



In recent years the Ten Commandments have become an unusual staging ground for various groups within the Church. Some people complain that young Catholics don't know them off by heart. This position is countered by those who say that rather than being able to recite them we should live them, though it's hard to see how we can do one without the other. Still, others rightly claim that Jesus summarised them in his new commandments, 'To love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.'

The problem with teaching the Ten Commandments is not what they say, but how they say it. The idea of 'coveting' anything, but especially 'wives, slaves, ox and ass' are all a bit dated these days.

In an article entitled 'Preaching to the Modern Pagans' journalist Bryan Appleyard tells how he interviewed a person who kept quoting them at length. Later he decided to read them for the first time since childhood and he was struck by their insightfulness into the human character. Appleyard thought all the Ten Commandments needed was a makeover so that we can reclaim the power of them.

- 'You shall have no other gods beside me.' **Be serious!**
 'You shall not carve idols for yourselves ... nor bow down before them.' **Get real!**
 'You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.' **Be humble!**
 'Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day ...' **Be quiet!**
 'Honour your father and your mother ...' **Respect age!**
 'You shall not kill.' **Do not kill, for all murder is suicide!**
 'You shall not commit adultery.' **Mean what you say!**
 'You shall not steal.' **Do not steal, or all the world will die!**
 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.'
Honour others, their frailties are usually your own!
 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house or wife ...'
Be kind, be generous and don't play around!

So by putting some ancient words into the modern vernacular we are exhorted this Sunday to seriousness, facing reality, humility, creating space, respecting age, honesty, and fidelity, and we are bluntly told to stop killing and stealing. There is nothing old fashioned about these challenges. As in other instances, we can see that it's not what our tradition has to say but the way we say it that can be the problem. And today's Gospel tells us of the consequences of moving away from these guiding principles. I think we need to take Jesus' anger very seriously. Rightly we have emphasised the love and compassion of Jesus over recent decades because for far too long the steadfast love of Christ was under-emphasised. We should never think, however, that it cancels out the anger God feels when he sees an unjust world filled with people who know better and do nothing.

God has given us the Ten Commandments, the Law, the Prophets and Jesus his Son, so that we might know the Way, the Truth and the Life. When we are called to account for how we spent our lives, whom we loved and how we made the world a better place for all, most of us will not be able to plead ignorance. May our Eucharist this Sunday enable us to be mindful of what the Ten Commandments say, but even more may it give us the courage and strength to live them out in a world that needs witnesses to them more than ever.

Richard Leonard SJ

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Fr. Gerard McMorrow (PP)

Fr Stephen Camiolo
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& Hospital Chaplaincy)*

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



Bookings for Sunday Mass essential to register on line <https://scp.org.au/>

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

Guardian Angels' Church
99 Scarborough St., Southport

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Reconciliation : 4.30pm

Saturday (Vigil) 5.30 pm
Sunday 7:00am & 9:00am
(Please book on line)

Prayers & Adoration
Wednesday 12.00noon -1.00pm

Weekday Mass
Friday 12:30pm

Mary Immaculate Church
31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Saturday & Sunday Masses
Saturday (Vigil) 4.30pm
Sunday 9:00am & 5.30pm, including
the Korean Mass
(Please book on line)

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

EASTER MASS TIMES

HOLY THURSDAY - 1st April 2021

Guardian Angels Church - 6pm
Mary Immaculate Church - 6pm

GOOD FRIDAY - 2nd April 2021 **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Guardian Angles Church - 10am
Mary Immaculate Church - 10am

Good Friday - Passion of Christ

Guardian Angels Church - 3pm
Mary Immaculate Church - 3pm

Easter Vigil - Saturday 3rd April 2021

Guardian Angels Church - 6pm
Mary Immaculate - 6pm

Easter Sunday - 4th April 2021

St Joseph the Worker - 7am & 8.30am
Guardian Angels - 7am & 9am
Mary Immaculate - 9am

No 5.30pm Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

Easter Monday

St Joseph the Worker Church- 9am

Please note it is essential to register on line
<https://scp.org.au/>



The Sacredness of the Present Moment

This flower, this light, this moment,
this silence: Dominus est. Eternity.
(God) passes. (God) remains.
We pass. In and out. (God) passes.

We remain.

We are nothing. We are everything.
(God) is in us. (God) is gone from us.
(God) is not here. We are here in God.
The flower is itself. The light is itself. The silence is itself.
I am myself.[1]

THOMAS MERTON'S poetic language draws us into a contemplative aware-ness of the sacredness of the present moment. He evokes the mystery that in the simplest tiny flower we can see everything and nothing. We can experience that God is. Moreover, as Merton identifies in New Seeds of Contemplation, 'the ever changing reality in the midst of which we live should awaken us to the possibility of an uninterrupted dialogue with God.'[2] We live in the Presence of God—a God who calls us to live an uninterrupted dialogue, in intimacy, in union.

In this article I will draw our attention to the sacredness of the present moment in which we dwell and show how we can nurture a spirituality of Presence through the practice of centering prayer.

After situating the image of God as Presence within the context of scripture and tradition, I will focus on various aspects of this Presence: the presence as love, a relational presence, and a dark presence. I will then show how awareness of the Presence unites us to the Presence we are seeking.

Finally I will give an example of centering prayer as a way of disposing and opening us to the gift of contemplation that the Presence longs to give us, by leading us to a meeting place with God in our deepest centre, and sensitizing us to the oneness of all, in the uniting love of God. ancis, Gaudete et Exsultate, para. 6).

The Presence is Love

The first letter of John shows how everything that exists must of necessity be in the Presence of God. 'God is love,' the author acclaims, 'and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us.' (1 John 4:16 b-17).

Paul reflects the same sentiment when he reminds us, 'Love has been poured out into our hearts' (Romans 5:5). We live within a love that grounds and permeates our being, a love that is eternal, cosmic, transcending all that we are, and yet a love that is ever present, intimate personal, relational.

We exist in relationship with a God who is present to us, and whose way of being present, being with, and being for, is Love. God freely chooses not to remain self-contained, but to give God's self to us in love.

Consequently, created in love, there is a primordial Presence or love that is the source of who we are. We are by our very nature in relationship with divine Presence who calls us to live in harmony with this presence, to be united, to be one with this Presence.

We have the potential to be one in love, to live through, with and in the infinite depths of divine love.

To be continued.....



WEDNESDAY HOLY HOUR AT GUARDIAN ANGELS

Special Lenten program 12noon - 1pm every Wednesday.

During Lent we will be praying the Way of the Cross with meditations by 'Venerable Fulton J Sheen and Saint John Henry Newman' and sung Stabat Mater commencing at 12 Noon. Confession available during this time. Immediately following the Way of the Cross, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed followed by time for silent prayer and Benediction concluding at 1pm.

Please join us for an hour with Our Lord in preparation for Easter. No bookings required.

WALKING GROUP. At St Joseph the Worker church, Imperial Parade, Labrador. Saturday at 6am.

Interested persons wishing to join us should ring Janece on 0408 763 772.



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

Did you know that each year the Catholic charity, *Aid to the Church in Need*, supports the training of 12,000 seminarians and provides ongoing formation for 8,000 priests. Could you help support a priest or seminarian? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/formation

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year B/1

**1st Reading - 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23 - 2nd Reading - Ephesians 2:4-10
Gospel - John 3:14-21**

**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:

**Eileen Thornton,
Charles Debono,
Eileen Ward, John Woodruff,
Olga Marinac**

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



**Third Sunday of Lent
7th March 2021**

Oliva, 22, didn't have the opportunity to go to school, and was embarrassed that she was unable to read, write or count. Her business was losing money because she couldn't add up. Then Oliva enrolled in Caritas Australia's literacy and numeracy classes. She also set up a home classroom to teach her neighbours for free, because they were too shy to attend larger classes. Oliva has now graduated, attendance at her classes is growing, her kiosk is thriving and she is helping her children with their homework. She aims to become a pastor and run for leadership in the next local election - to help her community to 'Be More.'

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Reconciliation Meetings:

Preparation Session

Sunday, 7th March @10:15am (after 9am Mass) Or
Thursday, 11th March @ 4pm

All meetings are held at the Mary Immaculate church

Reconciliation (1st Rite)

**Monday, 15th to Friday, 19th of March 2021 @ 4pm
to 5pm.** Estimated group of 10-12 people per day.

The Sacrament of First Communion will be offered in **Term 2, 2021** and will be available to candidates who are 9 years of age (Year 4) or older.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered in **Term 3, 2021** and will be available to those candidates who are 8 years of age (Year 3) or older.

Please contact Maria Blancia on 5510 2222 for further information in regards to Sacramental Program.



A VOCATION VIEW: Jesus cleaned out the temple of money changers. He was angry; He was zealous; He was authoritative. He was doing what He had to do, even though it involved risk, danger, insult and wonder. Such is a vocation.



**ANGELS ON
SCARBOROUGH
Gift Shop**

Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

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- Pleasant Therapeutic Aroma

GIFT SHOP TRADING HOURS

ADD: SHOP 2/115 SCARBOROUGH ST. SOUTHPORT QLD 4215 OPEN: Monday to Friday, 9am -4pm

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

From Ashes to the Living Font

From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey, Lord
baptised in grace, in grace renewed
by your most holy word.

Through fasting,
prayer, and charity,
your voice speaks deep within,
returning us to ways of truth
and turning us from sin.

For thirsting hearts let waters flow
our fainting souls revive,
and at the well your waters give
our everlasting life.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM- SUNG A Trusting Psalm

Refrain

***Lord, let your mercy be on us
as we place our trust in you.***

The Word of the Lord
is faithfulness and love.
This love can never be measured.
God's beauty is like
nothing we have ever seen,
so let us place our trust in God. **R**

The Word of the Lord
means a patient, gentle God,
whose love can never grow weary.
God's mercy is as though
our sins have never been,
if we can place our trust in God. **R**

The Word of the Lord
is fire burnig strong
and love that never grows weary.
God will seek and save the lost
until we all return,
so let us place our trust in God. **R**

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus, praise and honour Lord
Jesus Christ***

God loved the world so much
he gave us His only Son
that all who believe in Him
might have eternal life.

***Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus, praise and honour Lord
Jesus Christ.***

© 1985 F. O'Carroll & C. Walker OCP

GIFTS PROCESSION

Grant to us, O Lord

Refrain:

Grant to us, O Lord,
a heart renewed.
Recreate in us
your own Spirit, Lord. **R**

Behold, the days are coming,
says the Lord our God,
when I will make a new covenant with
the house of Israel. **R**

Deep within their being
I will implant my law.
I will write it in their hearts. **R**

I will be their God,
and they shall be my people. **R**

And for all their faults
I will grant forgiveness.
Never more will I remember
their sins. **R**

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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

I Am the Bread of Life

I am the bread of life,
you who come to me
shall not hunger
and who believe in me
shall not thirst.
No one can come to me,
unless the Father beckons.

Refrain

***And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up
on the last day.***

The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever,
you shall live forever. **R**

Unless you eat
of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of His blood,
and drink of His blood,
you shall not have life within you. **R**

I am the Resurrection,
I am the Life.
If you believe in me,
even though you die,
you shall live forever. **R**

Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who has come into the world. **R**
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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Tree of Life

Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,

Living water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul,
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole.

Marty Haugen,b,1950 ©1984 GIA Publications

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**

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