

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
22 JANUARY 2023 YEAR A/1**

There are certain news readers or presenters on the radio or TV one wants to switch off: something in the voice grates. Others, one could listen to endlessly: something about the tone is so attractive.

Jesus' voice must have sounded fascinating: something about it perfectly vocalised his attractive and fascinating personality.

It gave true voice to who he was, and this is what proved so alluring to those four fishermen, two sets of two brothers.

It is an extraordinary situation.

These men were running successful fishing operations, family businesses. But once Jesus passed by and *called* them, the Gospel says, *at once* they left their boats and followed him.

Immediately, they allowed this stranger to wrench them out of their place in society, in the commercial life of the Sea of Galilee. Without any further ado, they gave up their status as independent and settled businessmen and became dependent itinerants.

How did this come about?

They were Jewish. Their Jewish scriptures and tradition would have prepared them, filled them with longing and expectation for the Messiah. They were in a state of readiness.

Then, hearing his voice, they realised that Jesus was the true vocalist of God, for whom they had been listening. Irish author and mystic, John O'Donohue, once wrote, 'Something in us senses and knows how perfectly the contours of the soul fit the divine embrace.' *

Maybe Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John sensed that, in this Jesus, there was a Soul whose contours perfectly fitted the divine embrace. They were prepared to risk everything, abandoning their livelihood, for the chance to have *their* souls contoured along the same lines.

And then, the call: 'Follow me...' , the call not to an isolated individual promising to save his soul, but to two brothers and then another two brothers. Immediately, a community was being formed and its task was to bring others into that Jesus-following community.

At some stage, you will hear his fascinating voice, and a decision will be required: a decision of faith.

'Come, follow me.' The faith required is not a peculiar sort of knowledge about this or that. 'Faith' is setting out on a journey in the hopeful conviction that *this* Jesus *is*

the person who wants to set me on the Way which is most life giving,

the person through whom I can receive divine mercy,

the person in whom I can share victory over death,

the person by whom I am called to participate in Divine life.

The Nazarene is calling.

Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John are also beckoning: 'Take the risk of joining us. Let us together follow the sound of that voice which reverberates throughout all creation, the sound of that voice which perfectly articulates Divine Truth and Beauty, the call of that voice sounded by Our Lord Jesus Christ.'

* John O'Donohue, *Divine Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*, Bantam Press, p.246.

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Readings 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 29 January 2023
Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 145:7-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

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

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

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



PARISH CONTACTS

Ph 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

Associate Pastor

Fr John Hong Xuan Nguyen (Hospital Chaplaincy)

Parish Priest

Fr Gerard McMorrow PP

Personal Assistant

Fiona Mahoney

Gold Coast Parishes 24 Hour Adoration



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**

A parishioner, Simon Hodson, 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



Sacramental Preparation



AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR RECONCILIATION 2023

The Sacramental Program for Reconciliation 2023 begins mid-February. It is open to children who are at least 10 years old (Year 5). The program allows the children to explore and learn deeply, the mercy and love of God and the process involved in seeking God's forgiveness experienced in Reconciliation.

**The online registration for the
Sacramental Program for Reconciliation
is now open**

**It will remain open until
Monday 6 February 2023**

At the completion of this program, the children will celebrate the 1st Rite of Reconciliation on either Wednesday 15 March or Thursday 16 March

If you would like your child to be involved in this program please follow this link:
<https://scp.org.au/2023-sacrament-of-recon>
or visit our webpage to access the registration form

If you have any queries please contact
Lisa Perkins on 5510 2222 ext 3 or
Email: sacramental@scp.org.au

SPECIAL LITURGICAL DATES THIS WEEK

Tuesday 24 January	St Francis de Sales
Wednesday 25 January	Conversion of St Paul
Thursday 26 January	Australia Day
Saturday 28 January	St Thomas Aquinas

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.



RECENTLY DECEASED



**Raymond Donovan
Thi Dien Ho**

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

25 January

THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

Feast

Saint Paul's entire life can be explained in terms of one experience—his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot's hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church: "...entering house after house and dragging out men and women, he handed them over for imprisonment" (Acts 8:3b). Now he himself was "entered," possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Saviour.

One sentence determined his theology: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5b). Jesus was mysteriously identified with people—the loving group of people Saul had been running down like criminals. Jesus, he saw, was the mysterious fulfillment of all he had been blindly pursuing.

From then on, his only work was to "present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me" (Colossians 1:28b-29). "For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and [with] much conviction" (1 Thessalonians 1:5a).

Paul's life became a tireless proclaiming and living out of the message of the cross: Christians die baptismally to sin and are buried with Christ; they are dead to all that is sinful and unredeemed in the world. They are made into a new creation, already sharing Christ's victory and someday to rise from the dead like him. Through this risen Christ the Father pours out the Spirit on them, making them completely new.

So Paul's great message to the world was: You are saved entirely by God, not by anything you can do. Saving faith is the gift of total, free, personal and loving commitment to Christ, a commitment that then bears fruit in more "works" than the Law could ever contemplate.

www.franciscanmedia.org

THE GRACE OF BAPTISM RETREAT

presented by The Mission Team of Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Brisbane

A group of lay people whose mission is to "foster a personal conversion and relationship with Jesus Christ through the release of the Holy Spirit."



Discover how precious you are in Christ, experience the healing touch of God, encounter the Holy Spirit...

I baptise you with water but one who is more powerful than I is coming; He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Luke 3:16

Date Saturday, 4 February, 2023
Time 9.00am - 4.00pm commencing with Mass
Venue St Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

**REGISTRATION AND ENQUIRIES to Len Airey,
Mission Team Co-ordinator, CCR Brisbane
on M: 0421 977 849 or E: lenpatairey@gmail.com**

BYO lunch
Attendees are asked to bring a plate of food to share for morning and afternoon tea