



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

30TH JANUARY 2022 TIME YEAR C/2



At the end of today's Gospel we hear how Jesus' hometown crowd were so outraged by his words that they wanted to throw him off a cliff. How things have changed! These days many young adults tie a rope around their ankles and willingly hurl themselves from any precipice available!

It seems that some young people enjoy the challenge of facing down their fears, trusting the generally good track record of those who have done it before them and publicly showing their courage, even to the brink of death. Those of us not courageous or stupid enough to attempt a bungee jump have to concede that to do it, for whatever reason, is heroic stuff. Heroic stuff is at the heart of today's readings. Even though the crowd hated what they heard, Jesus preached boldly to his own people. Jeremiah was similarly courageous in his teaching, in the face of enormous persecution from his people. And Paul knows the only reason one can endure hardships and rejection and even be seen as stupid in the eyes of the world is for the sake of love.

The word 'love' has to be one of the most misused words in our language. We say we love our house, holiday, car, and even ice cream. But using love in this way we scarcely come close to what Christian love is all about.

St Paul teaches today that love is not primarily about warm fuzzy feelings and violins. Paul knew that Christian love is an intensely practical business. There is no point in any of us saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make.

Indeed as St John was to sharply say in his letter in the New Testament, 'If you say you love God and hate your neighbour, you are a liar'. We can say the right words about loving God and each other all we like, but if we do not show it in how we live, then we are noisy gongs and clanging cymbals.

There is no getting around it: Christian love always and everywhere involves sacrifice. So, how can we love like this? Why should we love like this?

We can love sacrificially because other people have loved us in the same way. When anyone has been gentle, kind and patient with us, when they did not insist on their own way, were not irritable, resentful or enjoy our downfall, we were on the receiving end of love. They showed us how to do it. That's love.

We can take this enormous gamble to love like this only when others have loved us enough to tell us the truth about ourselves and we in turn have spoken the truth to them. That's love.

And we can plunge into the unknown, even to the brink of death, because along with others we have held on to hope in the face of difficult times. That's sacrificial love and that is what Christian love is all about.

Jesus does not promise us in the Gospel that any of this is going to be easy, just necessary if we are going to live life to the full. And we also have legions of companions who have been down this road before us.

From Jeremiah to Jesus to Paul to the martyrs and saints and to our own families, we know that it is possible to face down our fears, trust the track record of those who have done it before us, publicly show our courage, even to the brink of death and leap into the future with only three ropes tied to our ankles.

On one is written 'faith'. On the second is written 'hope' and on the third and strongest rope is written 'love'.

Let's pray in this Eucharist, then, for the grace to be foolish in the eyes of the world and heroic in the courage it takes to love others sacrificially, and be loved by them, even to the point of death.

Richard Leonard SJ

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Priests of the Parish

Fr Gerard McMorrow (PP)

Fr Stephen Camiolo

(Parish Ministry
& Hospital Chaplaincy)

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

ASHMORE:

MONDAY TO THURSDAY

8.00AM TO 4.00PM

SOUTHPORT OFFICE:

(ANGELS ON SCARBOROUGH)

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

9.00AM TO 4.30PM



A team you can contact if an adult at your local church is hurting you or upsetting you.

Phone: 1300 304 550

Email: A0B@stoplne.com.au

Report Online:

www.bnecatholic.stoplnerreport.com

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

Rosary 10.00am

Friday Mass 10.30am

Guardian Angels Church

99 Scarborough Street, Southport

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Saturday Reconciliation 4.30pm

Saturday (Vigil) 5.30 pm

Sunday 7.00am & 9.00am

Sunday 5.00pm Korean Mass

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

Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Guardian Angels Church

Saturday 4.30pm



St. Agatha, also known as Agatha of Sicily, is one of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of the Catholic Church. It is believed that she was born around 231 in either Catania or Palermo, Sicily to a rich and noble family.

From her very early years, the notably beautiful Agatha dedicated her life to God. She became a consecrated virgin, a state in life where young women choose to remain celibate and give themselves wholly to Jesus and the Church in a life of prayer and service. That did not stop men from desiring her and making unwanted advances toward her.

However, one of the men who desired Agatha, whose name was Quintianus, because he was of a high diplomatic ranking, thought he could force her to turn away from her vow and force her to marry. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha, so Quintianus, knowing she was a Christian during the persecution of Decius, had her arrested and brought before the judge. He was the Judge.

He expected her to give in to his demands when she was faced with torture and possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God by praying: "Jesus Christ, Lord of all, you see my heart, you know my desires. Possess all that I am. I am your sheep: make me worthy to overcome the devil." With tears falling from her eyes, she prayed for courage.

To force her to change her mind, Quintianus had her imprisoned - in a brothel. Agatha never lost her confidence in God, even though she suffered a month of assaults and efforts to get her to abandon her vow to God and go against her virtue. Quintianus heard of her calm strength and ordered that she be brought before him once again. During her interrogation, she told him that to be a servant of Jesus Christ was her true freedom.

Enraged, Quintianus sent her off to prison instead of back to the brothel -- a move intended to make her even more afraid, but it was probably a great relief to her.

Agatha continued to proclaim Jesus as her Savior, Lord, Life and Hope. Quintianus ordered her to be tortured. He had her stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture with a sense of cheer, he commanded she be subjected to a worse form of torture ? this evil man ordered that her breasts be cut off.

He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But the Lord gave her all the care she needed. He was her Sacred Physician and protector. Agatha had a vision of the apostle, St. Peter, who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers.

After four days, Quintianus ignored the miraculous cure of her wounds. He had her stripped naked and rolled over naked over hot coals which were mixed with sharp shards. When she was returned to prison, Agatha prayed, "Lord, my Creator, you have ever protected me from the cradle; you have taken me from the love of the world, and given me patience to suffer: receive now my soul."

Agatha is believed to have passed into Heaven around the year 251.

She is commonly featured in religious art with shears, tongs, or breasts on a plate.

St. Agatha is the patron saint of Sicily, bellfounders, breast cancer patients, Palermo, rape victims, and wet nurses. She is also considered to be a powerful intercessor when people suffer from fires. Her feast day is celebrated on **February 5**.

Prayer:

Saint Agatha, you suffered sexual assault and indignity because of your faith and purity. Help heal all those who are survivors of sexual assault and protect those women who are in danger. Amen



Shop 2/115 Scarborough Street, SOUTHPORT
Monday to Friday (9am to 4pm)

WANTED VOLUNTEERS

This position is to mind our Giftshop at Southport once a week for only 4 hours.

Available Days/Shift:

Monday - afternoon shift 12:30 – 4:30pm.

Wednesday - afternoon shift 12:30 – 4:30pm.

Friday - afternoon shift 12:30 – 4:30pm.

Job training will be provided. For more information, please contact Maria Blancia on 5510 2222 ext:4



~QUOTE~

“God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.” **John Piper**

Liturgy of the Word for Next Sunday Year C/2
1st Reading – Isaiah 6: 1-8 - 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel - Luke 5:1-11

STOPLINE RECEIVES INFORMATION ABOUT SUSPECTED ABUSE, (INFORMATION CAN BE PROVIDED ANONYMOUSLY) MISCONDUCT & SERIOUS POLICY BREACHES BY ARCHDIOCESAN CLERGY, EMPLOYEES OR VOLUNTEERS.

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

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)

Guardian Angels Church
Rebecca

Mary Immaculate Church
Raphaelle

St Joseph the Worker Church
Cathy

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

John McGillan, Natalia Malachowski

By request the names of our sick and deceased family & friends will be recorded in these books in each church



PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2022

Rosary Please join in saying the rosary every **Monday and Wednesday at 6.00 am** at St Joseph the Worker Church, Labrador. **Tuesday & Thursday 8.00am** Mary Immaculate.

Eucharistic Adoration at Mary Immaculate Church

Please join us every **Thursday** from 7.45 till 8.45 am. There will be rosary, chaplet of the Divine Mercy and private prayer, followed by Mass.

Holy Hour at Guardian Angels Church, Southport

Please join us every **Wednesday** 12.00 noon - 1.00pm for silent prayer, hymns, rosary and spiritual reflections, benediction Confessions available on Wednesday only. Adoration **Friday** from 11.30am.

Novena at St Joseph the Worker Church Labrador every **Wednesday** at 6.00pm.

1st Wednesday Rosary 6.00pm followed by Mass at 7.00pm

First Saturday of each month, Mass at St Joseph the Worker Church (Rosary - 8.30am) 9.00am Mass.

Sunday. Filipino Mass 1st Sunday of each month at Guardian Angels Church 99 Scarborough St Southport.

Walking Group. At **St Joseph the Worker church**, Saturday at 6.00am. To join please contact Janeec 0408 763 772.

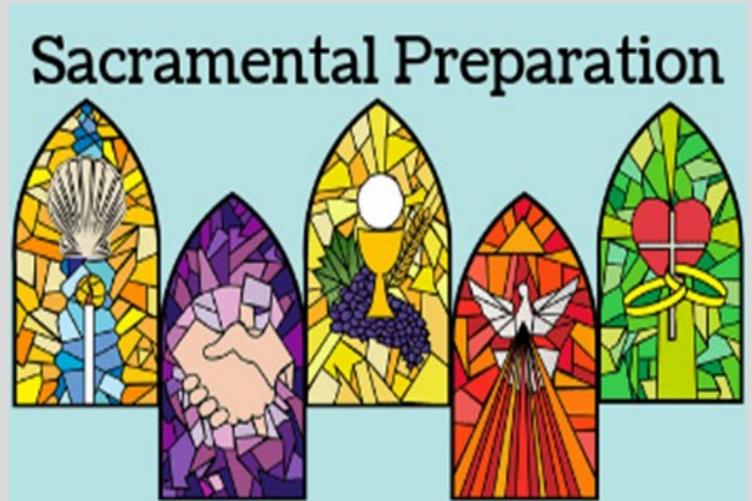
Position Vacant – Housekeeper

Applications are open for a part time of Housekeeper to assist in the cleaning of the Holy Spirit Seminary. Specific responsibilities include dusting, vacuuming, mopping floors, bathrooms, kitchens, bedrooms, changing linens for 18 hours per week Monday to Wednesday.

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

Applications close: 11 February 2022

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a 0 tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.



AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THE PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2022.

The Sacramental programs for 2022 begin with **THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**. Through this Sacrament children who are at least 10 years of age in 2022 (School Year 5) will experience God's merciful love which heals wounds of our sins and wrong choices.

The online registration for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on Monday, 17th January 2022 and close on Friday, 11th February 2022.

At the completion of this program, children will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (1st Rite) Wednesday the 30th of March 2022 from 4pm to 5pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This Program will prepare the children for their **First Holy Communion** and will commence in Term 2, 2022. The program will be available to children who are 9 years of age (School Year 4) or older.

At the completion of this Program, the children will receive their First Holy Communion at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore in June 2022.

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.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Here I Am Lord

I the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send? **R**

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

I the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**
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GLORY TO GOD Mass of St Francis
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory
of God the Father.
Amen. Amen.

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.
His love can never be measured.
His beauty is like nothing
we have ever seen,
so let us place our trust in him. **R**

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

The Word of the Lord
is fire burning strong.
His love can never grow weary.
He will seek and save the lost
until we all return,
so let us place our trust in him. **R**

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia! 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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GIFTS PROCESSION

Come to Me

Refrain:
**Come to me, all who labour
and are heavy burdened,
and I shall give you rest.
Take up my yoke and learn from
me,
for I am meek and humble of heart.
And you'll find rest for your souls.
Yes, my yoke is easy
and my burden is light.**

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall never be in need.
Fresh and green are the meadows
where he gives me rest **R**
© 1971 G Norbet The Benedictine Foundation

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your death O Lord
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

May We Come to Know the Lord

Refrain:
**In the bread may we be broken.
In the cup may we be out-poured.
May we come to know the healer,
may we come to know the Lord.**

Though many are we,
we are one in the Lord.
We are all welcome
to his table of new life. **R**

We come to the table
to remember the Lord,
who gave his life
that we might live forever more. **R**

In breaking the bread,
in sharing the cup,
may we be filled
as we come to know the Lord. **R**

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REFLECTION HYMN

Lord to Whom Shall We Go?

Refrain:
**Lord, to whom shall we go?
You are our bread,**

**broken and shared.
Lord, to whom shall we go?
Yours are the words of life.**

The manna we ate,
yet our hunger remained,
our hearts left unsatisfied. **R.**

O Lord, you feed us
with the finest of wheat,
our pledge of eternal life. **R.**
©1993 Micheal Herry, Willow Pub

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Canticle of the Sun

Refrain:
**The heavens are telling
the glory of God,
and all creation is shouting for joy.
Come, dance in the forest,
Come, play in the field,
and sing, sing to the glory of the
Lord**

Praise to the sun, the bringer of day,
he carries the light of the Lord
in his rays, the moon and the stars
who light up the way unto
your throne. **R**

Praise to the wind
that blows through the trees,
the seas mighty storms,
the gentlest breeze,
they blow where they will,
they blow where they please
to please the Lord. **R**
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APOSTLES CREED

I believe in 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 will 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