

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.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
Mark 10:14

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded from harm by all.

This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State. The full policy is available to read on the Archdiocese website—brisbanecatholic.org.au

ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 1,395.45 - For Clergy Support

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 2,080.10 - For Parish expenses such as administration, and maintenance of all our buildings and properties.

The Parish Loans currently stand at \$ 16,980.68

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



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.



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: _____

NEW YEARS DAY 2017

MARY MOTHER OF GOD



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 FOR SUNDAY 1ST JAN., 2017

Dear people of God

Each year the Church deliberately celebrates on 1st January, three major events, namely the beginning of a New (Civil) Year, the feast of Holy Mary Mother of God, and the World Day of Peace. But this year's celebration is unique in that it falls on a Sunday making today the first day of the first week, of the first month of the year 2017. It is really a blessing from God that we have been kept alive to witness it. In today's first reading, God declares his intention to bless us, by telling Moses to tell the Priests: Aaron and his sons, "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel ..." Indeed God has blessed us by being gracious to us, keeping us safe, and letting His face shine on us this Christmas and New Year. We should be grateful to Him for the life and all the many good things, spiritual and material, with which He has blessed us in the past year 2016. And we thank Him for giving us a brand new day, a brand new week, a brand new month, a brand new year.

Obscure as the New Year is and desiring we shall be fully blessed at the end, we the Church turn to Mary the Mother of God and hand over these precious gifts of a brand new year to her for safe keeping. Mary is our Mother and Model of faith blessings. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And again she said "blessed is she (Mary) who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord." (See Luke 1:39 – 45)

Mary herself sang:

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour! For He has looked with favour on the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things for me. Holy is His name." (See Luke 1: 46 – 56)

She quite understood and knew how to hold on to God's Word until it became tangible. With faith, she received the Word, bore Him in her womb and brought Him forth to the world as the epitome of blessings to humanity and our high Priest of the new and lasting sacrifice of blessings.

Pope Francis on this same day last year said: "The Blessed Virgin is the woman of faith who made room for God in her heart and in her plans". As we make noble plans and resolutions for the New Year, as is the tradition, and plunging into the unknown future, we are called to make room for God in our hearts and in our plans like our Blessed Mother Mary. Being a teenage Virgin, this Icon of faith, alighted from her own world, stepped ashore into the world of faith unknown to sensuous human minds, but designed by God.

Accepting the message in faith, in spite of the apparent precarious nature of her future, she became the Mother of God by the power and working of the Holy Spirit. We have to turn to Mary that she may journey with us and teach us, that in the fullness of time, God will bring all our plans and purposes to a successful end. Only faith can keep us sailing smoothly on this ocean of unknown times ahead. And she can be our reliable helper of faith on our life journey. Let us connect to her by a daily saying of the Rosary.

According to St Paul, "faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." This is why Mary was full of faith. After hearing the message of the Angels from the shepherds, Mary, as the Gospel today says, "treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart." These kept her calm and peaceful in the turbulent and violent waves of Jesus' life and sacrifice. Understanding God's Word and treasuring it in our hearts can keep us stable, peaceful and loving. As we pray for peace in our hearts, our homes, and in our world today, let one of our resolutions this year be to treasure the Word of God by a daily reading of the Bible and spiritual books, and by pondering God's Word in our hearts even as we listen every weekend to readings and preaching during Eucharistic celebrations. (See 2 Chron. 17:1-12).

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

St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont
2nd Sunday of each month 10.30am

Next Mass at St John's Sunday 8th January 10.30am



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: Clive Scrivens

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

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

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



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

God has been good to us. It is good to thank you all, our Parishioners, for your faith and your support, which have kept the Church going despite all the attacks on her from within and without, seen and unseen. I just wish and pray for a flourishing Church, not only in faith but population wise as well. I think, we need more of 'catechnoscience', (i.e. a teaching system- a *catechesis*, that will talk about God-news as is relevant in this era of science and technology), especially in this our Computer Age in which scientific cum technological advancements, moving us at an increasingly exponential speed, have tried to solve most riddles of human existence which were in the past, the 'reserved' of God. I keep asking myself, if all those riddles of life, for which people turn to God for answers, have been answered, is there still any need to turn to God? Do you think that God is still relevant in our age and in your life?

Feel free to e-mail me at enyinnayai@bne.catholic.net.au

May God bless you all.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Sunday, 1 Jan 2017

FIRST READING Nm 6:22-27

A reading from the book of Numbers

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. v.2

(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

SECOND READING Gal 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave anymore; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 2:16-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.