.au

Parish Website
<https://scp.org.au>

Parish phone number
07 5510 2222

Parish address
31 Edmund Rice Drive
Ashmore Qld 4215
PO Box 216
Ashmore City 4214

Parish Office

Leeanne Human
(Parish Manager)

Daloras Howes
(Parish Secretary)
dalorash@scp.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Maria Blanca
MariaB@scp.org.au

Priests of the Parish

Fr. Gerard McMorro (PP)

Fr Stephen Camiolo
*(Parish Ministry
& Hospital Chaplaincy)*

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SOUTHPORT CATHOLIC
PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE**
[https://www.facebook.com/
southportcatholicparish](https://www.facebook.com/southportcatholicparish)



Parish Mass Times – (Please note change of Mass times) Bookings for Sunday Mass essential

St. Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Masses
7:00am & 8:30am
(Please book on line)

Weekday Masses
Monday & Wednesday
7:00am
**(No need to book for weekday
Mass)**

Gold Coast University Hospital
Friday Rosary 10.00am
Mass Friday 10:30am

Guardian Angels' Church
99 Scarborough St., Southport

Saturday & Sunday Masses
Saturday (Vigil) 4.30 & 6.00pm
Sunday 7:00am & 9:00am
(Please book on line)

Mass in Korean - Sunday - 5.00pm

Prayers & Adoration
Wednesday 12.00noon - 1.00pm

Weekday Mass
Friday 12:30pm
(No need to book for weekday Mass)

Mary Immaculate Church
31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Saturday & Sunday Masses
Saturday (Vigil) 4.30pm
Sunday 9:00am & 5.30pm
(Please book on line)

Weekday Masses
Tuesday 9:00am
Thursday 9:00am
No need to book for weekday Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
By Appointment

Thursday, 24th of December

Mary Immaculate - 4:30pm & 6:30pm
Guardian Angels' - 6pm & 12midnight

Friday, 25th of December

St Joseph the Worker - 7am & 8:30am
Guardian Angels' - 7am & 9am
Mary Immaculate - 9am

Saturday, 26th of December

No Morning Mass

Usual Vigil Masses (see front of newsletter)

Sunday, 27th of December

Usual Masses (see front of newsletter)

Monday, 28th of December

St Joseph The Worker 9am

Tuesday, 29th of December

Mary Immaculate 9am

Wednesday, 30th of December

St Joseph the Worker 7am

Thursday, 31st of December

Mary Immaculate 9am

Friday, 1st of January

Guardian Angels 12.30

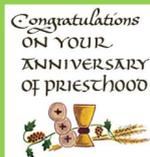
ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

Christmas Eve

<https://scp.org.au/sjtw-christmas-mass/>

Christmas Day

<https://scp.org.au/mi-christmas-mass/>



CONGRATULATIONS

Fr Stephen as you celebrate 6 years in the priesthood. Thank you, and God bless you, for all you do in the service of the church.



Congratulations to **Wally Folke** on your **90th Birthday** which you celebrated on the 3rd December. May our Lord you with health and happiness.



Happy 66th Wedding Anniversary to **Juan & Lourdes Abelardo!** May God continue to bless your marriage and keep you both in bliss.

Position Vacant – Administration Officer

Applications are open for the above position at St Stephen's Cathedral Parish. A person with excellent administration and secretarial skills is required for a full-time position of Administration Officer for 38 hours per week, Monday to Friday. Applications close **Friday 18 December 2020.**

For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.



WANTED - VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEKEND @ SCP GIFTSHOP (ANGELS ON SCARBOROUGH)

Couples would be ideal for this position to mind the Giftshop every other weekend for only 4 hours.

Job training will be provided. Contact Daloras or Maria at the Parish Office (5510 2222)

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year B/1
1st Reading – 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12,14,16 - 2nd Reading – Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel - Luke 1:26-38

**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.*

Recently Deceased:

Clare Dobozy, Brian Sheehan, Terence Fitz Simons



*The names of our sick and
deceased family & friends
Will be recorded in these books*



SCL FASHION PARADE

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

2020 might not have been the year we wished for but SCL was not going to let it exit without a bang. And what a great celebration did we have with our fashion parade as the first parish event to be held in our new Lumen Christi Centre. As a picture tells a thousand words, browse below some of the delightful highlights enjoyed by those who attended.



Due to the magnificent generosity of those there, it appears that SCL will be able to donate \$1,000 to Angel's Kitchen and \$600 to Vinnies to help the needy celebrate Christmas. So, our thanks go to many contributors. Without the attendees, we would not have been able to raise so much money and christen the Centre through such wonderful fellowship and celebration. Without our major sponsor – Portofino Fashions, we would not have been able to hold this event, provide such excellent prizes for the raffle and donate as much to our charities.

Without our marvellous models, accommodating waiters, and creative catering team our festivities would not have served such pizzazz, terrific drinks and fabulous food. Without food, drink and entertainment, there is no party. SCL is so grateful to each one for your gracious contributions in making the day so successful. Without unseen people behind the scenes like our parish staff, Guardian Angels school and step-up volunteers like Eddie and Danny many problems would have remained solutionless. And without the contributions from our dedicated SCL Committee, 2020 would have ended without a bang.

Thank you one and all, John Wintour for SCL

WALKING GROUP at St Joseph the Worker, Imperial Parade, Labrador at 6am. Interested persons wishing to join us should ring **Janece on 0408 763 772.**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, HOLY HOUR AND BENEDICTION. is on every **Wednesday** at **Guardian Angels Church.** Commencing 12 noon sharp and finishing at 1:00pm. No need to book, please drop in for some time praying with Our Eucharistic Lord.



12 Hours ADORATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

At Guardian Angels we will be holding 12 hours of continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **Wednesday, 16th of December commencing at 10:00 and concluding at 22:00 with Benediction.** There will be an **opportunity for confession** during specific times, and Rosary but most importantly plenty of quiet time to pray before the Blessed Sacrament in silence. There will be a list at the entrance of Guardian

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 10:00 - 12:00 noon | Blessed Sacrament exposed, silent prayer, confessions available |
| 12:00 - 12:45 | Rosary with reflective readings on the Blessed sacrament |
| 14:45 - 15:00 | Silent pray time |
| 15:00 - 15:45 | Divine Mercy Chaplet with reflective readings on Divine Mercy |
| 15:45 - 17:00 | Silent prayer time |
| 17:00 - 18:00 | Confessions available, silent prayer time |
| 18:00 - 20:00 | Continuing Silent Prayer |
| 20:00 - 21:30 | Confessions available, continuing Silent prayer |
| 21:30 - 21:50 | Litany to The Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hymns to the Blessed Sacrament |
| 21:50 - 22:00 | Benediction and reposing of the Blessed Sacrament |

Angels for you to nominate a time, so we are assured Our Lord is always accompanied.

A clip board will be available at the sign in table in Guardian Angels, please write down the times you will attend so we know Our Lord is always accompanied.



A VOCATION VIEW: There was a man sent by God, who came as witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is your name in the Gospel today?

To talk to someone about your vocation, please contact Vocation Brisbane: 1300 133 544 or visit our website at vocationbrisbane.com.au, or email us on vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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, 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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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PREPARE the WAY (sung)

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

**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**

He is the lamb of God
and you must follow him
who takes the sin of the world,
for he has come to give you life. **R**

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Publications

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

God brings the world to himself
now through his Christ reconciling,
he has trusted us
with the news of redeeming love.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia!

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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come
unto me and rest.
Lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad.
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give the living water.
Thirsty one, stoop down,
and drink and live."

I came to Jesus and I drank
of that life giving stream,
my thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light,
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."

I looked to Jesus,
and I found in him my star, my sun,
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.
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RECESSIONAL HYMN

ADVENT LITANY

Word we long for, **Alleluia!**
Word we thirst for, **Maranatha!**

Key of David, **Alleluia!**
Son of Mary, **Maranatha!**

Promised Saviour, **Alleluia!**
True Messiah, **Maranatha!**

Cry of prophets, **Alleluia!**
Hope of ages, **Maranatha!**

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Presider: The Presider, or an assistant,
lights the second candle and says:- which
can be named the Saints' Candle. To call
to mind all the saints who share the life of
Christ by being baptised into his Body the
Church.

Presider: Lord Jesus, your coming was
foretold by the prophet Isaiah who cried
with joy for God clothes us in the
garments of salvation (First Reading).

As a joyful, hope-filled Servant Community
may our hearts be filled with gratitude for
the many gifts God has given us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: Lord Jesus, you come among
us now as the light of the world. St Paul
urges us to be happy at all times and to
pray constantly (Second Reading).

May the joy of the Lord be in our hearts as
we journey together, listening to what the
Spirit is saying to each
of us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: Lord Jesus, you sent John the
Baptist to be a witness for the light
(Gospel).

Like John the Baptist may we be
witnesses to the power of Jesus.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Apostles Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son,**

our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

(all bow)

**born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from
the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven;
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father almighty;**

**From there he shall come to judge the
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And life everlasting.**

Amen

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