

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST 11 JUNE 2023 YEAR A/1

Some years ago, Pope John Paul II went to Lima, Peru. There he was met by a massive crowd of two million people. Instead of the usual greetings from the President and the Cardinal, two people from a shantytown stepped forward to the microphone. Their names were Irene and Viktor Charo. As the huge crowd went quiet, they begin to speak to the Pope.

'Holy Father, we are hungry, we are sick, we lack work, our children die before their time. Yet we believe, Holy Father, we believe in the God of life. And we hunger for bread.' Before a hushed crowd, the Pope replied in his best Spanish. 'You tell me you hunger for bread.' 'Yes, yes', the millions yelled in reply. 'You tell me you hunger for God', said the Pope and again the crowd swelled with an emphatic 'Yes! Yes!' 'I want this hunger for God to remain; I want your hunger for bread to be satisfied.'

The Pope then turned to the generals and the wealthy politicians gathered there – many of them devout Catholics – and said very starkly, 'I won't simply say share what you have. I will say give it back. Give it back – it belongs to the poor.'

As extraordinary as the Pope's words were that day, Jesus' words about the Eucharist in today's Gospel are even more so. In the sixth chapter of John's Gospel many people were so horrified by the claims Jesus makes for the reality of his presence in the Eucharist, they stopped following him. John clearly links Jesus giving himself for the sake of God's kingdom and our redemption, with the communion we share with Him in every Mass.

When we receive the Risen Christ in communion it's not a symbol of his presence or a sign of his life to which we say 'Amen'. It is Christ who hosts us, who gives us himself so that we might be transformed into His image and likeness. In modern language Christ says to us at every Mass, 'Here I am, broken and poured out in love for you. Take me. I'm here for you.'

The danger with all gifts, and most especially with this gift, is that we can think it's just for us, an intimate moment between each of us and Christ. It is that, but it's also much more. St Augustine in a sermon on the Eucharist on 9th August 413 wrote that the Mass was about three things: goodness, unity and charity. Augustine taught that if we were not better people, working for unity and loving each other away from the Eucharist, it fails to achieve its purpose.

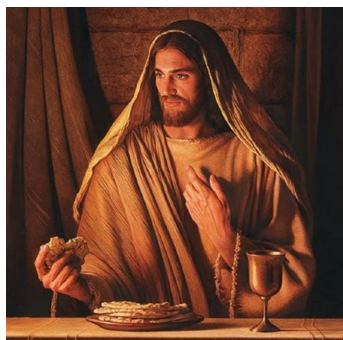
Hence, like the Pope in Peru, many people have linked the reception of the Bread of Life here with the giving of bread which sustains life away from here. On average in our world 26,000 die every day of starvation. John F Kennedy observed in 1961, 'The only thing standing between us and the elimination of hunger is our desire to see it.' We could feed all the world's poor. We choose not to.

In a talk on the Eucharist, the then Jesuit General, Fr Pedro Arrupe said, 'while there is hunger in the world then our Eucharists are incomplete'. By this he didn't mean that when we gather for Mass anything is wrong. Rather he meant that when we gather around this holy table for this sacred meal while people still starve in the world, then something vital is lacking. There's an emptiness.

Yet it's an emptiness that invites us in. The God who comes to us at every Eucharist as real food is the same God that asks, 'When I was hungry, did you feed me?' This question says that just as God feeds us, so we too should and can feed each other.

May this feast of the Body and Blood of Christ give us the strength of our convictions. May the real food and drink we provide away from this sacred table prove to the world the power of the Eucharist to change us into a people that are good, unifying and loving. And may we not just share with the poor from our excesses, but give them back the food that is rightly theirs.

© Richard Leonard SJ



Readings Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 June 2023
Exodus 19:2-6; Ps 99:2-3, 5; Romans 5:6-11;
Matthew 9:36 - 10:8



**2023 First Holy Communion
Sacramental Program**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN AS THEY
JOURNEY THROUGH THIS SACRAMENTAL
PROGRAM LEADING THEM TO RECEIVE THE
BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS
FOR THE FIRST TIME**

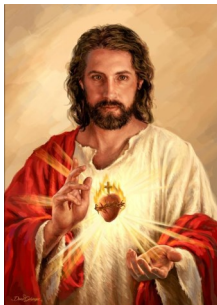
Practice

Wednesday 14 June @ 4.00pm

First Communion

Saturday, 17 June 4.30pm (1st Session)
Sunday, 18 June 9.30am (2nd Session)
both at Mary Immaculate Church

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



**FRIDAY 16 JUNE
THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a 17th century French nun and mystic, received messages from Jesus in various apparitions (from 1673-75) concerning this devotion, and became a driving force behind spreading it publicly in the manner we know today.

This Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a powerful reminder to drawing closer to our Lord by joining our hearts to His Sacred Heart in a spirit of love, trust, adoration, and most importantly, reparation for the many sins and insults He has endured.

Jesus complained to St. Margaret Mary of the coldness and ingratitude he received from humanity, considering all He did for us in opening up the gates of heaven for us in His Passion so that we might have Eternal Life!

In honoring Jesus' Sacred Heart we acknowledge just how much He loves each and every one of us. Indeed He loved you enough to die for you on the cross at Calvary.

Our Catholic Prayers

Brisbane City Pops Orchestra
Conducted by Chen Yang

HIGHLIGHTS
Lord of the Dance
Themes from 007
Waltz from Sleeping Beauty
Crown Imperial March
Duke Ellington Medley

Supported by the Students from both
Aquinas College
&
Guardian Angels
STRIVE FOR SUCCESS

50 CELEBRATING
1973 2023

Sunday 23 July 2.00pm
Guardian Angels Catholic Church
99 Scarborough St Southport
Tickets: Adults \$25.00 Concessions \$20.00
Students \$12
Bookings: 07 5510 2222
An afternoon you will not want to miss!

A great parish event to support!
Tickets will be available after Masses next weekend

Please come and join us at Marian Valley for the feast of Our Lady of Fatima and the feast of Saint Anthony on 13 June 2023. The Annual Pilgrimage of the Maltese Community in honour of Christ the Redeemer will take place on 24 June 2023. The bus will pick up at 8.15am at the Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters on both days. The cost for the bus fare \$25.00 return each day. You can secure your seat by contacting Xavier Solomon 0404 843 260, Madeleine 0405 252 367 or 5529 1573, All are welcome. If you need further information, please contact Xavier on 0404 843 260.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

is available at all of our churches for just \$4.00

STOPLINE

receives information about suspected abuse,
(information can be provided anonymously)
misconduct & serious policy breaches by Archdiocesan
clergy, employees or volunteers.
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.

1300 304 550

aob@stopleveline.com.au

www.bne.catholic.stoplevelinereport.com



JUNE - DEDICATED TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Dear Parishioners,
this month is set aside by the Catholic Church to pay
special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Here are a few things you could do to increase your
devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

***Corpus Christi procession Sunday 11 June,
at St Stephen's Cathedral 2.00pm**

This procession is an outward sign to the world of our
love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Last year over
4000 people participated in this wonderful event.

***Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Friday 16 June**

Guardian Angels Church, Southport
exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11.30am,
Divine Mercy Chaplet at 12.00pm followed by
Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Mass commencing at 12.30pm followed by Benediction.

**To highlight the joy of this feast day please join us
after in the Guardian Angels Church courtyard for a
glass of wine (or two) and some hot snacks.**

***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday 1.00pm to Wednesday 1.00pm
at Guardian Angels Church**

If you don't already attend during our weekly 24 hours
of adoration at Guardian Angels then please consider
attending. You can contact our time table master
on adorationatgc@gmail.com for an on going
commitment or please just pop in between
8.00am and 6.00pm.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED



Robert Elward



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



BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE AND SICK

Each Church has one of each of the above books. If
you would like the name of deceased or sick family
or friends placed in the book please contact the
Parish Office 5510 2222

ANNIVERSARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

We are happy to place the names of the above in the
Newsletter, provided the family has given
approval



**Mary Immaculate Church
is open for private prayer
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
from 8.00am—3.30pm**



A REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

The truest measure of God's love is
that He loves without measure.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an
Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary
MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on
17 October 2023, journeying through Victoria and
South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place,
North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pil-
grimage you will visit many places associated with
Mary MacKillop's life and ministry.

Booking & Enquiries

For further information, an itinerary or to make an
application, please contact the
Australian Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator
Email: national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au
Or phone 02 8912 4818



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

2nd & 4th Sunday 12.00pm

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

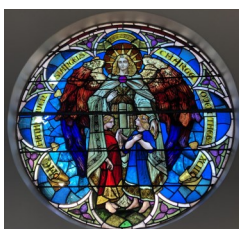
1st Sunday 12.00pm

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-4.30pm

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 parish@scp.org.au

Finance Officer

Therese Rogers accounts@scp.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Lisa Perkins sacramental@scp.org.au

Associate Pastor

Fr John Hong Xuan Nguyen (Hospital Chaplaincy)

Associate Pastor

Fr Marce Singson

Parish Priest

Fr Gerard McMorrow PP