**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

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF SOUTHPORT

# TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
# 6 SEPTEMBER 2026 YEAR A /2

**Reconciliation: A Time of Hope and Inner Transformation**

Living Faith Openly
One of the challenges Catholics face is remembering that faith is not merely private. Many practising Catholics feel hesitant or intimidated when speaking about their beliefs, particularly when they expect criticism. Yet authentic faith calls us to bear witness with humility, courage, and respect.

Why People Drift Away
People become disconnected from the Church for many reasons. Some leave after painful experiences or because they disagree with aspects of Church teaching. Others do not make a deliberate decision at all: life becomes busy, one missed Sunday becomes several, and the habit of attending Mass gradually fades. Some describe Mass as unengaging or feel that weekends should be reserved for family time. These concerns should be heard with patience rather than dismissed.

A Renewed Spiritual Hunger
Today, the practice of faith is increasingly a conscious choice. People attend church because they want a relationship with God and a spiritual way of life, not simply because a rule requires it. Encouragingly, more adults—particularly younger adults—appear to be searching for meaning, belonging, and direction. Recent adult faith programs have drawn strong participation and thoughtful engagement, suggesting a renewed openness to spiritual formation.

Reconciliation with God
What does this have to do with reconciliation? Everything. We live in a world where values and beliefs are continually questioned. Many people are weary of competing voices and are searching for truths that can give lasting meaning and purpose to their lives. The Catholic Church proclaims the dignity of every person, created in the image of God, and offers a vision of life grounded in enduring truth, hope, and love. Our faith therefore calls us to speak with courage and compassion, becoming witnesses through both our words and our actions. Reconciliation begins when we turn again towards God and invite others, without pressure or judgement, to discover the meaning and direction that faith can offer.

**In summary**, reconciliation is both a personal return to God and a call to accompany others with patience, humility, and hope. By listening respectfully, living our faith openly, and responding to the spiritual hunger around us with compassion, we can help others encounter the truth, meaning, and belonging found in a relationship with God and the life of the Church.

Reflection by Fr. John Madden

ORDER OF MALTA AUSTRALIA

PHILERMOS HOUSE- THE BIG RED SHED
NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER
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: Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 13 September 2026**
**Sirach 27:30 - 28:7; Ps 102:1-4 - 9-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35**

HAPPY FATHERS' DAY

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of fathers. Bless them with wisdom, strength, and faith, and guide them in reflecting Your love within their families. Through the example of Saint Joseph, may they grow in holiness and lead with courage and compassion. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Saint Joseph, patron of fathers, pray for us.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the 36 children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at Mary Immaculate Church last weekend. We thank their families, sponsors and Fr Gerard for celebrating the sacrament. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and bless these young people as they grow in faith.

Our next Sacramental Program, **Reconciliation**, will commence in February-March next year.

**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

**Marian Valley Church**

You are warmly invited to join us at Marian Valley Church as we celebrate:

* **Our Lady of Fatima's day**

**Date:** Sunday 13 September 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

Family and friends are welcome to attend.

**Big Red Shed Trivia Night a Tremendous Success**

Thank you to all who supported the recent Big Red Shed Trivia Night. The evening was a tremendous success, bringing our community together for a fun and enjoyable event while raising valuable funds for this important ministry.

We sincerely appreciate everyone who contributed through attendance, donations, sponsorships, volunteering, and prize contributions. Your support helped make the night such a wonderful achievement.

**Women's Recollection with Fr Max Polak**

Date: **Friday 25 September 2026**
At: **Guardian Angels Church, Southport**
Program:

- 5.45pm - Arrival
- 6.00pm - Holy Rosary & Examination of Conscience
- 6.30pm - Talk - Perseverance & Beginning again
- 7.15pm - Meditation (Fr Max)
- 7.45pm - Benediction

Fr Max will be available for confession and spiritual direction.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN

Warmly invites couples who are celebrating 50 years of marriage and above to the annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday 26 September 2026 at 11.30am

The Cathedral of St Stephen
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

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

# Saints We Celebrate This Week

- **8 September:** Feast of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary
- **9 September:** Saint Peter Claver

Lord, guide our actions by your holy inspirations and bring them to completion through your gracious assistance. Through the intercession of all your saints, may all that we do be pleasing in your sight. Amen.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**Guardian Angels Church, Southport**
Each Thursday noon to Friday
ending with mass at 12.30pm Friday
**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*

**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

**SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Southport Catholic Parish is seeking parishioners who are willing to serve our parish community in the following ministries:

· Sacristan Saturday 4.30pm Mary Immaculate
· Altar Servers , Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for all masses at our three churches
· Piety Shop Assistants at either:
Mary Immaculate Church or
Guardian Angels Church

Please speak with Fr Gerard or email parish.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

**Help Needed Missing Order of Malta Awning - Does anyone know where it is? Last seen at Guardian Angels Church. We would appreciate its return.**

**FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Peter Bowlay
Peter Dowell

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Hersan Yangson

**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

- **24-Hour Adoration** Please see this newsletter for further details.
- **Funerals:**
  **Tuesday 8 September** at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore - Antonia Camilleri at 11.30am.
  **Wednesday 9 September** at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore - Peter Dowell at 11.00am.
- **Morning Tea** Mary Immaculate Church after 9.30am Mass.
- **Parish Walking Group** meets every Saturday at 6.30am at St Joseph the Worker Church, Labrador. Contact Janeece 0408 763 772
- **RCIA Program** Please see this newsletter for further details.
- **Philermos House – The Big Red Shed** currently seeking volunteers Register Now - Thank you. Please see this newsletter for more details.
- **Parish Registration** continues, with 1132 parishioners already registered.

**SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT**

STOPLINE receives reports of suspected abuse, misconduct, or serious policy breaches involving Archdiocesan clergy, employees, or volunteers. Reports can be made anonymously.
We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and adults at risk and uphold a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of abuse. Our parish follows the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Framework to ensure a safe ministry environment. Our Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) is **Catherine -** lsr.southport@bne.catholic.net.au

**07 5510 2222 / 1300 304 55**
**aob@stopline.com.au**