



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11 DECEMBER 2022 YEAR A/1

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20–21

As we begin the Fourth Week of Advent, we focus ever more directly upon the miracle that took place over 2,000 years ago. The passage quoted above presents us with the words of the angel of the Lord who spoke to Joseph in a dream. This was one of four dreams that Joseph had in which an angel spoke to him concerning the Christ Child.

Saint Joseph is described in Matthew’s Gospel as “a righteous man” who was unwilling to expose his betrothed wife, Mary, to shame. We know the story well. Mary became pregnant after being betrothed to Joseph but before they lived together, and Joseph didn’t understand how this happened. Mary’s virtue and goodness would have appeared to contradict the possibility of her becoming pregnant when she did. Joseph was planning on doing what he thought was the honourable thing, he decided to divorce her quietly so that she would not endure public shame.

But God’s plan was so much greater than what Joseph could initially comprehend. The Incarnation of the Son of God within the womb of his betrothed required supernatural understanding. And that’s what Joseph was given. Though he had a dream in which an angel spoke to him, a dream was not enough. The dream also needed to be accompanied by the gift of supernatural knowledge. Joseph listened in the dream and believed by the interior revelation of faith that this incredible reality was true. This Child was indeed conceived by the Holy Spirit within the virginal womb of his betrothed, and Joseph accepted his God-given responsibility.

Joseph’s witness is one to ponder and be inspired by. First, it’s essential that we ponder the story as it happened and be inspired by God’s singularly unique plan by which He took on our human nature. But Joseph also provides us with inspiration for our own callings in life. Joseph inspires us to face any and every mystery in life that we encounter with the utmost trust in God. God’s wisdom and ways are always far beyond ours. Very often in life, God will call us to walk an unknown and mysterious path. Life does not always make perfect sense from a purely rational perspective. Very often, we must allow our human reason to be informed and led by God’s supernatural plan. For each of us, this

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Readings Fourth Sunday of Advent 18 December 2022
Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 23:1-6; Romans 1:1-7;
Matthew 1:18-24

St Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Mass

8.00am

Weekday Masses

Monday & Wednesday 7.00am

1st Wednesday 7.00pm

1st Saturday 9.00am

Rosary

Monday & Wednesday 6.00am

1st Wednesday 6.00pm

1st Saturday 8.30am

Novena

Wednesday 6.00pm

Guardian Angels Church

99 Scarborough Street, Southport

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Reconciliation Saturday 4.30pm

Saturday (Vigil) 5.30pm

Sunday 7.00am & 9.00am

Korean Mass

Sunday 3.30pm

한인미사 일요일 오후 3시 30분

Filipino Mass

1st Sunday 12.00pm

Prayer & Adoration

Wednesday 12.00pm

Rosary & Mass

Friday 12.00pm



Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Saturday (Vigil) 4.30pm

Sunday 9.30am & 5.30pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am

Adoration & Rosary

Tuesday & Thursday 7.45am

Gold Coast University Hospital

Rosary & Mass

Friday 10.00am

PARISH CONTACTS

07 5510 2222

<https://scp.org.au>

Parish office Ashmore

9.00am-3.00pm

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore, 4214

Parish office Southport & Gift Shop

9.00am-4.30pm

115 Scarborough Street, Southport, 4215

Parish Administrator

E: parish@scp.org.au

Finance Officer

Therese Rogers E: accounts@scp.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Lisa Perkins E: sacramental@scp.org.au

Personal Assistant

Fiona Mahoney

Associate Pastor

Fr Stephen Camiolo (Hospital Chaplaincy)

Parish Priest

Fr Gerard McMorroff PP

P O Box 216, Ashmore City, 4214

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mysterious path will be different. But if we are to walk by the same faith that Saint Joseph had, then we must always be willing to accept the most sublime mysteries in life and allow God's revealing Word to clarify them.

Reflect, today, upon any way that you feel challenged by life's circumstances. What tempts you to doubt, to be confused, or to feel uncertain? What is it that requires supernatural knowledge on your part to embrace? If God the Father chose to bring forth His divine Son in such a mysterious way, then we should not be surprised when God calls us to embrace similar mysteries in life. Walk by faith. Be inspired by Saint Joseph. Say "Yes" to that which God is asking of you. As you do, you will find that you will begin to walk down the most glorious road you can walk.

Most glorious Saint Joseph, you were a man of true righteousness and integrity. You were open to the inspired gift of faith and chose to walk by that faith as you faced the greatest of mysteries. Please pray for me that I may learn from you and be inspired to imitate the life that you lived. Saint Joseph, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You.

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Gold Coast Parishes 24 Hour Adoration update

A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO JESUS

An hour or two spent with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most perfect gift to him for Christmas.

Join our program **every Tuesday 1.00pm to Wednesday 1.00pm at Guardian Angels** as part of the PERPETUAL Adoration effort in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Please consider spending an hour or two with our Lord at this time or even as a casual visitor that can fill in for others occasionally. Late hours and early morning vigil keepers have secure access to the church as it is locked for security from 6.00pm to 8.00am the next morning.

Contact yurikos@gmail.com to join, ***your private audience with Our Lord is waiting for you to accept***

ADORATION HOURS

**Tuesday 1.00pm to Wednesday 1.00pm
every week**

**at Guardian Angels Church
99 Scarborough Street, Southport**

**Parking onsite, church secured from
6.00pm to 8.00am**



**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)**

Kerri Kleidon

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.



Second Week of Advent

Joy

The theme for the third Sunday of Advent is joy. We read, pray, and reflect on the joy that God's plan gives us (foretold by the prophets and fulfilled by the life and death of Christ), and we meditate on the promise of Christ's coming glory-filled return.

The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for **rejoice**, and this Sunday is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus. It also represents the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is half over, and they are close to Christmas.

May this *joy* be evident in your heart and home. May God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of holy anticipation; preparing our hearts, as we joyfully await the chance to celebrate the arrival of our King.

Christmas Eve



Our Christmas Eve Mass at 4.30pm at Mary Immaculate Church, will be a children's Mass. A time for families, especially, to come together and help celebrate the birth of Jesus. There will be a nativity play performed during Mass by some of our children in the Parish. We would also invite all children, if they wish, to come dressed as angels or shepherds and be a part of our celebration.





Dear Parishioners,

As part of our Christmas Appeal, we would welcome any gifts you would like to give to a child aged between 1-16 and any gifts of toiletries etc. for mothers. All gifts can be left under the Christmas trees located at Mary Immaculate and St Joseph the Worker Churches. Our Ashmore Conference will ensure that any Christmas gifts left at Ashmore and Labrador churches will be distributed to those experiencing hardship at this time.

Please note that donation envelopes have been left at the rear of Ashmore, Labrador and Southport churches should parishioners wish to assist members of the Society to help those experiencing hardship this Christmas season. Donation envelopes can be placed on the collection plate at any mass. The Society of St Vincent de Paul QLD, Ashmore and Southport conferences wish parishioners and their families a happy and holy Christmas.



Children's Liturgy of the **Word**

There will be no children's liturgy on Sundays during the school holidays. It will resume on Sunday 29 January 2023

Farewell for Fr Stephen



On Sunday 18 December 2022 after the 9.30am Mass at Mary Immaculate, Ashmore, we will have a morning tea to farewell Fr Stephen.

He will be with us for Christmas and up until 1 January 2023.

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.



Read and Understand the Bible
with *The Bible in a Year* Podcast
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

“As cradle Catholics, we hear Scripture at Mass and occasionally in self study but never like this. *The Bible in a Year* brings it all together.”
—Ignacio G.

Join over 1 million Catholics listening to this podcast!

Get the **FREE Reading Plan!**

Scan this QR code with your phone to learn more and get your free reading plan!

www.ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear



Christmas Gifts

If you are looking for that special gift to give to someone, then please take the time to visit our Angels on Scarborough Gift Shop at 2/115 Scarborough Street, Southport where there are so many beautiful items available. If you haven't already seen the Christmas themed Shop window display, please take the time to visit.



THANK YOU

A special thank you to Maria Blancia and those volunteers who helped make the Brisbane City Pops Orchestra concert last Sunday such a success. We really appreciate your help.

Fr Gerard



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Saturday 24 December

Mary Immaculate 4.30pm

Children's Mass

Guardian Angels 5.30pm

Midnight

All will have Carols 30 minutes before Mass begins.

Christmas Day – Sunday 25 December

Guardian Angels 7.00am

9.00am

St Joseph the Worker 8.00am

Mary Immaculate 9.30am

There will be NO Mass at Mary Immaculate on Sunday evening of Christmas Day

Monday 26 December is a public holiday so Mass is at St Joseph the Worker at 9.00am

New Year's Eve – Saturday 31 December

Mary Immaculate 4.30pm

Guardian Angels 5.30pm

New Year's Day – Sunday 1 January 2023

Guardian Angels 7.00am

9.00am

St Joseph the Worker 8.00am

Mary Immaculate 9.30am

5.30pm

Monday 2 January is a public holiday so Mass is at St Joseph the Worker at 9.00am



RECENTLY DECEASED



*By request, the names of our
sick and*

*deceased family and friends will be recorded
in these books in each church*

**Please pray for all whose names are
recorded in the Books of Remembrance**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Our office at Ashmore is now open
Monday & Tuesday 9.00am - 3.00pm

The office is located in the church building next to the entrance of the church.

During these hours, Mary Immaculate Church is open for private prayer.

Our office at Southport is open
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 4.30pm

Columban Art Calendar 2023

Columban Calendars are now available for sale at all of our Piety Stalls for \$10.00



Anne Murphy, one of our parishioners, has handmade these beautiful Christmas cards. All proceeds of these cards will go to support **Angels Kitchen**.

The cards cost \$5.00 each and come in a variety of colours, all depicting the Star of Bethlehem.

They are available to purchase at all of our Piety Stalls and our Angels on Scarborough gift shop at Southport.

A parishioner, Simon Hodsdon, needs to rent a 2 or 3 bedroom property with 1 or 2 car spaces and a yard for storage. It is for himself and his son. They don't have any pets. He is looking to rent by mid-February or sooner if possible.

If anyone can help with this request, please contact

Simon 0419 310 846

Every Saturday our walking group meets at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador at 6.00am

Contact Janeece 0408 763 772

