



Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer.

Eventually they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours; lines of code streaming up the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes and takes out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.' Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, how can Jesus' program be intact?' God chuckles and says, 'Ah – because Jesus saves.'

On this final Sunday of Advent the Church moves our gaze to the Annunciation. The whole scene hinges around one word: 'Yes.' Mary's fiat sets in motion the entire Christian drama. In his film *Jesus of Nazareth* Franco Zeffirelli pictures the Annunciation this way: Mary is asleep at night when a gust of wind opens a high window. Afraid at all the commotion Mary gets up and starts to pray. As she prays, we see her face change and her body bend over. With tears in her eyes, Mary looks up through the window to the moonlit sky and simply says, 'Yes'. The swirling wind dies down at once.

In recent years successive popes have reminded us that the best devotion to Mary is one that leads us to do what she did: say 'yes' to Jesus. Mary is not a stop on our journey of faith; she is a guidepost that always sends us on to Christ. Mary does not save us, for we believe she needed to be saved by Christ as well. That's why she could say yes in the first place. Mary recognised the gift and the giver and became the bearer of God for the world.

In this final week of Advent let's keep reminding ourselves of this simple but life-changing fact: Jesus saves us. Jesus saves us from death. Jesus saves us from living lives devoid of purpose and meaning and Jesus saves us from ourselves.

We don't save ourselves. We cannot earn salvation by good works or prayers or penance. And, as difficult as it is to hear, we cannot save anyone else. That includes our children, spouse, grandchildren, parents or friends.

Our prayers, good works and faith are the responses we make to the salvation of Christ we claim here and now. And how we live is the way by which those we love will find the gift of God's salvation for themselves.

In the midst of this frantic final week before Christmas when so many other things can distract us from what this grace-filled feast is really all about, let's take a moment to join Mary in accepting into our lives and hearts the greatest of all gifts – our undeserved salvation, Jesus Christ the Lord.

*Richard Leonard SJ*

### **PARISH CONTACTS**

**Parish email address**  
[info@scp.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:dalorash@scp.org.au)

### **Sacramental Coordinator**

Maria Blanca  
[MariaB@scp.org.au](mailto:MariaB@scp.org.au)

### **Priests of the Parish**

Fr. Gerard McMorrow (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)



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
FROM THE 25TH DECEMBER 2020 AND RE OPEN ON THE 4TH JANUARY 2021**

**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)**

**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 Including  
Korean Community  
**(Please book on line)**

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

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
**By Appointment**

## CAROLS WILL BEGIN 30MINUTES BEFORE THE MASS

### Thursday, 24th of December

Mary Immaculate - 4:30pm & 6:30pm  
Guardian Angels'  
6pm & 12midnight (fully Booked)  
**8pm - is now available**

### 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/>



## SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGES

We have been running on a Covid-19 Mass Schedule for Sunday Mass since we came out of lockdown. **Beginning Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 our updated Mass Schedule is below.**

### Mary Immaculate – Ashmore

Saturday - 4:30 pm (No Change)

Sunday - 9:00 am and 5:30 pm (No Change)

### Guardian Angels – Southport

Saturday Reconciliation – 4:30 pm

Saturday – 5:30 pm (The Only Change)

Sunday - 7:00 am and 9:00 am (No Change)

**Now Includes the Korean Community for Mass**

### St Joseph The Worker – Labrador

Sunday - 7:00 am and 8:30 am (No Change)

**Please note that the 4:30 and the 6:00 pm Mass at Guardian Angels will now be one Mass at 5:30 pm.**

Reconciliation without an appointment will Resume on Saturday Afternoons at 4:30 pm, at Guardian Angels Church.

With the easing of restrictions for COVID-19, we must continue to be Vigilant with **Social distancing, washing hands and booking for Weekend Mass. These practices continue as per Government Regulations.**

There are **NO** changes to the Weekday Mass Times.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM THE 25TH DECEMBER 2020 AND RE OPEN ON THE 4TH JANUARY 2021**

### **PLEASE NOTE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REGISTER ONLINE FOR THE WEEKEND & CHRISTMAS MASSES**

To register online please visit our website <https://scp.org.au/> then **point** the pointer at **MASS REGISTRATION** and then **click** or select the correct church & Mass you want to attend ie:

**SJTW** (St Joseph the Worker),  
**GA** (Guardian Angels) or  
**MI** (Mary Immaculate).

*Each week the registration portal is open by 9am Monday and closes by 4pm on the Thursday for Masses for the following Sunday.*

**Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year B/1**  
**1st Reading – Genesis 15: 1-6, 21:1-3, - 2nd Reading – Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19**  
**Gospel - Luke 2:22,-39-40**

**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](mailto:AOB@stoline.com.au) ONLINE: [www.bneatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://www.bneatholic.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:

**Gregory McNamara, Arthur Patterson**



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



**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.



**A VOCATION VIEW.** Every person who has ever born a child, and every person who has freely vowed away this honour, helps in some mysterious way to bring Jesus

Christ in to this world again. Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord"?

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

## THE CATHOLIC LEADER

Keeping Faith with You

**THE CATHOLIC LEADER** will be printing a Christmas edition. **Free for readers. Please take a complimentary copy** on the table at the entrance of all 3 churches.

The Catholic Leader is still available digitally and parishioners can sign up to receive their free digital edition through our website:

[www.catholicleader.com.au/covid19free](http://www.catholicleader.com.au/covid19free)

**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**.



Aid to the Church in Need

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: Thank you to all the individuals,

**ACN AUSTRALIA** families and parishes who helped us support suffering and persecuted Catholic communities, particularly in this year of the coronavirus pandemic. We pray that the joy and peace of the Christmas season will refresh all our hearts and prepare us to live our faith into the New Year.

[www.aidtochurch.org](http://www.aidtochurch.org).

2/115 Scarborough St.  
Southport  
OPEN: 9:30am to 12:30pm

**Boxing DAY SALES**  
26 DECEMBER

ANGELS ON SCARBOROUGH

### **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)

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OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING SERVICES  
PH: (07) 324 3752 EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDING@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU](mailto:SAFEGUARDING@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU)  
WWW.SAFEGUARDINGAQB.COM.AU TWITTER: @SAFEGUARDINGAQB

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

## 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, 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**  
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## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### My Soul in Stillness Waits

#### **Refrain:**

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

Come, let us bow  
before the God who made us.  
Let every heart  
be opened to the Lord,  
for we are all  
the people of His hand. **R**

Here we shall meet  
the maker of the heavens,  
creator of the mountains  
and the seas.  
Lord of the stars,  
and present to us now. **R**

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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Word of the Lord is alive,  
the Word of God is active.  
It can judge our thoughts,  
bring us closer to the Father.

**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

### The Angel Gabriel

The angel Gabriel  
from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow,  
his eyes as flame.  
"Rejoice!" the angel said,  
"the Lord is with you".

**Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

"Be not afraid  
for you shall bear a child,  
by him shall we to God  
be reconciled.  
His name shall be Emmanuel,  
the long foretold,"  
**Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

Then gentle Mary  
humbly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleases God,"  
she said.  
"My soul shall praise  
and magnify his holy name."  
**Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

"And so," she said,  
"how happy I shall be.  
All generations will remember me,  
for God has kept the promises  
to Israel."  
**Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ,  
was born in Bethlehem  
upon that Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk  
throughout the world will ever say,  
**Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!**

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## REFLECTION HYMN

### Wait for the Lord

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

Prepare the way for the Lord.  
Make a straight path for God. **R**

The glory of the Lord  
shall be revealed. **R**

All the earth will see the Lord. **R**

Rejoice in the Lord always,  
He is at hand. **R**

©1984 Jacques Berthier 1923-1994 Ateliers et  
presses de Taize

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### ADVENT LITANY

Light of nations, **Alleluia**,  
Light in darkness, **Maranatha!**

Risen Saviour, **Alleluia**,  
Lord of glory, **Maranatha!**

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

Here among us, **Alleluia**,  
Living in us, **Maranatha!**  
©Bernadette Farrell 1987 OCP

**Presider: The Presider, or an assistant,  
lights the fourth candle and says:-**

which can be named the Angel Gabriel  
Candle. To call to mind those messengers  
who bring God's Word into our world.

**Presider:** Lord Jesus, you established the  
house of David to be secure forever and  
from which the Saviour would be born  
(First Reading). Jesus is the cornerstone.  
We are a Christ-centered Church.

**People. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Presider:** Lord Jesus, you alone are  
wisdom and as St Paul declares, you will  
give us the strength to live the Gospel  
(Second Reading). By living a prayerful life  
Centered on the Eucharist may we open  
ourselves to your wisdom and the Spirit  
working in the community.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Presider:** Lord Jesus, you sent the angel  
Gabriel to give the good news to Mary so  
that she would bring Jesus into the world  
through the power of the Spirit(Gospel).  
Giving birth is painful.

Change can be frightening.

Mary trusted in God and let herself be led  
by the Holy Spirit so that we can say:

**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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