

PARISH PENTECOST RETREAT COMES UP FROM 9TH TO 12TH OF MAY. PLEASE KEEP THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY AND CALENDER. STARTS 5.00PM EACH DAY 9TH TO 11TH. AND 9.00AM TO 3.30PM ON SATURDAY 12TH OF MAY, 2018. DETAIL WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER.

ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL DETAILS as at 3rd April 2018

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 1,739.60 - For Clergy Support
2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,497.05 - 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 of your divine rewards.
Fr Isidore Enyinnaya

A Special Thank You

On behalf of the Parish I would sincerely like to thank Rev. Garry and Lynn Stone for all the help they give to the Parish by providing and assisting at various Parish functions. Thank you Lynn and Garry, and may God Bless you and your family for your kindness.

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 consecrat-

PROJECT COMPASSION

We call on our Parishioners to return any outstanding Project Compassion envelopes and boxes, to the Parish Office this week .

PROCLAIM 2018—12-14 JULY 2018 Make your home in me.. John 15:4

A message from Archbishop Mark Coleridge

“This is a wonderful opportunity for priests, deacons, chaplains, pastoral ministers, parish teams, parish pastoral councillors and all parishioners to explore *new ways of contemplating the face of Christ in community and so empower them to set out on the new paths of mission which the Holy Spirit is tracing for us at this crucial time.*”

Adult -\$275, Student/Pensioner -\$220. Group booking discounts also available.

Early Bird registration is now open. To be held at Edmund Rice Performing Arts Centre St Laurence's College, South Brisbane. Further information available on the Notice Board or at www.proclaimconference.com.au

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

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

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

IN EMERGENCIES or HOSPITAL CALLS

For University & Gold Coast Private 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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY YEAR B—8th APRIL 2018



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

My dear people of God

Since 30th of April, 2000, the second Sunday of Easter every year has been officially designated as the Divine Mercy Sunday to celebrate the feast of the Divine Mercy. This was officially pronounced by Pope John Paul II, at the canonisation ceremony of Maria Faustina Kowalska (25.8.1905 – 5.10.1938), a Polish Nun and a mystic, through whom Jesus gave messages about the Divine Mercy. Several places in her diary, she wrote how Jesus himself demanded that this feast be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter, which, this year is today. It might be interesting to note, that there are so many promises and benefits attached to the Divine Mercy devotion – promises made among other things by Jesus the Divine Mercy through His secretary of Divine Mercy, Maria Faustina. Pope John Paul II was an active promoter of this devotion. He died on the eve of the Divine Mercy Sunday, (2 April, 2005), was beatified on the feast of the Divine Mercy (1 May 2001) and was canonised a saint on the feast of Divine Mercy (27 April, 2014).

Why did Jesus choose the second Sunday of Easter for the celebration of the Divine Mercy? I may not have all the answers here, but it can be found in the Common Preface II sometimes said before the 'Holy, Holy, Holy ...' In part, that preface says something like 'In love you created Man, in justice he was condemned, but in mercy you redeemed him.' The redemption wrought for us through the suffering and death of Jesus is the greatest manifestation of God's mercy. As I wrote in one of my reflections in the past, justice and mercy are two sides of Love. Having paid for the just rewards of our sins by His suffering and dying on the cross, Jesus disarmed Satan the deceiver of human beings, destroyed sin and buried death. Having risen victoriously from the dead and to complete His love for us he now opens the floodgates of mercy to take care of every sin that will be committed here on earth. Psalm 103 says:

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. (Psalm 103:8-14)

What a compassionate God we have who not only forgives sins already committed but opens up His floodgates of mercy to wash away the sins yet to be committed either in thoughts, words, deeds or even by omission of the good we fail to do. In today's gospel he instituted the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance) by giving His Apostle the power to forgive sins. He understands our limitations and imperfections. He knows we are ash and dust. St John wrote: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the greatest manifestation of mercy, where He not only forgives sins already committed, but makes available mercy and forgiveness for sins that will be committed, if only we can approach the throne of grace to ask for mercy with a repentant heart. But people have reasons not to avail themselves of this opportunity – the moment of grace.

One of the reasons is the satanic insinuation suggesting that priests are human like all of us. How can one go to a human person to confess one's sins. However, in today's gospel, it pleases the Lord Jesus to give the power to forgive sins to the Apostles who in turn handed that power to ordained priests. To doubt such authority is to doubt Jesus' power to forgive sins, as did the Jews of Jesus' time. In St Matthew's gospel, when Jesus proved he has the authority to forgive sins, the people said: "When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to man." (Matt. 9:8).

Going to confession or reconciliation is for some Catholics an onerous task. But today the feast of the Divine Mercy God shows us that he is ready to forgive us of our sins.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya

<p>CHURCHES</p> <p><i>St Brigid's Church</i> 39-49 McLaren Rd Nerang Q 4211</p> <p><i>St John's Church</i> Windabout Rd Beechmont Q 4211</p> <p>SCHOOL</p> <p><i>St Brigid's Primary</i> McLaren Road Nerang Q 4211 Phone: 5596 4188</p> <p>WEB PAGE: www.sb.qld.edu.au</p> <p>DAVID SEWELL Principal</p>	<p>MASS AND PRAYER TIMES AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH</p>		
	<p><u>Week Day Mass</u></p>		
	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	7.00 am	
	Wednesday	5.45 pm	
	Saturday	9.00 am	
	<p>Mass for the Sick with Anointing is on the First Saturday of each month at 9.00am</p>		
	<p><u>The next Anointing Mass will be 5th May 2018</u></p>		
	<p><u>Sunday Mass</u></p>		
	Saturday Vigil	6.00 pm	
	Sunday	8.30 am	
<p><u>Rosary</u></p>			
<p>Monday, Tuesday, Friday at 7.30 am, Wednesday at 5.00pm, Saturday at 8.30am. And Sunday at 8.00am</p>			
<u>Divine Mercy Prayer</u>	Thursday 7.30am		
<u>Adoration</u>	Thursday 6.00-7.00pm		
<p><u>Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help</u> Saturday 9.30 am</p>			
<u>Reconciliation: St Brigid's Church</u>	Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm Sunday 8.00am - 8.15am		
<p><u>St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont</u> 2nd Sunday of each month</p>			
<p><u>Next Mass at St John's</u> Sunday 13th May 10.30 am</p>			

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 : Esme Gooding

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

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, Christine Kay and Tom Raudonikis

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



2018 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 5th August 2018 at 8.30am and the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday 24th November at 6.00pm and Sunday 25th November at 8.30am.

SACRAMENTAL MEETINGS FOR CONFIRMATION ONLY

29th April 2018, 6th May, 27th May, 17th June, 24th June, 22nd July, 29th July, 3rd August
Every meeting starts immediately after 8:30am Mass.

SCHOOL OF THE WORD

Come and pray with the Word of God The theme for this year will be "**Christ set us free, so that we should remain free**" (Galatians 5:1)

Every last Saturday of the month—10 am to 12 pm at St Brigid's Parish Next meeting

Saturday 28th April 2018 Conducted by the Verbum Dei Missionaries.

Contact: Ph (07) 3495 7105 Mobile 0410 802 810 / 0424 777 232 Email: vdmfbris@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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

Second Sunday of Easter - Year B Sunday, 8 Apr 2018

FIRST READING Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting

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| 1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' | 3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R) |
| Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.' | |
| Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.) | |
| 2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.) | |

SECOND READING 1 Jn 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.