

2017 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME

Session 1 Sunday 28th May at 10.00am (after 8.30am Mass in the Church) **First Communion Preparation Parent Meeting**

Session 2 Saturday 3rd June at 10.30am

Session 3 Sunday 4th June at 10.00am

Session 4 Sunday 11th June at 10.00am

These Sessions are a priority prior to the celebration of First Eucharist.

First Holy Communion Masses: Saturday 17 June at 6.00pm or Sunday 18 June at 8.30am.

Parents please return any outstanding forms to the office urgently.

The Feast of Australia's Patroness, **Our Lady Help of Christians**, will be celebrated on **Saturday May 20, 2017** at the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians, Marian Valley, Canungra. Celebrant and Homilist will be the Most Reverend Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane. The bus will leave from 7 Lind Ave, Palm Beach at 7.45am then from Sacred Heart Church at Clear Island Waters at 8.15am. The cost for a seat on the bus is \$20 per person return. Please call Paula on 0402 930 918 or 5582 7950 or Madelaine Zammit on 5529 1573 or 0405 252 367 to secure your seat



BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next parents preparation meeting for Baptisms of infants within the month of July will be held on **Sunday 18th June at 10.00am**. All parents who wish to have their children baptised during July, August or September are advised to attend.

ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS as at 2nd May 2017

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 669.50 - For Clergy Support

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,227.55 - For Parish expenses such as administration, and maintenance of all our buildings and properties.

The Parish Loans currently stand at \$ 14,247.39

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

Fr Isidore



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

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. For further information please contact the Parish Office.



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.



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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 7TH MAY 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: enyinnaya@bne.catholic.net.au

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

Reflection

We will begin our reflection with the psalm. Here on the fourth Sunday of Easter it sings the love of God, beyond telling, beyond limit, beyond extravagance. The sheep are cared for, well pastured, guided on true paths, protected, heartened, at home in the Lord. Enemies are vanquished and gloom is dispelled. There is a primal sacramentality in the psalm: guests at table, anointed with oil, under the divine name. Perhaps most underplayed in our contemporary sensibilities is this sense of all is done 'for the sake of his name' (v3), yet the theology of the divine name is one of the most profound Hebrew theologies of the presence of God. Here God's actions as a shepherd are expressions of the glory of God. Mindful of the season, we continue to baptise in the divine name. And the psalm is a song; we do not hear or read or speak of the divine shepherd, we sing of the good shepherd, we resound the goodness of the shepherd, we allow it to reverberate across our community and within our hearts. Easter is a time for singing.

As the psalm is an occasion for singing, so Peter's preaching is an occasion for repentance. Yet this is not the baptism of John. The conversion that comes leads to baptism, the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Spirit. These should not be seen as separate events, but are interrelated. The importance of heartfelt repentance is a key aspect of conversion. The hearers feel cut to the heart, and groan, asking; 'what must we do?' There is an urgency and pain in the way they feel their lives are in the grip of sin. The reading continues the baptismal thread across the season.

The excerpt from the First Letter of Peter raises problems for the homilist. The context of the reading is advice to slaves to respect their masters. It is not a situation facing Australian Christians. More trenchantly, there is nothing in Catholic social justice teaching today that countenances slavery, far less calling for passivity in the face of injustice and enslavement. Further, the prevalence of systemic abuse through power in the church and society, abuse of children and women in particular, does little to recommend the text. Though stripped of its slavery references, there remains a degree of passivity. The homilist treads a difficult line here. Jesus acceptance of suffering was in the context of his active denunciation of violence, his trust that things will be brought to right, and his love for the sheep. There is no merit in accepting violation from those in power; there is merit in bringing to violence the resistance and grace of Christ allowing the sheep to return to the guardian of their souls.

And so to our Gospel. It stops short of the most memorable saying of Jesus that he is the good shepherd. Yet it sets the stage, and is a reminder of baptism. Again the setting is important. Jesus is disputing with the Pharisees, who are reluctant to admit that they are blind, and that they are guilty of misleading the people. Against this backdrop of deception and false teaching (this is a fairly polemical part of John's gospel) Jesus is the one who opens the gate to life. Through him is the promise of life to the full. In him is safety, freedom, pasture. His voice is recognisable as the one that heals and saves and reveals God, as seen by the cure of the man born blind— which story is at play behind the scene. Jesus is the gate, he is the shepherd, his voice gathers not scatters. While the passage resonates with all believers, it has a special appeal to the newly baptised, who long have heard the voice, and now at last have entered the sheepfold.

Pastoral Liturgy— A publication of the School of Philosophy & Theology, The University of Notre Dame Australia

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

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7.30am
Saturday 8.30am
Divine Mercy Prayer Wednesday 7.30am
Adoration Thursdays 7-8pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Saturday 9.30 am

Reconciliation: St Brigid's Church Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm
St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont Sunday 8.00am - 8.15am

2nd Sunday of each month 10.30am

Next Mass at St John's Sunday 14th May 10.30am



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

We pray for the recently deceased : Josephine Ryan

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

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: Christine De Barro, Maureen and Paul Hume, Patricia Smith, Patrick Mackey, Valda Silvy, Joan Gordon and Patricia Dussek.

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



Everyone is cordially invited to celebrate the **100th Anniversary of the First Apparition at Fatima on Saturday May 13, 2017, at the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians, Marian Valley, Canungra. Please wear blue and white in honour of our Lady.** The bus will leave from 7 Lind Ave, Palm Beach at 7.45am then from Sacred Heart Church at Clear Island Waters at 8.15am. The cost for a seat on the bus is \$20 per person return. Please call Paula on 0402 930 918 or 5582 7950 or Madelaine Zammit on 5529 1573 or 0405 252 367 to secure your seat.



PLEASE NOTE

Fr Isidore will be on Holidays to Nigeria until the Last week of May. Based on that:

- 1 There will be Daily Masses as Usual.
2. The weekend Masses will be as usual. In case of emergency, please ring the Parish office Tuesdays and Thursdays or Surfers Paradise Parish on (07) 5572 5433 if outside those days.

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 27th May 2017



Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year A, 7 May 2017

FIRST READING Acts 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
All the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
For ever and ever (R)

SECOND READING 1 Pt 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GOSPEL. Jn 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come so that they may have life
and have it to the full.'