

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 :

Albert Evans

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.



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.

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: \$ 781.95 - For Clergy Support

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1,895.15 - 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



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: _____

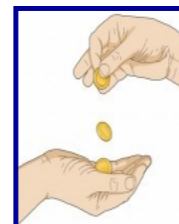
Christian Names: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

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

E-Mail: _____



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 EPIPHANY 2017

Dear friends in Christ

Today, in the Gospel, we heard about the wise men from the East who came to Jerusalem to ask: “where is the infant king of the Jews? ... We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage” These men, traditionally known as the magi or the three wise men (though the Bible never said they were only three), were sages, astrological scientists of their time, who were of different religious, theological and philosophical backgrounds. They came from a non-Jewish “cultural and religious context which saw the stars as having significance and power over human affairs.” (Pope Francis, Homily on Epiphany 2015). In this religious and cultural context God showed them the star of His infant Son, a different star indeed, and acknowledging its significance, they abandoned everything and embarked on a long and hazardous journey in search of this infant King. In Jesus Christ, God shows forth Himself physically to the nations. Hence the name of today's feast EPIPHANY.

God revealed the presence of His Son in our world, to people in ways they could understand, and He leads each to search for, and to find Him. First to the shepherds through the glorious presence of the Angels, and then to the wise men through the tremendous and fascinating light of the star, so that, in their diversities, Jews and Gentiles will become one body in Christ enriching each other for God's glory. This is the mystery St Paul talked about in today's second reading. (Please read also Romans 10:12; Galatians 3:28).

Having seen the star, the wise men set out in faith, and after the long journey arrived at Jerusalem. Following the lead of their human minds and not the way of God as revealed through the star, they went in search of the infant king in the palace of the King, Herod. Where else could the human mind place a baby king than in a palace. But God says, “my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” (Isaiah 55:8). The eyes of faith were beclouded by placing their human thoughts above them. (See 2nd Cor. 5:7). That visit was disastrous because many innocent children lost their lives through the command of that wicked and self-centred Herod. The result of human folly, self-sufficiency and self-centredness, all for lack of faith.

Yes faith will always lead those who sincerely search for the infant king to worship him. Even in the palace, the wise men were led back to faith when the scriptures (what the prophet wrote) were consulted for the answer and direction they sought, as we read in today's Gospel. And so they left for Bethlehem. There they found Him. They felt honoured by God's glorious presence surrounding the God-man infant King lying in a manger. They were delighted by His brilliance, and humbled by His humility. Thus, they fell on their knees and did him homage. Not only did they worship him as Lord and Master with their spirit, mind and body, but also with their time and talent, and the best of what they had: royal and costly gold, holy and expensive incense, and exquisite and significant myrrh, for the baby king is a King, a Priest and a sacrificial victim.

So thoughtful were the wise men that they were meticulous in their choice of what they presented to God. They were wise in the right sense of the word. Psalm 111:10 says: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.” (see also [Proverbs 1:7](#); 9:10; [14:27](#); [15:33](#); Job 28:28; Sirach 1:11 – 20). St James distinguished two types of wisdom: wisdom from above which is pure, loving and aspires towards Christ-like perfection, and the wisdom that is earthly which is unspiritual and demonic. (See James 3:17). All wisdom and knowledge should make us pure, holier and loving. They should be drawing us closer to God.

Wisdom begins with a proper knowledge of who God is in relation to who we are. God says in the Book of Jeremiah:

This is what the Lord says: “Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things.”

The question is: Do you, sorry I mean, do I know God? Do I take my time, talent and treasure to search for him and to do him homage? May God lead us to know Him more deeply every day.

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 12th February 10.30am



St Brigid's Parish Office Notes

So that the sponsorship details for the completion of the work in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and the Church can be finalised quickly, would anyone with an outstanding donation/sponsorship envelope please contact the office on Tuesday or Thursday.

As an ongoing tidy up of security at the Church and Office would everyone who has a key to any of the Parish buildings please contact me at the office on Tuesday or Thursday so their details can be updated.

The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal raised \$944.70. Thank you for your kind generosity.

Last weekend, on Sunday, 1 January 2017, His Holiness Pope Francis celebrated the Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God at St Peter's Basilica, Rome. During His homily, the Holy Father drew our attention to a beautiful aspect of our faith, namely, that Mary our Mother cares for us as she cared for Jesus. The following is a part of his homily.

“Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart! (Lk 2:19). In these words, Luke describes the attitude with which Mary took in all that they had experienced in those days.... In the Gospels, Mary appears as a woman of few words, with no great speeches or deeds, but with an attentive gaze capable of guarding the life and mission of her Son, and for this reason, of everything that he loves. She was able to watch over the beginnings of the first Christian community, and in this way she learned to be the mother of a multitude. She drew near to the most diverse situations in order to sow hope. She accompanied the crosses borne in the silence of her children's hearts. How many devotions, shrines and chapels in the most far-off places, how many pictures in our homes, remind us of this great truth. Mary gave us a mother's warmth, the warmth that shelters us amid troubles, the maternal warmth that keeps anything or anyone from extinguishing in the heart of the Church the revolution of tenderness inaugurated by her Son. Where there is a mother, there is tenderness. By her motherhood, Mary shows us that humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong. She teaches us that we do not have to mistreat others in order to feel important (cf. Evangelii Gaudium, 288). God's holy people has always acknowledged and hailed her as the Holy Mother of God.

To celebrate Mary as Mother of God and our mother at the beginning of the New Year means recalling a certainty that will accompany our days: we are a people with a Mother; we are not orphans.”

For further reading go to Vatican Radio link:

http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/01/01/pope_francis_homily_for_solemnity_of_mary_mother_of_god/1282938

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, 8 Jan 2017

FIRST READING *Is 60:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11*

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.) | 2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R) |
| 3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea Coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.) | 4. For he shall save the poor when they Cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. {R} |

SECOND READING *Eph 3:2-3, 5-6*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSEL *Mt 2:1-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday January 9th The Baptism of the Lord



Celebration of Fatima Day

on Friday 13th of January at Marian Valley. Bus will leave

opposite St Brigid's Church at 0830am. For bookings please call Viviane on 0755359623.

