



**Centaur Commemorative Service
81st Anniversary of the Sinking of the
2/3 Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur***

At approximately 4.15am on Friday 14 May 1943 AHS *Centaur* was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. She was struck in an oil fuel tank. There was no time for signals and no time for launching boats. She sank in 2 to 3 minutes and of the 332 persons on board only 63 men and 1 woman survived. A RAAF Avro Anson aircraft from 71 Squadron, which was operating in the area, spotted survivors in the water at 1400 hours on Saturday 15 May and radioed the USS *Mugford* to rescue the survivors in the water. The USS *Mugford*, under the Command of Lieutenant Commander H J Corey, found the 64 survivors and brought them to Brisbane on Saturday afternoon 15 May.

Each year on the 14 May, the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses Committee coordinates a Memorial Service commemorating this loss of life on AHS *Centaur*. The President of CMFN, Colonel Julie Finucane Rtd, and the CMFN Committee of Management, join with The Honourable Martin Daubney AM KC, Chancellor, Australian Catholic University, in inviting you to attend the 81st Anniversary Service.

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland, and Patron of the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses, has been invited to attend this Service.

**The Service will be held on
Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 1000am for 10.30am, prompt start,
at
Holy Spirit Chapel, Australian Catholic University
1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo, Qld 4014**

Service participants

Cadets TS Centaur Maleny
Brisbane Girls' Grammar School Chamber Singers Choir
Queensland Police Pipes and Drums

ACU Nursing Students will be in attendance

Please RSVP by Friday 3 May 2024 to admin@centaurnursesfund.org.au

**General Parking available on site, to the left of the main access road. The chapel is site 201. See attached map. Disabled parking is available at P8, P3, P4.
Uniform, Academic Dress and medals may be worn**

The Service will be held under COVID Safe Precautions. If you are unwell, please do not attend.

Yours sincerely

Julie Finucane OAM RFD
President of the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses
Colonel Retired
Colonel Commandant – Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps
Website: <http://www.centaurnursesfund.org.au/>