FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
12 JULY 2026 YEAR A /2

God's Word

It is often said that a photograph is worth a thousand words. That may be true in many situations, but no image or picture can compare with the power and purpose of the 'Word of God'.

> ***"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."*** **(Isaiah 55:10-11)**

> ***"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the secret thoughts and intentions of the heart"*** **(Hebrews 4:12)**

The Word Heard Around the World

Across the world, the Word of God is heard time and again. People may reject it, but they cannot deny having heard it.

God's Word speaks of forgiveness, acceptance, gentleness, justice, and mercy. These qualities help make us fully human and fully alive. Yet many seem to overlook the simple truth the Word conveys: when we practise these virtues in everyday life, we discover true inner peace. Last week's readings remind us: **"Come to me, all who labour and are overburdened (by sin), and I will give you rest."**

Sin binds itself to us; it steals from us; sin demands constant payment. In this sense, sin becomes its own punishment: it settles in the heart, makes its home there, overwhelms us, and feeds off us as it slowly consumes our experience of inner peace.

Why the Word Matters

Without the Word of God, we can easily come to dislike ourselves and then take that disquiet out on others. The consequences are familiar: greed, blind ambition, political and corporate corruption, and abuses of every kind. A society that turns away from the Word of God slowly descends into excessive self-indulgence and moral corruption. The Word of God is given for our benefit, and we ignore or reject it at our peril because we are ultimately judged by the 'Word of God'.

Reflection by Fr John Madden

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

ORDER OF MALTA AUSTRALIA

Opening Soon
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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19 July 2026
Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM Confirmation - Reconciliation - First Holy Communion 2026-2027

CONFIRMATION WILL BE CELEBRATED AT MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH
Saturday 29 August - 4.30pm and Sunday 30 August - 9.30am
If your child/ren are 7/8 years old (year3) time to register now. Registration Closes Wednesday 15 July

Parent Information Meeting - Mary Immaculate Church
Sunday 19 July - 10.45am after 9.30am Mass or Wednesday 22 July - 4.00pm

Rite of Enrolment - Mary Immaculate Church Saturday 25 July - 4.30pm or Sunday 26 July at 9.30am

Children Attendance at Mass over 4 weekends
Saturday 01 August and Sunday 02 August
Saturday 08 August and Sunday 09 August
Saturday 15 August and Sunday 16 August
Saturday 22 August and Sunday 23 August

Practice—Mary Immaculate Church Sunday 23 August after 9.30am mass or Wednesday 26 August - 4.00pm

Please register on-line https://scp.org.au
Go to SACRAMENTS - Sacramental Program- Enrolment SAC Program (bottom of page)

SACRISTAN MINISTRY - Seeking Volunteers

Southport Catholic Parish is looking for parishioners to volunteer to be a Sacristans and Altar Servers at the following Masses:

Mary Immaculate Church Saturday 4.30pm vigil **or** Sunday 9.30am mass. Please speak with Fr Gerard or email parish.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

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.

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

For more information, please contact our RCIA Coordinator - Lawrence Fenech M: 0458 378 315

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:acounts.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

FLOCKNOTE
NEW PARISH REGISTRATION
Stay connected

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

Saints We Celebrate This Week

13 July - **St Henry**
St Henry is Patron of the childless, of Dukes, of the handicapped and those rejected by Religious Order.

14 July - **St Camillus de Lellis, Priest**
Formerly a soldier and compulsive gambler, he experienced a profound religious conversion and became the patron saint of hospitals, nurses, doctors, and those struggling with gambling addictions.

16 July - **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**
Our Lady of Mount Carmel is a title given of the Blessed Virgin Mary venerated as patroness of the Carmelites. Her significance lies in the rich biblical history of Mount Carmel in Israel and the spiritual tradition of the Brown Scapular, which symbolizes Mary's maternal protection and intercession.

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

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Marian Valley Pilgrimage
You are warmly invited to join us for a special pilgrimage to Marian Valley Church as we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima.
Date: Saturday 13 July 2026
Departure: Bus departs at 8.15am
Pick-up Location:50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters
Return Fare:$35.00 per person
Reserve Seat contact Xavier M: 0404 843 260 or Madeleine T: 07 5529 1573

FAITHFUL DEPARTED
Harley Barbaro
Victor Fenech
ANNIVERSARIES
Giorgio Di Iorio

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 T: 5510 2222.

This Week in Our Parish

- **Philermos House – The Big Red Shed** is opening soon and is currently seeking volunteers for food service, cooking, cleaning, laundry, and clothing support roles.
- **Confirmation** registration closes Wednesday 15 July 2026
- **Funeral Mass for Marie Dalton** will be held on Friday 17 July 2026, at 10.00am at St Joseph the Worker Church.
- **Morning Tea** Mary Immaculate Church after 9.30am Mass.
- **24-Hour Adoration** continues at Guardian Angels Church from Thursday noon until Friday Mass at 12.30pm.
- **RCIA Program** invitations are open for adults interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the faith.
  Contact Lawrence Fenech 0458 378 315
- **Parish Walking Group** meets every Saturday at 6.30am at St Joseph the Worker Church.
  Contact Janeece 0408 763 772
- **Parish Registration** continues, with 1020 parishioners already registered.

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
Please note that our LSR will be on leave for six weeks until 24 August. For any assistance during this time, please contact the Archdiocese.

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