THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF SOUTHPORT

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
11 JANUARY 2026 YEAR A

The baptism of Jesus inaugurates his ministry as the anointed one of God. The passage from Isaiah indicates the kind of messiah he will be. He will not exercise harsh justice, nor will he wield the sword of vengeance on the battlefield. He will be a servant, who, though mighty is gentle; one chosen by God, yet committed to the needy and the marginal; the Son of God who attends to the least within the community. The messiah of God may have come from an insignificant village like Nazareth, but he was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. The messiah of God does not conform to the expectations of a proud and self-absorbed society. Filled with the Spirit of God, he acts out of a gentle, compassionate spirit.

For whom did the messiah of God come? For those whom society discarded. He came for people who are broken and suffering, for those who are blind or imprisoned. He came for people who are so easily pushed to the margins: the homeless, the unemployed, the abandoned children, the helpless elderly, the mentally and chronically ill.

He also came to people who, like Cornelius, do not belong to our inner circles, people who threaten us, people we might actually despise. He came for the strangers among us, those who have different cultural customs, those who worship in different ways. He came for people we have pushed out as well as for those we have refused to let in. The messiah of God came for all people without distinction.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

DONATIONS TO PHILERMOS HOUSE, DAVENPORT STREET SOUTHPORT through the Order of Malta can be made several ways:

ORDER OF MALTA AUSTRALIA

- Online through our secure payment facility

Direct Deposit to BSB: 083 453 Acct: 44888 1897

Please use 'Southport' as the description and email info@orderofmalta.org.au details to obtain a tax-deductible receipt

- **Phone** by calling 02 9331 8477 - please note the office is closed weekends.
- **Post** with cheques payable to '*Order of Malta*' and sent to Philermos House, Order of Malta, PO Box 79, Caringbah NSW 1495

Readings - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18 January 2026
Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6; Psalm 39: 2, 4, 7-10; 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3; John 1: 29-34

50 % OFF ALL CHRISTMAS ITEMS

After Christmas Mega Sale - One Weekend Only!

Saturday 17 January & Sunday 18 January 2026

This is the perfect opportunity to pick up beautiful gifts, decorations, and treasures at amazing prices as we begin the new year.
The shop will be open **before and after all Masses at Mary Immaculate**, giving everyone plenty of time to stop in, browse and purchase. We're also hoping parishioners from **Guardian Angels** and **St Joseph the Worker** will drop in and take advantage of the sale. Come along, the kettle will be on, enjoy a cuppa and make the most of these fantastic bargains.

Sacristan Ministry Volunteers Needed

Southport Catholic Parish is looking for parishioners to volunteer to be a sacristan at the following Masses:

Mary Immaculate Church
Saturday 4.30pm vigil
Sunday 9.30am mass
Please speak with Fr Gerard

Ash Wednesday – 18 February 2026

Masses :

7.00am St Joseph the Worker Church

12.30pm Guardian Angels Church,

5.30pm Mary Immaculate Church

Eucharistic Theology: Lenten Adult Education Programme - Presenter: Fr John Madden

In my experience, people are hungering for a deeper sense of the sacred. I have often heard parishioners ask for some form of adult faith programme to nourish their spiritual lives. People are looking for more than Mass on Sunday to sustain and make sense of the sacred. In response to this situation, I am offering four sessions of Adult Education/formation during the Season of Lent, focusing on the Mass (Eucharist). Each session will build upon the last. Each session will be between 1.15 hour and 1.30 hours. Two opportunities for each session will be available, so no one needs to miss out.

Please note that it is essential to attend all four sessions, as each will build upon the previous one.

Topics will include the following

- The structure of the Mass
- The introductory rite is an essential part of the Mass.
- The Liturgy of the Word is central to our understanding of the Eucharist itself.
- How the Word of God – 1st reading - Psalm - 2nd reading – gospel form a unity and set the theme for the Eucharist itself.
- The Prayers of the Faithful and the offertory connect the liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- The Eucharistic Prayer is explained in detail (focus on Eucharist Prayer Three)
- The responses of the congregation as part of the Eucharistic Prayer
- Transubstantiation (how the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ)
- The Eschatological aspect of the Eucharist (the spiritual – beyond time and space)
- The Our Father and the sign of peace are examined in detail
- Final prayer and commissioning.

These are just some of the main points I will be addressing as part of this series of talks.

My Eucharistic Theology is based upon Luigi Rulla SJ and Sebastian Moore OSB.

Luigi Rulla SJ was a Psychiatrist, Poet and Lecturer in Vocational Discernment Psychology, and Sebastian Moore OSB was a Theologian and Author. I would highly recommend his book '*The Crucified is no Stranger.*' I found his books to be inspirational, and they have had a deep impact on my own personal spiritual journey. Luigi Rulla's theory of interpersonal dynamics in spiritual direction and self-transcendence is both challenging and informative. I found his works to be insightful and engaging.
My research paper in systematic theology explored Luigi Rulla's understanding of the human person and how his psychological insights can be applied to Eucharist Theology based on the theology of Sebastian Moore.
These sessions will not be academically heavy but informative and light-hearted. These will consist of informal discussions and plenty of time for questions and personal engagement. Please come and join us as we explore our faith together and learn from each other. Give yourself this spiritual and sacramental gift for the Season of Lent in 2026.

Meeting Dates and Locations
Wednesdays: 25 February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March at 7.00pm *Lumen Christi Centre, Labrador*
Saturdays: 28 February, 7 March, 14 March, 21 March at 9.30am *Mary Immaculate Hall, Ashmore*

Everyone is warmly invited. A small contribution of $10 per session is appreciated.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Guardian Angels Church, Southport

Each Thursday noon to Friday
ending with mass at 12.30pm
24 hour adoration

Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore

Thursday 7.45am- 8.30am

Sit quietly and just "be" in the presence of God.

How much easier is it to meditate
before the Blessed Sacrament than at home!
At home, we are in the presence of the immensity of God;
here we are in the presence of Our Lord,
who is very close to us.
St Peter Julian Eymard

Take a moment from your busy schedule and spend some quiet time in prayer, here are a few suggestions:

- ◊ Shift workers can take advantage of a visit before or after work in the early hours of morning
- ◊ Spiritual readings can be extremely fruitful in front of the Blessed Sacrament
- ◊ Listen to your favourite Spiritual podcast
- ◊ Enjoy perfect silence, your private audience with our Lord

Please help us by committing to a time either on Thursday or Friday. SMS our Timetable master on 0402812832 or email adorationgc@gmail.com

FLOCKNOTE
NEW PARISH REGISTRATION
Stay connected

We kindly invite you to register at your earliest convenience via our parish website https://scp.org.au or by scanning the QR code.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Maree McErlean

ANNIVERSARIES

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE BOOK OF THE SICK

Each Church has both these books on display.
If you would like to include a name in either of the books, please seek approval from the parish office on 5510 2222.

Morning Teas 2026 – We Need Your Help!

We are planning morning teas across our three churches starting this year. Please, we need more parishioners to become involved. Some ways you can support:

- * Bring food, tea, coffee, milk, cordial to share
- * Volunteer your time for setup, serving, or cleanup
- * Give financially to help cover costs

We would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Please let us know which church you're connected with so we can coordinate smoothly.
Thank you for contributing to warm and meaningful gatherings. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 5510 2222.

Marian Valley Church

You are warmly invited to join us for the **Feast of Our Lady of Fatima** on **Tuesday 13 January 2026**. A bus will depart promptly at **8.15am** from: 50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters.
Return bus fare: $25.00 per person.
To secure your seat, please provide your name and contact number to:
• Xavier Solomon: 0404 843 260
• Madeleine: 5529 1573
We look forward to having you with us.

SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

STOPLINE receives information about suspected abuse, misconduct & serious policy breaches by Archdiocesan clergy, employees or volunteers (information can be provided anonymously).
We have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in our activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.
Our Parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Framework.
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.
Our Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) is **Catherine - safeguarding.southport@bne.catholic.net.au**
07 5510 2222 / 1300 304 550
aob@stopline.com.au
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

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

Filipino Mass
1st Sunday 12.00pm

Prayer & Adoration
Thursday 12.00 noon (24 hours)

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

Korean Mass
Sunday 3.00pm
한인미사 일요일 오후 3시

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am

Adoration & Rosary
Tuesday & Thursday 7.45am

Gold Coast University Hospital

Rosary & Mass
Friday 10.00am

PARISH CONTACTS

https://scp.org.au
Ph 07 5510 2222

safeguarding.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Office Ashmore
Monday to Friday 9.00am-12.00pm
31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore, 4214

Parish Reception/Secretary
parish.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

Sacramental Programme
sacramental.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

Finance Officer
accounts.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor
Fr John Hong Xuan Nguyen (Hospital Chaplaincy)

Parish Priest
Fr Gerard McMorrow PP