

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
5 FEBRUARY 2023 YEAR A/1

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." Matthew 5:14-16

We've all experienced a time when the lights went out and we were in darkness. In this case, if you were to light a candle and place it in the center of the room, its light would make quite a difference. One candle in a darkened room transforms that room, making it a more comfortable dwelling place.

Using that image, consider the first line in Jesus' metaphor above. "You are the light of the world." Try to see yourself as that single candle in the darkness. That is your mission. Just as a single candle can give light to an entire room, so you are capable of being a source of light for many others.

One of the primary missions we have all received in life is to allow the light of God's grace to "shine before others." The result of fulfilling this mission is that others will see our good deeds that were inspired by God, and they will, in turn, glorify the Father in Heaven. Thus, your mission of radiating the light of Christ for others results in God being praised and glorified.

This full statement of Jesus is especially helpful to consider when we struggle with pride. Pride is a way of pointing to ourselves. It's an act of selfishness by which we place ourselves in the spotlight as a way of trying to become the object of others' praise. But what Jesus tells us is that when we properly fulfill our role of being the light of the world, when we radiate the Light of Christ, others will be inspired not to praise us but rather to glorify God as He acts through us. This is quite a difference.

With that being said, the beautiful thing about God being glorified is that God often wants us to share in that glory. That means that if you were to do an act of charity for another, and they were deeply grateful to you and thanked you, their "thank you" is an act of glorifying God when it is understood that you acted out of a love of God. God is praised when we, His children, give and receive love and honor between each other on account of our faith.

Reflect, today, upon two things. First, think about those upon whom God has called you to shine His light. Who is it in your life who needs an act of love, charity, mercy, forgiveness or compassion? Commit yourself to becoming God's light for them in their darkness. Second, think about those who have shone the Light of Christ upon you. When this has happened, how did you respond? Hopefully your response was one of a gratitude that not only returns love to the other but also glorifies God through your gratitude. Be the light of the world to a world in need and seek out that light as it shines brightly through others. This is the only way to step out of the darkness that constantly tries to pervade us.

Lord, You are the true Light Who dispels every darkness in life. You are the Light of my life and shine brightly for all to see. Help me to see Your light as it shines on others and to glorify You for that gift. And help me to be an instrument of Your light to those who need it the most. Jesus, I trust in You.

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Readings 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12 February 2023
Sirach 15:15-20; Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10;
Matthew 5:17-37

SCL

Renew our Parish in 2023

With the start of a new year, let us now refocus on the goals and pillars of your laity group, SCL. Your Southport Christian League strives to create an active, enjoyable and involved congregation while at the same time trying to help those less fortunate or in need with donations from our fundraising events.

We invite you, both individually and as groups, to assist SCL achieve its mission of making our parish an excellent centre of Christianity.

Below are some initial ideas where your input about their success would be most welcomed and appreciated.

- A craft group where items like beanies, blankets, socks, etc can be displayed on a market table following Mass at our morning teas with proceeds going to the Hillston project.
- A social event each month like trivia nights, movies outings and Friday afternoon wine and melody sessions.
- Two bus trips per year, for example, to the Tweed with a river cruise.
- Light exercise and yoga sessions.
- Bible and Christian-living talks, at times with guest speakers.
- Games, computer applications and other learnings.

Please forward your thoughts, ideas and suggestions to

Christine Wintour

email: winlock2@hotmail.com

phone/text 0431 630 446

We will listen to your voice and together we can invigorate our parish through your involvement

God bless and have a happy new year



Anointing of the Sick

On the 1st Thursday of each month at Mary Immaculate 9.00am Mass we will be celebrating the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick



World Day of Prayer 2023

The World Day of Prayer service will be held at Mary Immaculate Church on Friday 3 March at 10.00am

The theme for this year is
I have heard about your faith
It will be prepared by the women of Taiwan

There will be morning tea available after the service
For more information please contact Carmel Donaghy on 5594 0719

Morning teas



Morning tea is held every Sunday after 9.30am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church and

1st Sunday after 8.00am Mass at St Joseph the Worker Church

Come and join us
All are welcome
Please bring a plate to share



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

WANTED VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking volunteers to work in our gift shop, Angels on Scarborough in Southport.

The shifts are for 4 hours either 9.00am to 1.00pm or 12.30pm to 4.30pm

For more information please contact Catherine Francis, Office Support Monday and Tuesday Southport Catholic Parish 5510 2222 or parish@scp.org.au

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.



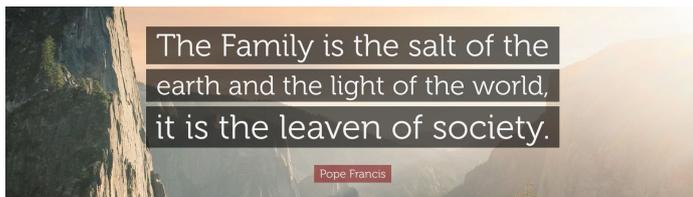
RECENTLY DECEASED



Myre Short

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



The Family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, it is the leaven of society.

Pope Francis

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word is starting this Sunday 5 February
It will continue each Sunday at Mary Immaculate Church at the 9.30am Mass through the school term

Volunteers needed

to help us bring the Word of God to our children and teach them about Jesus at our Children's Liturgy held at our 9.30am Sunday Mass each week

Please contact Lisa Perkins
5510 2222 or sacramental@scp.org.au

No experience necessary and all materials and lesson plan provided

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 will be **closing on 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

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

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

Office Support

Catherine Francis 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