ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

14 JUNE 2026 YEAR A /2

Damian told me that his life changed when his sister was involved in a car accident that left her with brain injuries. As tragic as this terrible event was for his sister, Damian told me that it was a defining moment for him as well because it enabled him to work out what truly matters, what he took for granted, what he hoped for and whether he could hold on to faith in the face of tragedy.

Damian said that one of the things he learnt in the experience was what not to say to people in grief and shock. He reported that the nicest people said some of the worst things to him and his family. 'It's all God's will and now you just have to accept it.' 'God only gives the biggest crosses to those who can bear it.' 'God was clearly trying to teach you all a lesson and we'll only find out in heaven what she did to deserve this.' He said he wanted to scream. Some of his family have not been back to church since the accident.

The most helpful comment, however, the one that gave Damian and his family the greatest consolation, was, 'I can only imagine what it would be like if it were my sister.' The people who made this comment weren't trying to find an answer for him in his shock and grief; they were trying to struggle with him in his pain and questioning and understand what it might be like.

This response has a name. It's called compassion and it is what today's readings are all about. The Lord claims the Israelites as his treasured possession out of compassion. Saint Paul reminds us that God sent his Son to save us from our own destructiveness because he had compassion on us in our sinfulness. And when Jesus saw the crowds he had compassion for their diseases, sufferings and lack of leadership and he did something about it.

We are called to see the crowds of our own day and be moved with compassion. Compassion asks us to imagine what it's like to be a refugee, homeless, a victim of domestic violence, HIV positive, disabled, substance addicted, a single parent or unemployed.

We may not be able to answer these people's suffering or perhaps for some reason we should not be the ones to respond to their suffering. In either event, what we should do is secondary to how we feel with them.

And often the people we find it hardest to be compassionate toward are the ones to whom we are closest. We often expect so much of our wife or husband, children, friends and parents that we allow the poor to lay a greater claim on our compassion before those we love.

We don't have to be stingy with compassion; there will always be enough to go around. By virtue of our baptism and our coming to this Mass, however, we should be well known for being very compassionate, even foolishly so.

For Jesus doesn't teach us today to solve all the world's problems, just that we have to have the right attitude toward our brothers and sisters, imagining what it's like for them and treating them in the way we would want to be treated.

In the ministry of compassion we are *all* labourers sent out to harvest love in Christ's name; *all* of us are commissioned to confront evil and offer goodness in its place. And *all* of us are called, like the Apostles, to go to every lost sheep, especially the one who may be under our own roof, and offer healing and peace.

No one said following Jesus in this way was easy. Nearly every name read out in today's Gospel died a martyr for our faith. May the way we live be worthy of their example.

So this week when we catch ourselves jumping to an immediate condemnation of someone, let's stop and pray for the gift of compassion. That we might ask, 'What must life be like for you?' At that point, our understanding will be touching the Divine.

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 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 21 June 2026

Jer 20:10-13; Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 JUNE 2026

Next weekend, our parish children will receive their **First Holy Communion**, a joyful milestone in their journey of faith. We hold these young candidates and their families in prayer as they come to the Lord's table for the first time. May they continue to grow in **faith, hope, and love**, strengthened by the Eucharist and supported by our parish community.
Let us keep them in our hearts and prayers throughout the week.

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

Sacramental Program 2026-2027

Confirmation

The Sacramental Program begins each year in Term 3, children 7/8 years old (Year 3) are prepared for Confirmation.

Registration Open	Monday 08 June 2026
Registration Closes	Wednesday 15 July 2026
Parent Information Meeting	Sunday 19 July @ 10.45am (after 9.30am Mass) **or** Wednesday 22 July at 4.00pm at Mary Immaculate Church
Rite of Enrolment	Saturday 25 July at 4.30pm **or** Sunday 26 July at 9.30am at Mary Immaculate Church
Children Attendance - Mass	01/02 August , 08/09 August, 15/16 August, 22/23 August
Practice	Sunday 23 August after 9.30am mass **or** Wednesday 26 August 2026 at 4.00pm at Mary Immaculate Church
Confirmation	Saturday 29 August 2026 at 4.30pm mass **or** Sunday 30 August 2026 at 9.30am mass at Mary Immaculate Church

Please register on-line via https://scp.org.au/children-sacramental-programs/

Parish office email: sacramental.southport@bne.catholic.net.au Phone : 07 5510 2222

ORDER OF MALTA AUSTRALIA

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

- **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

RCIA Program

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic?

The **RCIA Program** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a welcoming journey for adults who wish to become Catholic, complete their Sacraments, or simply learn more about the Catholic faith.

Through prayer, discussion, teaching, and community, participants are invited to ask questions, grow in faith, deepen their understanding of the Church, and discern how God may be calling them.

The **Catholic Parish of Southport** warmly invites you to take the next step.

For more information, please contact our RCIA Coordinator.

Lawrence Fenech
Mob: 0458 378 315
rcia.scp@gmail.com

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.

PARISH REGISTRATION REMINDER

We are grateful to the 909 parishioners who have registered so far. Your registration ensures our parish records remain current and accurate.

FLOCKNOTE
NEW PARISH REGISTRATION
Stay connected

Peter's Pence Collection – 27/28 June 2026

Around the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul, parishes across the Archdiocese of Brisbane will take up the annual Peter's Pence retiring collection.
This collection invites Catholics to join with the faithful worldwide in supporting the charitable works of the Holy See. Through Peter's Pence, the Holy Father is able to offer timely and effective assistance to those most in need across the globe.

Volunteer Safeguarding Notice

Are you currently volunteering in the parish? We are updating our safeguarding and registration records and want to ensure everything is up to date.
If you believe you may not be fully registered, or if any of your details need updating, **please ring the parish office** on **5510 2222** (Monday or Tuesday).
We kindly ask all volunteers to check in with us **by the end of June** so we can confirm your information.
Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

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