

**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.

**REQUEST FOR MORE PEOPLE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE LITURGY**

We urgently need more people to become involved in the Liturgy of the Mass at the Vigil Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Anyone who is interested in becoming involved in any capacity in the Parish, as :- Sacristan, Readers, Eucharist Ministers, or in any other ministry please call the Parish Office or speak to **me direct**. The more people who become involved means the less often they will be required. Full training will be provided by Father Isidore and no one will be asked to participate until they are comfortable and ready for the Ministry.

**VINNIES FOOD HAMPER AND TOY APPEAL**

Commencing 1st week of Advent until 17th December, scrolls will be placed at the entrance of the church. Please take a few scrolls—food items and gifts for children. Blue baskets will be left at the front doors of the church for you to place these items. **New items only please and do not wrap.** Place 2nd hand items in Vinnies bins in the car park.



**CHRISTMAS WORKING BEE**

There will be a Christmas preparation working bee at St Brigid's Church on Saturday 16th December following the Novena. The church will be decorated for Christmas on this day as well. We would appreciate as many parishioners as possible come to this working bee. Please mark this in your calendar and bring your cleaning equipment and gardening gear. Anyone who will be attending please contact Maria on 0413 586 899 so that we know the numbers for the day.

**CHRISTMAS HOSPITALITY**

Following the 6.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve there will be supper served in the Parish Centre. We are asking Parishioners to please bring a plate of food to this function. All Parishioners are welcome to attend. On Christmas Day following the 8.30am Mass morning tea will be served outside the church. To coordinate the catering for both these functions would anyone who is intending to bring food please call Maria on 0413 586 899, or Philomine on 0419 642 035 for Christmas Eve and Sally on 55749515 for Christmas Day.

**RITE OF ELECTION 2018**

The Rite of Election for 2018 in the Archdiocese of Brisbane will be celebrated in the Cathedral of St Stephen on the First Sunday of Lent, 18th February at 3.0pm. Anyone wishing to become a Catholic should call the office on Tuesday or Thursday for an application form. All forms for 2018 should be completed and returned to the office by the end of December.

**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 these events in the 2018 Parish liturgy and Events Calendar.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**

The next parents' preparation meeting for Baptisms of infants will be held **Sunday 17th December at 10.00am**. All parents who wish to have their children baptised in the next few months are encouraged to attend.

**ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS as at 21st November 2017**

**1ST COLLECTION: \$ 760.75 - For Clergy Support**  
**2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,322.55 - 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**

**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.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B—3RD DECEMBER 2017**



**ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
**39-49 McLAREN ROAD, NERANG**  
**POSTAL: PO Box 196 NERANG, QLD 4211**  
**OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday – 9.00am to 3.30pm**  
**PHONE: (07) 5596 2632 FAX: (07) 5596 3669**  
**WEB PAGE: www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au**

**PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:**

**Parish Priest: Fr Isidore Enyinnaya Phone: 0451 140 471 Email: pp.nerang@bne.catholic.net.au**  
**Parish Secretary: Lenette Evans Email: nerang@bne.catholic.net.au**

Dear People of God

St Paul in his second letter to Timothy (2:13) tells us that God is always faithful even when human beings are unfaithful. In the book of numbers (23:19), Balaam says: 'God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfil?' (see also 1 Samuel 15:29). St Paul in today's second reading says: 'the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.'

Today being the first Sunday of Advent, the Church invites us to reflect and reaffirm our faith in a God who keeps his promises, a God who never disappoints, a faithful God without deceit. He promised us a saviour. And as St. Paul said: 'when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons and daughters. And because you are sons and daughters, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So, you are no longer slaves, but sons and daughters, and if sons and daughters, then heirs through God' and co-heirs with Jesus Christ. (see Gal. 4:4-7).

Now that Jesus our Lord and God, has promised us that he will return again, it is right that we should wait for him in hope. Advent then signifies that period of waiting; a period of hope as the first advent candle which was lit today signifies. We are a 'people of hope'. As this candle is lit today, may the light of hope never go out in our hearts until it ushers us into the reality we hope for. And on that day, as Isaiah said, it shall be said, 'Look! Here is our God for whom we waited and hoped that he might save us. And now, let us rejoice and be glad for he has saved us' (see Isaiah 25:9). God never fails.

As we wait in hope, let us be prepared to meet him when he comes. In today's Gospel Jesus tells us to stay awake. He tells us to be sober, to be vigilant. If there is any obstacle in our way of meeting him, especially the obstacle of sin, we should remove that obstacle through repentance, with trust in, and in obedience to his word. Unlike the people of Isaiah's time, who did not invoke God's name nor roused themselves to catch hold of him, (see first reading), we should invoke his name more than before, waiting in prayer and watching in good deeds during this period of Advent. We should arouse ourselves to 'catching hold' of him as he comes our way.

I believe that it is right and just, our duty and our salvation to always trust this God of ours. For He is our Father; we the clay, He the potter. He created us and shapes our lives individually. He is able to save us from Satan, sin and shame. He did it when he came. He is still working to save those who welcome him each day into their lives, some while still here on earth, others for eternity. And he will continue to do it until He comes in glory with all His Angels. Our hope will not disappoint us. All we need to do is to stay awake, that is, to stay spiritually awake and alive to the things of God and his presence in our lives, our families and our Parish community.

**MY FIRST ONE YEAR IN SERVICE AT NERANG PARISH**

Today marks one year of my appointment as the Parish Priest of this unique and wonderful parish. I am grateful to God for the successes we have achieved this year. It was a very good take off; and we hope to be flying at a fairly comfortable altitude for the physical and spiritual relaxation of all on board this spiritual spaceship: our beloved Parish.

I am grateful to all, especially those who have assured me of their support through their contributions of time, talent and treasure. You have made me feel at home here. I seek your continued cooperation as we move ahead. Let genuine love bind us together. Beyond the sky is our limit. Together as one family, we shall soar high, drawing the attention of all to the goodness, mercy and glory of God in our midst.

God bless.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya

## 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 2nd December 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 10th December 10.30 am



## 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 :** Margery O'Connor, Celena McGovern and Therese Nicol Camp

**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 Shelly Ryan and Jim Gardiner

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



## ANNUAL PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Today we will be having the annual Peter's Pence Collection. The Peter's Pence Collection gives Catholics in Australia an opportunity to join in communion with the Catholic faithful throughout the world in support of the charitable works of the Holy See. The collection allows the Holy Father to respond to the most needy throughout the world, to offer timely, effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters. In the Archdiocese of Brisbane, we take this collection up as a retiring collection.

## CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

Thank you for your generous support for the Mission Appeal. We raised the amount of \$1478.60 for the Missions.

## First Sunday of Advent - Year B,

3 Dec 2017

### FIRST READING *Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8*

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4*

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

- O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
- May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
The man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R)

### SECOND READING *1 Cor 1:3-9*

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Ps 84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL *Mk 13:33-37*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

## CAKE STALL

The Fundraising Cake Stall will be held today Sunday 3rd December. All donation of cakes, biscuits and slices are gratefully appreciated. Please support this fundraiser for the Parish.