



**ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
 39-49 McLAREN ROAD, NERANG  
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 OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday – 9.00am to 3.30pm  
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**PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Isidore Enyinnaya Phone: 0451 140 471 Email: [pp.nerang@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pp.nerang@bne.catholic.net.au)  
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*The following is an excerpt from the Reflection by Gerard Moore as published in Pastoral Liturgy.*

The gospel text is one of a series of passages in which Jesus is confronted by those who seek to tarnish his reputation. In each of the troubled meetings, it is the itinerant preacher from Galilee who masters the religious and political elites, whether scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, or Herodians. The intention to trap Jesus leaves them cornered. As it is becoming clear, these chapters late in Matthew are a prelude to the capture and death of Jesus at the hands of the authorities, an episode where again God thwarts their plans.

In our text, there are a number of interesting details and twists, but the focus of the narrative remains fixed on the teaching already seen in the first reading from Isaiah. First to the tension points of the story. It is not the leaders who come but their disciples and members of another group. Interestingly, the Pharisees as a group do not have disciples: the community of Matthew is far enough removed from the actual situation for this not to matter. Nor is anything known about the Herodians. What the story line develops is a determined group acting on behalf of the leadership. It is something like a skirmish testing the strength of the teacher. As it turns out, the fray also tests the nerve of the smug opposition.

Clearly Jesus teaching is having an impact on the people, and challenging the interpretations and authorities of the period. This is seen in the false praise of the interlocutors: "we know you are an honest man...that you are not afraid of anyone:.. These words of the group testing Jesus contain the key theological focus of the reading: we know..."that you are not afraid of anyone."

The issue of taxation is front and centre in the plot. It is known whether this was a great concern of the early Christian communities, though other parts of the gospel show a disdain for tax collectors themselves. It can hardly be expected that the Pharisees thought of Jesus as a tax avoider, given his itinerant status and limited wealth. In this the taxation question is more of a peg around which two other points are given prominence. One is the malice of the questioners. Their only intention is to trick the 'master', do the bidding of unknown leaders, and make a name for themselves amongst their limited circle. They model a form of 'discipleship' that has no integrity. Perhaps their lack of freedom gives rise to their malice. At any rate, it contrasts with the freedom from fear and the honesty that they venomously ascribe to Jesus.

The second is the most central: " give to God what belongs to God". And for Jesus, what is there that does not belong to God. This is not so much a comparison between two competing duties or powers-taxes and divine, the state and God. Rather Jesus is bringing to the fore the teaching of Isaiah that we have already heard. There is nothing that has it origins or being outside of God. All things come and go in God. The real disciple lives life accordingly. Soon enough Jesus' own life will be in the hands of these authorities, but this teaching evidences that he is already convinced that in God all things are turned to the fulfilment of the divine will.

There is no hint of complacency in Jesus; response, or of disengagement with the difficult tasks of life, with suffering and emptiness. The Gospel is at pains to show that the way of life of Jesus is the model for giving to God what is Gods! He teaches, cares, loves, heals and rebukes the hypocritical leaders. To give to God what belongs to God is to love and ultimately this will cost Jesus his life, as Matthew is soon to show. Everything he does is grounded in the originating and upholding love of God, and Jesus response is to emulate that love.

There is something to be said in the narrative about taxes! There is a way that the reading can be construed as about the obligation to pay the state tariff. And while Jesus' message is that there can be no comparison between obedience to the state and that owed to God, he does not deny that there are civil obligations: that is simply not part of the story line that the evangelist wants to emphasise.

The exert from the Letter to the Thessalonians offers a touching contract. Here Paul is greeting his brothers and sisters in Christ. He has clear affection for them, is constantly mindful of them, and wishes them grace and the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Christian community did have its religious and political elites, and needed to deal with them, however it is something of an antidote to see Paul greeting his fellow Christians with affection.

**Please Note:** We welcome our visitors and ask all to respect the local practice of receiving the Lord's Body and Blood: the Body of Christ is received on the hand or the tongue and the Blood of Christ is received by drinking from the Chalice (cup). We kindly ask you to refrain from intinction (dipping the consecrated Bread into the consecrated Wine) even if this is your parish's custom.

**PRAYERS FOR THE HOLY SOULS**

November has traditionally been known as the month Catholics remember their deceased loved ones; members of the family, relatives, friends and the souls in Purgatory, in prayers especially at Masses. We are opening the Book of Remembrance this year. The envelopes are at the entrance to the Church. Please print the name/s clearly on the back of the envelopes and place the envelopes on any collection plate during Mass. The names will be included in our Book of Remembrance for this year and Masses offered for the repose of the souls of the dead and the well being of the living. Any envelope received after the 24th October will not be included in this year's Book of Remembrance though the Mass will still be offered for the repose of the soul of the dead.

**FUND RAISING EVENT FOR RATNAPURA, SRI LANKA**

The Annual Fundraising Food Fest for the benefit of the Parish of Ratnapura in Sri Lanka will be held on Sunday 5th November following the 8.30am Mass.

There will also be a cake stall. Parishioners are asked to please make cakes , slices, jams etc for the cake stall with all proceeds going to Bishop Cletus Perera to help with the work in his Diocese. Parishioners are encouraged to support this worthy cause by purchasing a meal on the day and also purchasing from the stall.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**

The next parents preparation meeting for Baptisms of infants will be held on **Sunday 19th November at 10.00am**. All parents who wish to have their children baptised in the next few months are encouraged to attend.

**PARISH CALENDAR 2018**

We call on Parishioners who would like to contribute to the planning of the 2018 Parish Event/Calendar to please contact Fr Isidore or the Parish office so that we can include this events in the 2018 Parish liturgy and Events Calendar .

**SOUND SYSTEM IN CHURCH**

The Parish needs \$9,171.80 to fix and upgrade the sound system in the Church. At the moment the donations to this project stands at \$3,670.00. May God keep blessing you as you consider giving towards this project.

**ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS as at 10th October 2017**

**1ST COLLECTION: \$ 707.85 - For Clergy Support**  
**2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,137.90 - For Parish expenses such as administration, and maintenance of all our buildings and properties.**



*I sincerely thank you for your continued financial support. Be assured of our prayers and your divine rewards.*  
 Fr Isidore

**SCHOOL OF THE WORD**

Come and pray with the Word of God Topic: **THE PARABLES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**  
 Every last Saturday of the month—10 am to 12 pm at St Brigid's Parish  
 Conducted by the Verbum Dei Missionaries. Contact: Ph (07) 3495 7105 Mobile 0410 802 810 / 0424 777 232 Email: [vdmfbris@gmail.com](mailto:vdmfbris@gmail.com) Next Meeting 28th October 2017



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Children's Liturgy will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month outside school holidays. For more information please call the Parish Office.

**We here at St Brigid's Catholic Parish Nerang as part of the Archdiocese of Brisbane MUST ABIDE BY AND ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PRIVACY ACT & THE AUSTRALIAN PRIVACY PRINCIPLES.**

The Privacy Act impacts upon us all today and if you wish to peruse the Compliance Requirements and the Privacy Act, please go to the Archdiocesan Website [www.bne.catholic.net.au](http://www.bne.catholic.net.au). The Policy is on our website.

**IN EMERGENCIES or HOSPITAL CALLS**

**For University & Allamanda Hospital - Southport Parish on 5510 2222**  
**For Robina Hospital - Burleigh Heads Parish on 5576 6466**  
**For Pindara Hospital - Surfers Paradise Parish on 5572 5433**  
**For John Flynn Hospital -Coolangatta-Tugun Parish on 5598 2165**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL NERANG CONFERENCE MEETINGS**

held in St Brigid's Parish Centre at 6.30pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. All Welcome.



## CHURCHES

St Brigid's Church  
39-49 McLaren Rd  
Nerang Q 4211

St John's Church  
Windabout Rd  
Beechmont Q  
4211

## SCHOOL

St Brigid's  
Primary  
McLaren Road  
Nerang Q 4211  
Phone: 5596 4188

WEB PAGE:  
www.sb.qld.edu.au

DAVID SEWELL  
Principal

### MASS AND PRAYER TIMES AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH FROM 1ST JULY 2017

#### Week Day Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7.00 am  
Wednesday 5.45 pm  
Saturday 9.00 am

The Mass at 9.00am on the First Saturday of each month will be a Mass For the Sick with Anointing

The next Anointing Mass will be 4th November, 2017

#### Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm  
Sunday 8.30 am

#### Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Friday at 7.30 am, Wednesday at 5.00pm,  
Saturday at 8.30am. And Sunday at 8.00am

Divine Mercy Prayer Thursday 7.30am

Adoration Holy Hour with Benediction Thursday 6-7pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Saturday 9.30 am

Reconciliation: St Brigid's Church Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm  
Sunday 8.00am - 8.15am

St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont

2nd Sunday of each month

Next Mass at St John's Sunday 12th November 10.30 am



Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A Sunday, 22 Oct 2017

### FIRST READING *Is 45:1-4-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7*

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. O sing a new song to the Lord,<br>sing to the Lord all the earth.<br>Tell among the nations his glory<br>and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)          | 3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,<br>give the Lord glory and power,<br>give the Lord the glory of his name.<br>Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R) |
| 2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,<br>to be feared above all gods;<br>the gods of the heathens are naught.<br>It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R.) | 4. Worship the Lord in his temple.<br>O earth, tremble before him.<br>Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'<br>He will judge the peoples in fairness. ®           |

### SECOND READING *1 Thes 1:1-5*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Phil 2:15. 16*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL *Mt 22:15-21*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR DAILY MASS ATTENDEES

There will not be daily Mass on Tuesday 24th October, Wednesday 25th October and Thursday 26th October as Fr Isidore will be away from the Parish.

### HOME VISITS TO THE SICK AND AGED

Fr Isidore is happy and available to visit sick or aged parishioners in their homes. If you are housebound and would like a visit, or you know someone who is, please call the office or his mobile number to arrange for a visit. Let us all show concern and care for the sick, the needy and the aged.

We remember all those who have gone before us to rest in the loving embrace of Jesus

**We pray for the recently deceased :** Frank Kelly

**We pray for the dearly departed whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

We also remember their families—may they be comforted and supported in their loss by This Community of Faith.

We pray for those who are sick or in hospital: Jasmine Fay Parada, Maureen and Paul Hume, Patricia Smith, Patrick Mackey, Valda Silvy, Joan Gordon, Patricia Solomon, Amanda Gordon and Tina Vettori

**Our prayers are also offered for those who are elderly and in Nursing homes.**



### JOIN THE ROSARY CRUSADE IN SUPPORT OF NATURAL FAMILY

This month of October Parishioners are encouraged to join in praying and fasting for Marriage and Family. We are encouraged to pray rosaries for marriage, offer hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, fast on Fridays for families, give up meat on Fridays, give up sweets and other treats on Fridays. Go to RosaryCrusade.org.au to make your rosary pledge and join the crusade.



### OCTOBER DEVOTION AND PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady. Traditionally the Parish will join with the entire Catholic world in Rosary and Benediction to honour Mary this October and ask for her Intercession. Time: Rosary and Benediction - 5.45pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Wednesday 6.15pm after Mass.

May I say a big thank you to all those who supported and participated in our Public Square Rosary held on 14th October, 2017, at Bischof Pioneer Park, Nerang. May God bless you all through Mary's intercession.