

## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 2 APRIL 2023 YEAR A/1**

As a child I can remember our diocese having large processions for the feasts of Corpus Christi, Christ the King and one of the Marian feast days. They were called 'public demonstrations of Catholic faith'. For children they were sometimes long and boring, but they did give us a sense that we belonged to something big, and someone bigger, and that our faith had a 'stand up and be counted' dimension to it. For many Catholics today large-scale religious processions are quickly becoming a thing of the past. That's a pity.

The point of religious processions is not just to get us from one location to the next. It is also to mark a rite of passage. Think of the smaller processions most Christians undertake in their lives: to the baptismal font; down the aisle to take their marriage vows, or to graduate from a school or college and to be farewelled. In each case we recess out of the Church differently from how we entered it: as a newly initiated member of the Christian community; as a husband or wife; as a graduate; and to be buried.

The Palm Sunday Procession is the last congregational one mandated by the Missal to be observed throughout the entire Church. Recalling Jesus' procession into Jerusalem this procession is not meant to be an historical pageant. Like all liturgical moments it's meant to intersect with our own lives and speak to our journey of faith. What makes this procession so powerful is that it starts with hysteria and ends in death. And that tells us something we need to hear.

Matthew's account of the Passion is very tough on the Jewish leaders. His entire Gospel has been preparing the hearer for this. Matthew shows that even though the Jews had the New Moses right in front of them, they were unable to recognise him because he didn't fit their expectations of the Messiah. The crowd in Jerusalem receive him like a pop star, acclaiming him as their own. By week's end the Chief Priests and elders manipulate the crowd's enthusiasm to force Pilate to execute Jesus. And throughout it all, during the adulation of the crowd, their change of allegiance to Barabbas and at his trial, Jesus hardly says a word. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus' silence is deafening. In the journey of faith we should always be on our guard against being part of a manipulated crowd. The unchecked enthusiasms of a crowd can carry us away to places, people or things we would not ordinarily choose and should not embrace. If we are vulnerable, a gifted guru through his or her version of eternal life can whip us up into a frenzy. We only have to look at the power of the media and advertising to see how susceptible we are to becoming a slave to fashionable ideologies, dress codes and what and who is in or out. Every time we buy something because someone else has it or because we convince ourselves that our wants are really our needs, the crowd has won. The story of Passion Sunday is that manipulation of a crowd, even by legitimate authorities, can be the beginning of spiritual death. Hype often distorts priorities, blurs good judgment and can choose expediency over integrity.

So what's the remedy to being manipulated, to regaining a sense of what really matters, to standing up against the crowd for the values we know are right? Jesus shows us in Matthew's Gospel. It starts with silence. It's being a contemplative in a manic world and praying for the courage to dissent from the crowd's hyped-up madness.

As we process into Holy Week, this annual rite of passage for our faith, may we model our lives on Jesus in every way by creating the silence we need in our lives to sort out our priorities, by using silence powerfully in a world that loves words but has very little to say about our meaning and destiny and allowing our sacrificial love, even to the point of death, to do all the talking.

© Richard Leonard SJ



Readings Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 9 April 2023  
Acts 10:34, 37-43; Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Colossians 3:1-4;  
John 20:1-9



**SOUTHPORT CATHOLIC PARISH**  
**EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICES**

**ST JOSEPH THE WORKER**  
 44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Friday 10.00am Stations of the Cross  
 Sunday 8.00am Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

**MARY IMMACULATE**  
 31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Thursday 6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Friday 10.00am Stations of the Cross  
 Friday 3.00pm Good Friday  
 Saturday 6.30pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night  
 Sunday 9.30am Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord  
 No 5.30pm Sunday Mass

**GUARDIAN ANGELS**  
 99 Scarborough Street, Southport

Thursday 6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Friday 10.00am Stations of the Cross  
 Friday 3.00pm Good Friday  
 Saturday 6.30pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night  
 Sunday 7.00am Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord  
 Sunday 9.00am Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

**PRACTICE TIMES FOR THOSE INVOLVED  
 IN THE EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICES**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)**

Practice is on Wednesday 5 April at 5.30pm  
 at the church where you will  
 be participating

**Good Friday**

Practice is on Friday 7 April at 11.00am  
 at the church where you will  
 be participating  
 (immediately after Stations of the Cross)

**The Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday)**

Practice is on Saturday 8 April at 11.00am  
 at the church where you will be participating



**2023 First Holy Communion  
 Sacramental Program**

The registration for the Sacramental Program  
 for

**First Holy Communion**

is **now open**.

First Holy Communion is the second step in  
 your child's sacramental journey.

The registration is open from

**8 March to 20 April.**

It is available to all children who have  
 completed their Confirmation and are in Year  
 4 and above (9 years and older). The program  
 runs throughout Term 2 of this school year.

This year the program of First Holy  
 Communion is linked to the Sacramental  
 Program of Reconciliation which will take  
 place later this year.

Registering for First Holy Communion will  
 automatically mean your child is enrolled into  
 the First Reconciliation program as well. The  
 cost of First Holy Communion and Reconcilia-  
 tion will be combined as a single payment.  
 The link for the online registration form is:  
[https://scp.org.au/first-eucharist/2023-  
 sacrament-of-first-holy-communion/](https://scp.org.au/first-eucharist/2023-sacrament-of-first-holy-communion/)  
 or you can visit our webpage to access the  
 form.

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

**NEW SCP ENVELOPES**

for the Plan Giving Program are  
 available from the narthex of each  
 church this weekend.



**CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

Friday 14 April at 10.00am  
 St Joseph the Worker, Labrador  
 presided over by Fr Vince Hobbs

For more information please contact  
 Paul Porter on 0451 131 989



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](mailto:aob@stopline.com.au)

ONLINE: [www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://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



DR IAN MARSHALL

JESSIE DOLAN  
(3rd Anniversary)

*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**



Please come and join us at Marian Valley for the feast of Our Lady of Fatima on the 13.04.2023 and on the 16.04.2023 for the Feast of Divine Mercy. The bus will be picking us up at 8.15 am on both days at the Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters. The cost for the bus fare is \$25.00 return. You can secure your seat with contact name and contact phone number with Xavier Solomon 0404 843 260, Madeleine on 0405 252 367 or 5529 1573. All are welcome.

## Eucharistic Ministers For the Sick needed

If there are any parishioners who would be able to take communion to any or all of the below places, please contact the office 5510 2222

**Blue Care Labrador** every 2nd Sunday

**Estia Health Southport** every 2nd Sunday

2 parishioners: 1 every Sunday the other every 2nd Sunday.

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

## ALTAR CROSS MISSING FROM ST JOSEPH THE WORKER CHURCH

It came to my attention last Sunday that the Cross that sits on the altar has been missing since January this year.

If anyone knows where it is, would you please contact the parish office immediately on 5510 2222 or [parish@scp.org.au](mailto:parish@scp.org.au)

I hope and pray that this sacred object has not been stolen.

Fr Gerard

## LENTEN SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

During Lent this year the following devotional activities are available to enrich your Lenten preparation for Easter.

**EVERY TUESDAY to WEDNESDAY:**

**GUARDIAN ANGELS CHURCH**

**1.00 pm Tuesday—1.00pm Wednesday:** 24 Hour Vigil Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, silent prayer

**12.20pm Wednesday:** Rosary & Confession



There will be no Mass or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held at Mary Immaculate Church this Thursday 6 April 2023

## BRISBANE CITY POPS ORCHESTRA

**Please save the date: Sunday 23 July 2023**

Guardian Angels Church Southport 2.00pm  
More to follow in the coming weeks

**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

**Vietnamese Mass**

1st Sunday 2.00pm

**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**

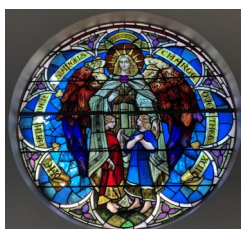
1st Sunday 12.00pm

**Prayer & Adoration**

Wednesday 12.00pm

**Rosary & Mass**

Friday 12.00pm



**PARISH CONTACTS**

Ph 07 5510 2222

<https://scp.org.au>

**Parish office Ashmore**

Tuesday-Thursday 9.00am-3.00pm

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore, 4214

**Parish office Southport & Gift Shop**

Monday-Friday 9.00am-4.30pm

115 Scarborough Street, Southport, 4215

**Office Support**

Catherine Francis E: [parish@scp.org.au](mailto:parish@scp.org.au)

**Finance Officer**

Therese Rogers E: [accounts@scp.org.au](mailto:accounts@scp.org.au)

**Sacramental Coordinator**

Lisa Perkins E: [sacramental@scp.org.au](mailto:sacramental@scp.org.au)

**Associate Pastor**

Fr John Hong Xuan Nguyen (Hospital Chaplaincy)

**Associate Pastor**

Fr Marce Singon

**Parish Priest**

Fr Gerard McMorrow PP