FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
3 MAY 2026 YEAR A

For many people 'going home', means a return to comfort and security.

In the best homes children are unafraid, they know that their home is a buffer against some harsh realities beyond the door. As adults we carry that desire for security into all the various homes in which we live.

When we reflect on our childhood homes many of us can say of it what Jesus says of himself. It was the first place almost all of us learnt about 'The Way'. The earliest Christians were called people of The Way. It's a rich image denoting that Christianity is not an idea, it's a way of living, a path to follow.

For better or worse one of the distinctive features of most of our homes is that it's also where we are told 'The Truth'. Sometimes that deflates our egos or means we hear things we would rather not listen to. But hopefully the comfort and love which accompanies this truth telling comes from the ease and care in the relationships at home. Our family doesn't pull any punches with the truth because they know us too well and love us too much.

Most adults also remember their childhood houses as lively. 'The Life' in our homes was about the buzz of children going to and from school, various friends calling in, the reign of organised chaos where space was claimed and a position defended. Minor dramas were never far away and life was lived to the full.

It's not by accident that the image of Jesus preparing us a house and being the Way, the Truth and the Life are put together in today's Gospel. In another part of John's gospel Jesus goes further in describing himself as our master builder, as our home and even our lodger. We are told to make a home in him as he makes a home in us. What a terrific image of the intimacy Christ wants to share with us, and we with him!

The best homes, however, do not just protect and keep their occupants safe for eternity. A home is a means to an end, which is to give us the stability and sanity we need to keep going out to the world beyond it. In the same way, our home of faith with Jesus enables us to keep going out to a sometimes hostile world and share with others the Way, the Truth and the Life that sustains us. In a world where 70% of all people have substandard housing and millions of displaced people have to create homes wherever they are, we have our work cut out for us.

The Way we follow is about justice, development and peace for all people everywhere and not just the select few who can build the biggest mansions on earth. We are invited to keep speaking the Truth even if that makes us unpopular or different or at odds with the majority. And we have to keep living the Life which sees that our greatest joy comes from human dignity being celebrated everywhere.

If all Christians lived out this Way, Truth and Life we would, by His grace, fulfil Jesus' extraordinary prophecy that we could do greater works than He did. Now that's a challenge to take with us into the coming week!

Homily by Fr Richard Leonard SJ

PHILERMOS HOUSE- THE BIG RED SHED
NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER

ORDER OF MALTA AUSTRALIA

Opening in June
Do you have 1 to 4 hours, 1 to 2 days per week, Monday-Friday?
Our aim is to create a calm, dignified and supportive space, where people feel seen, valued and cared for.
Roles include:
Foodservice, Cooking, Cleaning, Laundry and Clothing.
Please scan QR code to volunteer.

Readings - Sixth Sunday of Easter - 10 May 2026
Acts 8:5-8. 14-17; Psalm 65:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May

Heavenly Father, as I enter this new month of May, dedicated to Mary, I place my days, plans, and hopes into Your loving hands. Fill my heart with renewed strength, clarity, and peace. Bless the work of my hands, guide my decisions, and protect my loved ones. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, may this month be filled with grace, growth, and quiet miracles. Amen.

Annual Mass Attendance Count in May

During the month of May, our parish will participate in the Archdiocese of Brisbane's annual National Mass Count. For the first four weekends, our parish representative will be recording attendance at all weekend Masses.
Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us contribute to this important diocesan initiative.

Sacramental Program 2025-2026

Families with children enrolled for **First Holy Communion** are reminded that the Parent Information Session will take place at **Mary Immaculate Church** on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 6 May, 4.30pm** or
- **Sunday 10 May, 10.45am**

Parents and child/ren need to attend.
Please keep our children and families in your prayers.

Marian Valley Pilgrimage

You are warmly invited to join us at Marian Valley Church for two special celebrations:

* Wednesday 13 May 2026 - Feast of Our Lady of Fatima
* Saturday 23 May 2026 - Main Celebration of Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia and Marian Valley Shrine

Bus details:

* Departure : 8.15am sharp on both days
* Pick-up from: 50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters
* Return fare: $35.00 per trip/per person

Please contact:

* Xavier Solomon 0404 843 260
* Madeleine 5529 1573

HELP SUPPORT SOUTHPORT CATHOLIC PARISH OFFICE If you're looking for a simple but meaningful way to help ease the parish's day-to-day needs, consider donating a ream of A3 paper. This small gesture can make a big difference in supporting the parish's administrative work. **Donations can be dropped off at any of our three churches or the Parish Office Monday to Friday, between 9.00am and midday, thank you.**

Planned Giving Program – Southport Catholic Parish

If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program, please contact the Parish Office on 5510 2222 Wednesday –Friday, 9.00am to midday. Email: accounts.southport@bne.catholic.net.au
By making a commitment to planned giving, you directly support and enable the ongoing maintenance and growth of our parish mission. Thank you Fr Gerard

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

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

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

Morning Tea—Guardian Angels Church

Be Part of Something Special!
Our monthly Guardian Angels Morning Tea is a highlight for many parishioners and we would love you to be part of the team that makes it happen.
If you enjoy welcoming others, serving with joy, or just love a good cuppa, we would be thrilled to have your help once a month.
Reach out to the Parish Office on 5510 2222 if you are able to help. Thank you.

JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA

* Mary Immaculate Church every Sunday after 9.30am Mass.
* St Joseph the Worker Church the 1st Sunday of each month after 8.00am Mass.
* Guardian Angels Church the 1st Sunday after 9am Mass If we have enough volunteers to support.

PARISH WALKING GROUP

meets every Saturday at 6.30am at St Joseph the Worker Church.
Contact Janeece on 0408 763 772

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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.

PIETY STALLS

Both Mary Immaculate and Guardian Angels Piety Stalls are looking for more Volunteers. If you can assist please call the Parish Office.

Southport Catholic Parish has three Piety Stalls.
Your support would be greatly appreciated.
Guardian Angels Church - open after the 9.00am mass each Sunday.
Mary Immaculate Church - open after all masses.
Also open first and third Saturday of each month at 10.30am pending baptisms.
St Joseph's the Worker Church - open after 8.00am mass each Sunday.

GREAT NEWS Eftpos now available at St Joseph's the Worker

Each piety stall offers baptism candles, rosary beads, statues, prayer cards and other items for sale.

PARISH REGISTRATION REMINDER

Thank you to the 814 parishioners who have registered.
This allows the parish to maintain accurate records.

FLOCKNOTE
NEW PARISH REGISTRATION
Stay connected

SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

STOPLINE receives reports of suspected abuse, misconduct, or serious policy breaches involving Archdiocesan clergy, employees, or volunteers (reports may be anonymous). We uphold zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk. Our parish follows the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Framework, with strong recruitment, screening, and ongoing practices to ensure a safe ministry environment . Our Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) is **Catherine -** lsr.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

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

Safeguarding Representative
lsr.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