

We remember all those who have gone before us to rest in the loving embrace of Jesus. We also remember their families - may they be comforted and supported in their loss by this Community of Faith. :

We pray for the recently deceased: Penelope Maria Allan

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

Rose Camilleri

We pray for those who are sick or in hospital: Christine De Barro, Maureen and Paul Hurney ,Patricia Smith, Patrick Mackey, and Richard McGuire

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



ST BRIGID'S CRAFT GROUP

The craft group meet every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am. In the Parish Centre Please come along and bring your craft projects and join the ladies and enjoy morning tea. Everyone welcome. Donations of wool would be gratefully appreciated. For further information please contact the Parish Office.



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.



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. The Policy is on our website.

ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS as at Tuesday 7th February 2017

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 651.50 - For Clergy Support

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,119.70 - For Parish expenses such as administration, and maintenance of all our buildings and properties.

The Parish Loans currently stand at \$ 15,896.76

I sincerely thank you for your continued financial support. Fr Isidore



IN EMERGENCIES or HOSPITAL CALLS

For University & Allamanda Hospital - Southport Parish on 5510 2222

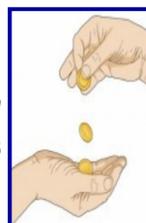
For Robina Hospital - Burleigh Heads Parish on 5576 6466

For Pindara Hospital - Surfers Paradise Parish on 5572 5433

For John Flynn Hospital -Coolangatta-Tugun Parish on 5598 2165

Become a Part of the PARISH PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM And help your Parish grow.

We thank most sincerely all Parishioners who contribute to the Planned Giving Program. Your ongoing commitment and contribution assists the responsible budgeting for the operating expenses of the Parish (wages, rates, electricity, building maintenance, etc.) as well as pastoral planning for Parish growth (faith education, sacramental preparation, resources, etc.) To obtain Planned Giving envelopes, please complete this form and place on the Collection Plate, or contact the Parish Office on 5596 2632. (Please print clearly)



Surname: _____

Christian Names: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

Phone No : _____ (H) _____ (W) _____ (M)

E-Mail: _____

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 12TH FEBRUARY 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:

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya Parish Priest Email: enyinnayai@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Lenette Evans Email: nerang@bne.catholic.net.au

Reflection 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

In recent times most people, especially, some priests, parents and Christian religious educators have preferred the use of the phrase 'wrong choice' in place of the word 'sin'. Despite the fact that sin is much more than making a wrong choice, that phrase 'wrong choice' best explains a very important aspect of sin. Sin is a human choice notwithstanding the subtle, deceptive and sometimes, overwhelming allurements of the evil ones – Satan, his agents and his agencies – who, with their pretensions set against the real knowledge and wisdom of God, want us by all means to fall into and to remain in sin.

In today's first reading taken from the book of Ecclesiasticus, Sirach wrote: "If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him." Moses affirmed this by saying: "Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. ... No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it. See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws, then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you..." (Deuteronomy 30:11-16). And Joshua also said: "So fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly ... Serve the Lord alone. But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve ... But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:14-15).

Sinning (or disobeying God) is a wrong choice because it leads to eternal death and destruction. When we make this personal choice to obey or to disobey God, we are, just like Joshua, deciding for our families also, be it our nuclear family or the extended family of the Church or the human race. It wouldn't be good that any member of our family should face eternal perdition. In today's Gospel Jesus said that "the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven."

Each of us makes the choice where we spend our eternity by the things we choose to think about, things we say, do or fail to do. It all depends on our thought pattern: what we allow to preoccupy our thoughts – what we think about. St Paul wrote: "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

The evil one can build a strong hold in our minds, by suggestive insinuations in our thought processes. We destroy our faith in God by allowing thoughts of what St Paul, in today's second reading, called, "a philosophy of our age," or of the wisdom "of the masters of our age...", to find a home in our hearts. Such philosophies as the new age movement, modernism, humanism, hedonism, communism, agnosticism, etc., and the masters of our age like astrologers (who read and interpret zodiac signs and their horoscopes), and scientific atheists and non-theists. We have to wage spiritual war against these with the spiritual weapons listed in Ephesians 6:10-18 and by filling our minds and hearts with the knowledge and wisdom of God. In the second reading, St Paul said: "The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began."

Jesus said today, that virtue or sin is not measured only by what we do or fail to do. They are measured also by what we think and say. He says: "if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven." So, one is guilty, not only when one kills, commits adultery, divorces or breaks an oath, but also when one harbours the thoughts of doing one or the other of these, or says things that could lead to it. (Today's gospel explains it all).

In the words of St Paul, I say: "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things ... and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8).

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

Week Day Mass

Monday to Friday 7am
Saturday 9am

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 8.30 am

Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7.30am
Saturday 8.30am

Divine Mercy Prayer Wednesday 7.30am

Adoration with Benediction Thursdays 7-8pm

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 10.30am

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



ST BRIGID'S PARISH OFFICE NEWS

The installation of Rev. Fr Isidore Chidi Enyinnaya as the Parish Priest of St Brigid's Catholic Parish Nerang will be on Saturday 25th March 2017 during the 9.00am Mass celebrated by The Archbishop the Most Rev Mark Coleridge. All our parishioners are encouraged to attend.

We will be having a morning Tea in the Parish Centre following the Mass. We are requesting all those who can help with the food and preparations for the day or wish to be involved in any way to please speak to Fr Isidore direct, call the office during office hours or contact Maria Page on 0413 586 899 after 6.00pm or speak to Sally Alker.

On Saturday 18th March at 10.00am there will be a working bee in and around the Church in preparation for the celebration on the 25th March. Please also call Maria if you can help in any way.

We are also requesting flowers to decorate the Church for the installation ceremony on the 25th. If you have access to any flowers and would like to help in this way please bring them to the church on Friday 24th or call the office.

The next preparation for Baptisms for infants within the month of March will be held on Sunday 19th February at 10.00am. All parents who wish to have their children baptised are encouraged to attend.

Good day mate!

Thanks for coming here. I think you'll enjoy reading, once again, from Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel, n.127, (St Pauls Publications ed.). Read on mate!

The joy of the Gospel is such that it cannot be taken away from us by anyone or anything (cf. *Jn* 16:22). The evils of our world – and those of the Church – must not be excuses for diminishing our commitment and our fervour. Let us look upon them as challenges which can help us to grow. With the eyes of faith, we can see the light which the Holy Spirit always radiates in the midst of darkness, never forgetting that “where sin increased, grace has abounded all the more” (*Rom* 5:20). Our faith is challenged to discern how wine can come from water and how wheat can grow in the midst of weeds.

One of the more serious temptations which stifles boldness and zeal is a defeatism which turns us into querulous and disillusioned pessimists, “sourpusses”. Nobody can go off to battle unless he is fully convinced of victory beforehand. If we start without confidence, we have already lost half the battle and we bury our talents. While painfully aware of our own frailties, we have to march on without giving in, keeping in mind what the Lord said to Saint Paul: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 *Cor* 12:9). (see EG. n. 84 & 85)

FIRST READING *Sir 15:15-20*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1*

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

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|----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. <i>(R.)</i> | 3. | Bless your servant and I shall live
And obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. <i>(R)</i> |
| 2. | You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. <i>(R.)</i> | 4.0 | Teach me the demands of your statutes
And I will keep them to the end
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. <i>(R)</i> |

SECOND READING *1 Cor 2:6-10*

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

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

GOSPEL *Mt 5:17-37*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

‘For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother “Fool!” he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him “Renegade” he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

‘It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is “Yes” if you mean yes, “No” if you mean no; anything more

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 Next Meeting 25th February 2017

