

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 not yet on our website but will be in the near future.

### ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS

**1ST COLLECTION:** \$ 687.30 - For Clergy Support

**2ND COLLECTION:** \$ 1,450.80 - For Parish expenses such as administration, and maintenance of all our buildings and properties.



The Parish Loans currently stand at \$ 17,521.76

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)



## 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

EMAIL: [nerang@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:nerang@bne.catholic.net.au)

WEB PAGE: [www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au](http://www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au)

### PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:

Parish Priest: Father Isidore Enyinnaya

Parish Secretary: Lenette Evans

### 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](http://www.sb.qld.edu.au)

KEVIN BIANCHI  
Principal

### Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A Saturday 17th / Sunday 18th December 2016

Dear people of God

In today's second reading, we see St Paul, right from the beginning of his letter to the Romans, stating with conviction, his awareness of his divine selection and election or we may call it, his divine appointment. He addressed himself as "a servant of Christ Jesus ... called to be an Apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News ... This news is about the Son of God ...; it is about Jesus Christ our Lord ... Through Him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of His Name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ."

The question one may ask is "can we apply to ourselves, both as individuals and as a community what St Paul applied to himself?" Yes, because at baptism we became servants of God. At baptism, we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the Good News about Jesus Christ; to preach the obedience of faith in Christ to all pagan nations. And we are one of these nations and by divine election and selection now belong to Jesus Christ. The passage of the scriptures, apart from the stories about Jesus, that best describes what St Paul meant by obedience of faith is found in Hebrews eleven (Heb. 11:1ff).

That passage says, "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the Promised Land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the

same promise.” (Heb. 11:8-9)

Obedience of faith is the great character, a visible sign of divine grace divine grace at work in the hearts of those chosen, those called to be saints, called to be obedient children of God, called to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. To obey God, not by force or fear, but out of love and respect is obedience of faith. Going to Church on a Sunday, though not enough to make someone holy, but is a great sign of obedience of faith. It makes little or no sense to attend Mass on a regular basis, but as an act of Obedience of faith, as an expression of response to a faith-call, it becomes a holy act in which the Lord himself gives us a sign – the Emmanuel sign - “God-is-with-us” as stated in the readings today.

For some people the idea of regular Mass attendance is a myth and a pointless waste of time. It is like telling a dream story and so it is dismissed from their heart as a phantom, a dream or not-worth-it kind of thing. In today’s Gospel, Joseph yielded to the demands of obedience of faith. If Joseph had dismissed the dream, and doubted the possibility of Mary conceiving by the power of the Holy Spirit. God’s plan for him, Mary, Jesus and us would have been thwarted. But his obedience of faith impacted the world. How often have we acted on faith principles and demands, even though they appear to be impossible, useless, nonsense, stupid and old-school? It is proven that those ruled by the Obedience of faith show a great commitment and dedication to Mass attendance which is a response to a call, to a faith-invitation to encounter the Emmanuel – the ‘God-is-with-us’ in the Eucharist.

The Church teaches, “Christ is always present in His Church, especially in ..... the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the **person of His minister**, but especially under the **Eucharistic species (Sacred Host and Precious Blood)**. By His power He is present in **the sacraments**,... He is present in **His word**, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read.... He is present, lastly, **when the Church prays and sings**, for He promised: “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20).” (S.C. n.7)

Do we think that the obligation of going to Mass on a weekend is man-made? Don’t we think we are turning down God’s invitation to encounter him? The letter to the Hebrews says: “without faith it is impossible to please God...” There is no obedience of faith when we don’t take God at His word. God is not a man that He should lie. Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Let us obey in faith. Thus we please God and receive His promised blessings.

The obligation to attend Mass in an invitation from God to encounter his Son the EMMANUEL.

**Fr Isidore Enyinnaya**

**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 25th December 10.30am  
Sunday 8th January 10.30am

**RECONCILIATION AND CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT ST BRIGID’S CHURCH**

**CHRISTMAS EVE RECONCILIATION** 5.15 pm

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL** 6.00 pm  
**CHRISTMAS DAY** Midnight  
8.30am

St John’s Beechmont 10.30am  
Reconciliation Monday 19th 5.30pm

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: Joanne McDonald, James Maher**

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

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

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

# *Christmas Mass Times*

**2016**

**ST BRIGID'S CHURCH – NERANG**



**Carols for 15 minutes prior to Vigil & Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Eve - 6pm Vigil Mass**

**Christmas Day - Midnight and 8.30am**

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH - BEECHMONT**

**Carols at 10.00 am**

**Christmas Day Mass - 10.30 am**

